

Lesson 3: Activity 1

Teacher Resource Sheet: Opening a Bank Account

Once you have chosen the type of account you want and picked a provider, you will have to fill out an application form. You should ask to keep a copy of your completed form.

Under anti-money laundering law, you need to supply documents to prove your identity and your address, even if you already have an account with the provider. You cannot use the same document to prove both your identity and address.

You can prove your identity by producing one of the following:

1. A valid passport
2. A current Irish driving licence
3. A National Age Card (issued by An Garda Siochana)
4. An identification form with a photograph signed by a member of An Garda Siochana

You will need one of the following documents with your name on it to prove where you live:

- A current utility bill (such as a gas, electricity, telephone or TV bill)
- A current car or home insurance policy that shows your address
- A document issued by a Government department that shows your address
- A list of your tax credits issued by Revenue
- A current balancing statement or a C2 certificate from the Revenue Commissioners
- A social insurance document that shows your address
- A letter from your employer or licensed employment agency stating that you have recently arrived in Ireland and have started work but cannot yet provide evidence of your Irish address. (You will have to provide evidence of your address at a later date)

If you open an account that pays interest on your money, you also need to supply your PPS (personal public service number). If you do not have a PPS number, you can contact your local social welfare office for details on how to apply for one, or a bank may accept a copy of your birth certificate instead.