

# Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI)

Before applying for your grant, you are encouraged to review the eligibility criteria by selecting your student type based on whether you are [PLC](#), [Undergraduate](#), [Postgraduate](#) or [Studying Outside the State](#). You can also use the [Eligibility Reckoner](#) where you can quickly and easily self-assess whether you may be eligible for a grant on <https://susi.ie/>

The SUSI Grant may include a maintenance grant and/or a fee grant, depending on your eligibility. Applications open in April and close in November, it is probably better to apply as early as possible so that, if eligible, your funding will be secured before starting college. The application process can be completed in more than one sitting, you can save your work and then return to it. A step-by-step guide to completing your application is provided on <https://susi.ie/resources/>

## **Brexit update**

SUSI is accepting applications in the usual way from Irish students intending to study approved courses in the UK and from UK students intending to study in Ireland, as they can continue to avail of student grants if eligible.

Brexit will not affect the grants available to eligible students. Students from Ireland will continue to be able to study in the UK and students from the UK will be able to study in Ireland with grant rules continuing to apply in the normal way.

## **SUSI Support Desk**

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday [09.00– 17.30, excluding public holidays]

**Email:** [support@susi.ie](mailto:support@susi.ie)

**Phone:** 0818 888 777 or +353 1 524 2257 if calling from abroad

**Facebook:** [Susi Support](#)

**Twitter:** [Susi Helpdesk](#)



The Central Applications Office processes applications for undergraduate courses in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Decisions on admissions to undergraduate courses are made by the HEIs who instruct CAO to make offers to successful candidates.

<https://www.cao.ie/>

PDF copy of 2023 Handbook: <http://www2.cao.ie/handbook/handbook2023/hb.pdf>

Important dates for 2023 Applicants:-

### **Timetable of Events**

#### **Please note:**

1. These dates may be amended.
2. Tests and interviews form part of the entry-requirements for certain courses. Please consult the literature of the HEI for further information.

<b>4th November 2022 (12:00)</b>	CAO online application facility opens. CAO Change of Course choices facility opens
<b>20th January 2023 (17:00)</b>	Apply online by this date to avail of the discounted application fee of €30.
<b>1st February (17:00)</b>	Normal closing date for applications.
<b>3rd February (12:00)</b>	Online facility to amend course choices becomes available (€10 Fee)
<b>Before 15th February</b>	Paper Applicants will be sent a Statement of Course Choices (Contact CAO if you do not receive it)
<b>Test Window: 17th-20th February</b>	HPAT Test - Undergraduate Entry to Medicine
<b>Test centre sitting: 25th February</b>	HPAT Test - Undergraduate Entry to Medicine
<b>1st March (17:00)</b>	Closing date for amending course choices Closing date for completion of mature section of application form Closing date for final completion of online HEAR/DARE forms
<b>March 2023</b>	MSAP exam - For mature applicants to certain courses in UCD, UCC, UL and NUI Galway
<b>4th March (12:00)</b>	Late application facility opens.
<b>15th March (17:00)</b>	Latest date for HEAR/DARE supporting documentation to arrive in CAO
<b>Test window: 18th-22nd March</b>	GAMSAT Test - Graduate Entry to Medicine
<b>Registration window: TBC</b>	Mature Nursing Test - register for the tests at <a href="http://www.nmbi.ie">www.nmbi.ie</a>
<b>Test window: TBC</b>	Mature Nursing Test

<b>1st May (17:00)</b>	Closing date for late applications
<b>5th May (12:00)</b>	Online Change of Mind facility becomes available (Free)
<b>Before 15th May</b>	Late Paper Applicants will be sent a Statement of Course Choices (Contact CAO if you do not receive it)
<b>Before End of May</b>	Statement of Application Record sent to all applicants (Contact CAO if you do not receive it)
<b>1st July (17:00)</b>	Change of Mind closes
<b>TBC</b>	Round A offers for certain Non-Standard categories of applicants - applicants receive an offer by e-mail and SMS text
<b>TBC</b>	Round A acceptances closing date.
<b>22nd July (17:00)</b>	Exceptional closing date for late applications for those already attending a participating HEI
<b>TBC</b>	Round 0 offers for certain Non-Standard categories of applicant - applicants receive an offer by e-mail and SMS text
<b>TBC</b>	Round 0 acceptances closing date.
<b>TBC</b>	Current year Leaving Certificate results issued
<b>TBC</b>	Round 1 offers available from 14:00 online - also issued by e-mail and SMS text. Applicants who have not received an offer will receive a `Statement of Application` e-mail.
<b>TBC</b>	Available Place facility opens
<b>TBC</b>	Round 1 acceptances closing date.
<b>TBC</b>	Round 2 offers available online.

TBC	Round 2 acceptances closing date.
TBC	Round 3 offers available online - applicants will also receive an offer notification by e-mail and SMS text.
TBC	Round 3 acceptances closing date.
TBC	Round 4 offers available online - applicants will also receive an offer notification by e-mail and SMS text.
TBC	Round 4 acceptances closing date.
TBC	Round 5 offers available online - applicants will also receive an offer notification by e-mail and SMS text.
TBC	Round 5 acceptances closing date.
TBC	HEIs begin registration
TBC	Results of Leaving Certificate appeals released
TBC	Offer Season Ends.
<b>6th November 2023</b>	CAO application facility opens for 2024 applications

## **What is HEAR?**

<https://accesscollege.ie/hear/what-is-hear/>

The Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) is a higher education admissions scheme for Leaving Certificate students (under 23) whose economic or social background are underrepresented in higher education.

### **How do I apply to HEAR?**

- Review the [HEAR Handbook](#) and the [application timeline](#) with your parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or your school's Guidance Counsellor.
- From 4 November 2022 – 1 March 2023 Complete the online application form through [www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)
- The online application process will generate a Supporting Document Checklist based on your answers. Ensure that you have copies of all **supporting documents needed**.
- By 15 March 2023: Submit copies of supporting documents to CAO by **post**.

Check out the following for FAQ's: <https://accesscollege.ie/hear/faqs/>



<https://accesscollege.ie/dare/what-is-dare/>

DARE is a third level alternative admissions scheme for school-leavers under the age of 23 as of 1 January 2023 whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education.

Applicants to DARE can present with an Irish Leaving Certificate, A-Levels and/or other EU qualifications.

DARE offers reduced points places to school leavers who, as a result of having a disability, have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education.

**What types of disabilities does DARE consider?**

- Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (including Asperger's Syndrome)
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing
- Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (DCD) – Dyspraxia
- Dyscalculia/ Significant Numeracy Difficulties
- Dyslexia/ Significant Literacy Difficulties
- Mental Health Condition
- Neurological Condition (including Brain Injury and Epilepsy)
- Physical Disability
- Significant Ongoing Illness
- Speech and Language Communication Disorder

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## **PLC Bursary for Displaced Persons (Ukraine) Scheme 2022: Your questions answered**

From [Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science](#)

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/e7843-plc-bursary-for-displaced-persons-ukraine-scheme-2022-your-questions-answered/>

**The International Protection Student Scheme** (for Further and Higher Education Students) 2022-2023 provides financial grants for students who are in the protection system or at the leave to remain (but not deportation order) stage.

To apply, a student must be pursuing one of the approved course types for the 2022 to 2023 academic year:

- a post leaving certificate (PLC) course
- an undergraduate course
- a postgraduate course

Your income will need to be under certain limits to receive a grant. This may or may not include your parents' income.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/e786a-student-support-scheme-for-asylum-seekers/>

The 'Student Support Scheme for International Protection Applicants (people seeking asylum)' has been renamed the 'International Protection Student Scheme 2022' and is now open for applications until 30 November.

If you are a student without a stamp 4, who receives a CAO offer, and are in the International Protection system for three years prior to the start date of your course, you are eligible to apply for this grant (identical to SUSI apart from the nationality requirement).

Besides the name change, please note these differences to last year:

- It is now being administered by SUSI and not DFHERIS.
- Three-year residency is no longer considered as commencing, 31 August 2019 but the day before the course starts; so if your course starts 19 Sep 2022 you need to <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/e786a-student-support-scheme-for-asylum-seekers/> have applied for protection prior to 18 Sep 2019.
- The [application form is an editable pdf](#) but it must be printed and posted to (no stamp required): SUSI, PO Box 12209, Freepost FDN7608, Dublin 4

## **Student Financial Supports:**

<https://hea.ie/funding-governance-performance/funding/student-finance/>

This website is a convenient and user-friendly source of information about the financial assistance schemes available in Ireland to help you progress through further and higher education. Information is also provided in relation to eligibility requirements for free fees. In addition, you will find all you need to know about other sources of assistance for students, such as the **Fund for Students with Disabilities**, the **Student Assistance Fund**, the **1916 Bursary Fund** and the **Back to Education Allowance**.

They also provide details and links to a range of other organisations and websites which may be of assistance.

## **Education and Training Boards (ETBs)**

ETBs are statutory authorities which have responsibility for education and training, youth work and a range of other statutory functions. ETBs manage and operate second-level schools, further education colleges, multi-faith community national schools and a range of adult and further education centres delivering education and training programmes. Occasionally, local community groups can apply for Community Education Funding for offer education programmes in your area. Contact your local Community Education Office. Click [here](#) to find your local ETB.

Check out the following link from Kerry ETB: <https://www.kerryetb.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/FundingforAdultEducation3rdSeptember2018.pdf>

## **Student Assistance Fund**

The Student Assistance Fund is a means tested fund and is intended to assist full time students who are finding it difficult to meet college expenses as a result of ongoing low income. The Fund provides financial support to students who are in significant financial difficulty and whose participation in college would be at risk without financial support. The purpose of the Fund is to assist by making a contribution to students in meeting some of the day-to-day costs incurred by being in college.

## **Uversity**

Uversity's Scholarships are intended to unlock adult learners' potential. By providing multi-annual financial support, Uversity's Scholarships aim to remove the financial barriers to pursue a Bachelor's degree for the first time. Scholarships are not limited to specific subject areas and enable individuals 23 years or older to complete a Bachelor's degree in one of the participating institutions <https://www.uversity.org/where-to-study/> in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland.

For more information on how to apply, application opening date and to check your eligibility visit <https://www.uversity.org/>

## **The 1916 Bursary Fund**

The 1916 Bursary aims to encourage participation by students who are most socio-economically disadvantaged and from groups most under-represented in Higher Education. To be eligible for a 1916 Bursary, all applicants must meet, Financial, Priority Group and College Entry eligibility criteria. All of the higher education institutions are awarding the bursaries through regional clusters.





Click [here](#) for general information on the 1916 Bursary Fund

### **How to Apply?**

To find out more about the 1916 Bursary Fund and how to apply, [watch this explainer video](#).

All students are advised to first refer to the information provided on the [SAOR Project website](#) regarding the application process and eligibility criteria.

If you have further queries, please email [1916BursaryQueries@soarforaccess.ie](mailto:1916BursaryQueries@soarforaccess.ie).

### **The Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection**

The Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection offer a range of supports for people who are in receipt of social welfare income supports to gain new skills through training or education e.g. [Back to Education Allowance \(BTEA\)](#), [Training Support Grant](#), [Technical Employment Support Grant \(TESG\)](#) and a [Mediation Fund](#).

All applications or referrals for support under the schemes must be made via a Case Officer.

To check eligibility please contact your Case officer in your local Intreo Office.

Find your local Intreo Office [here](#) or call **1890 800 024**.

### **St Vincent de Paul – Education and Training Bursary Fund**

The SVP Education and Training Bursary Fund has been established to support students of all ages who may financially struggle to access or stay in third level education and training programmes. St Vincent de Paul have an Education Fund that people can apply to locally. Click [here](#) to find out more information on the Fund. To find out how you can apply to the SVP Education and Training Bursary Programme, you can contact your [Regional office](#).

### **SICAP Funding through your Local Development Company**

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020. The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) helps people to find work, to upskill, provides CV training, a personal development course, helps them onto a work placement programme such as CE or Tús programme. You may be able to seek support to get back to education by contacting your local development company who administer SICAP programmes nationally. Click [here](#) to find your local SICAP Provider and ask to speak to the SICAP coordinator.

## **The Irish Refugee Council**

The Irish Refugee Council (IRC) Education Fund was established in 2015 with support from the Community Foundation for Ireland to financially assist people in the asylum process in accessing further and higher education. Since 2016 the Education Fund has continued due to donations from private individuals and a small number of companies. The Irish Refugee Council have also compiled a 'Guide to Education in Ireland: A guide for protection applicants, those with refugee status, subsidiary protection or permission to remain'.

You can download the "Guide to Education in Ireland" here [www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/education](http://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/education). For further information email [education@irishrefugeecouncil.ie](mailto:education@irishrefugeecouncil.ie).

## **Local and Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Forces**

Local and regional drug and alcohol task forces implement the national drugs strategy in the context of the needs of their local area. Your local Task Force may have funding available for support you in Education. Contact your local Coordinator to find out more. To find the Drug and Alcohol Task force in your area [click here](#).

## **Credit Unions**

Many Credit Unions in Ireland provide a number of education grants or bursaries in their catchment areas for students studying at all levels of further and higher education. The "It makes sense" Loan – This scheme, which is offered as a low-cost alternative loan, is being made available in participating credit unions across the country and is open to those in receipt of social welfare who are over 18 years of age. Click [here](#) for information about "It makes sense" loans and click [here](#) to go the national credit union site, where you can find details of your local credit union.

## **Fund for Students with Disabilities**

The purpose of the Fund for Students with Disabilities (FSD) is to assist higher education institutions in ensuring students with disabilities have the necessary assistance and equipment to enable them access, fully participate in and successfully complete their chosen course of study.

## **Other Bursary & Scholarship Schemes**

*Did you know that there is a broad range of bursary and scholarship schemes in operation which provide an opportunity for students, or potential students, to access additional financial support if they meet the criteria? Please note that the list below does not contain every scheme currently available in Ireland.*

*In addition, many higher education institutions offer their own scholarship or bursary schemes. Interested students should contact the college they are attending or planning to attend. Access the information with the following link:*

<https://hea.ie/funding-governance-performance/funding/student-finance/other-finance-bursaries-scholarships/>



# Discover your talents through apprenticeship

Unlike standard college courses, an apprenticeship allows you to earn money and become qualified while you are learning on-the-job, opening up exciting and rewarding careers.

**50%** or more of apprenticeship learning happens on-the-job.

<https://apprenticeship.ie/>

The SVP Education and Training Bursary Fund has been established to support students of all ages who may financially struggle to access or stay in third level education and training programmes.

### **1916 Bursary Fund**

The 1916 Bursary Fund is to encourage participation and success by students who are most socio-economically disadvantaged and who are from groups most under-represented in higher education. Applications for a 1916 Bursary should be made directly to the higher education institution you are going to (listed in the link). Further information on the application process is available from the website or access office of the institution in which you intend to study.

### **Student Assistance Fund**

Once you're in college, there is still help at hand if you find yourself struggling financially. The Higher Education Authority's Student Assistance Fund is available to those who are struggling to cover the costs of books, rent, electricity bills, food, medical expenses, and a number of other issues, aside from fees. This is in addition to the SUSI grant. You need to contact the Access or Student Services Office in your college to apply for the Student Assistance Fund.

### **Scholarships**

Most third-level institutions offers scholarships that vary from academic, sports, arts, research – it allows students to access additional supports – check as early as possible with the college you are hoping to go to about closing dates for applications. The HEA has a great list of [bursaries and scholarships](#)

[University Scholarships](#) are for adult learners to help them gain a Bachelor's Degree for the first time. The value of the Scholarships depends on the successful recipients' circumstances and need. Payments are made monthly and are subject to continued academic registration and progress.

### **Youth Information video on Internet Safety.**

<https://www.facebook.com/KDYS/videos/1115342325588369>