

## 3<sup>RD</sup> LEVEL GRANTS



**For definitive information go to  
[www.studentfinance.ie](http://www.studentfinance.ie)**

# **SUSI administers the Grant Schemes on behalf of the Department of Education & Science.**

- 1. Level 6 or Level 7 / Higher Certificate or Ordinary Degree in Institute of Technologies.**
- 1. Honours Degree Courses Level 8, Postgraduate Courses and for BTEC approved HND and Honours Degree courses in Northern Ireland and E.U. Colleges.**
- 1. Post Leaving Certificate Scheme (PLC) – for approved FETAC Level 5/6 approved Courses.**

# For Your Information

- Part Time courses, Courses in Private Colleges, Honours Degree Courses in PLC Colleges or Post Graduate Courses Overseas **are not** presently covered under any Maintenance Scheme.

# For Your Information

## FREE FEES

- European Union nationals attending full-time undergraduate courses are not normally required to pay any fees other than the student contribution described below.

## STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

- For 2017/18 a charge of €3,000 is payable by each student to cover student services such as examination entry fees, support for student services and support for student clubs and societies. When registering for the first time, those who can show documentary evidence confirming that they qualify for a maintenance grant, will not be required to pay this charge.

# Criteria to apply

**Criteria is determined nationally by  
the Department of Education & Science**

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- **Residence**
- ~~**Age**~~
- **Must secure a place on an  
approved full-time course**
- **Nationality**
- **Previous Academic Attainment**
- **Means**

# RESIDENCE

**You must have been legally resident in the State for 3 of the previous 5 years to qualify for a maintenance grant.**

**If you fulfil all the criteria for a maintenance grant except for the residence condition in the State, you may still qualify for a fee grant or a postgraduate fee contribution as a 'tuition student'.**

# NATIONALITY REQUIREMENT

Candidates must:

Family member of one of the above, with permission to remain in the State as a family member of such person under the European Communities (Free Movement of Persons) Regulations 2015 and EU Treaty rights provisions

Refugee status

Humanitarian leave to remain in the State before the Immigration Act 1999 came into effect. Foreign nationals granted leave to remain under the Irish Born Child scheme - IBC/05 are not eligible.

Permission to reside in the State under the European Union (Subsidiary Protection) Regulations 2013.

Permission to remain in the State by virtue of marriage to, or civil partnership with, an Irish national living here or be the dependent child of a person with such permission

# Means Test

Applicants are means tested on gross income earned in the previous tax year  
(i.e. the 2016 tax year)

If you were ordinarily resident with your parents from October 1 of the year before the year of entry to the course, you are considered dependent on your parents and your income (if any) is assessed together with your parents' income(s). An allowance is made for your earnings outside of term-time – up to €4,500 currently.

# Reckonable income limits for 2017/2018

Number of Dependent Children	100%	75%	50%	25%	100% Contribution	50% Contribution only.
Less than 4 children	€39,875	€40,970	€43,380	€45,790	€49,840	€54,240
4-7	€43,810	€45,025	€47,670	€50,325	€54,765	€59,595
8 or more	€47,575	€48,890	€51,760	€54,630	€59,455	€64,700

Level 10  
PHD

Level 9  
Masters  
Degree

Level 9 Post-  
Graduate Diploma

Level 8 Higher  
Diploma

Level 8 Honours Bachelor  
Degree

Level 7 Ordinary Bachelor Degree

Level 6 Higher Certificate

Level 6 Advanced Certificate

Level 5 Certificate

No. Of Children	Postgraduate Fee Contribution (Special Rate)	Postgraduate Fee Contribution (Standard)
Less than 4	€22,703	€31,500
4-7	€22,703	€34,615
8 or more	€22,703	€37,580
Relevant person increment	0	+€4,980

## Income Limits

	Special rate	100% Maintenance and 100% Contribution	75% Maintenance and 100% Contribution	50% Maintenance and 100% Contribution	25% Maintenance and 100% Contribution	100% Contribution	50% Contribution only
-4	€22,703	€39,875	€40,970	€43,380	€45,790	€49,840	€54,240
4-7	€22,703	€43,810	€45,025	€47,670	€50,325	€54,765	€59,595
8+	€22,703	€47,575	€48,890	€51,760	€54,630	€59,455	€64,700
	0	+€4,830	+€4,670	+€4,670	+€4,670	+€4,830	+€4,830

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-4	€22,703	€39,875	€40,970	€43,380	€45,790
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8+	€22,703	€47,575	€48,890	€51,760	€54,630
	0	+€4,830	+€4,670	+€4,670	+€4,670

## 2 OR MORE AT COLLEGE

- **The reckonable income limits may be increased by up to €4,830 where there are 2 such children, €9,660 where there are 3 such children and so on by increments of €4,830. (Slightly less in part maintenance category- €4,670).**
- Attending a full-time third level education
- Attending a recognised PLC course, student nurse training or student Garda training.
- Participating in a Fáilte Ireland course of at least one years duration.
- Attending a full-time Teagasc course in an agricultural college.
- Attending a recognised full-time further education course, of at least one year's duration in Northern Ireland.

## RATE OF GRANT

- **Adjacent Rate**

of grant applies where a student's normal residence is **less than 45 Kilometres** from the college.

- **Non Adjacent Rate**

of grant applies where a student's normal residence is **more than 45 Kilometres** from the college.

## Rates

Changes in grant rates take effect in January each year.

### Maintenance grant rates for 2016/2017

Type	Non-adjacent rate	Adjacent rate
Special rate	€5,915	€2,375
Full Maintenance	€3,025	€1,215
Part maintenance (75%)	€2,270	€910
Part maintenance (50%)	€1,515	€605
Part maintenance (25%)	€755	€305

# Special Rate of Maintenance Grant ("Top-Up Grant")

- Grant-holders who satisfy certain conditions may be eligible for what is known as a "top-up-grant"; an amount additional to the ordinary grant.
- The reckonable income limit for the "top-up-grant" for the 2016/2017 academic year is €22,703 (net of standard exclusions) all or part of which must be a specified Social Welfare or similar payment.

# *Documents & Info required from the Applicant*

Supporting documentation  
required is listed on the  
application form in each  
section.

## THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF DOCUMENTS MOST FREQUENTLY REQUIRED FOR EACH CATEGORY OF APPLICANT

Original Long Form Birth Certificate

Proof of Independent Residence from 1st October 2015  
in case of Mature Candidates

Evidence of Exam Results

Evidence of divorce or separation / Evidence of maintenance agreement

Proof of Parents/Guardians residence

Official Refugee Status sanction from Department of Justice

Marriage Certificate

Evidence of Nationality (certified copy of a passport)

Foster Care arrangement

Legal Guardianship

# DOCUMENTATION IN RESPECT OF INCOME

	P21 i.e. PAYE Balancing Statement ( <a href="http://www.revenue.ie">www.revenue.ie</a> )
	P60 for each employment
	P45 if employment ceased
	Accounts, Notice of Assessment, Adjusted Profit Computation (self employment)
	Social Welfare Statement/Health Service Executive Statement
	Interest Certificates (interest on Deposit Accounts etc)

# Change of Circumstances

- If parents/students income is over the reckonable income limit and should a change in circumstance occur that is likely to be permanent, students may apply to have their grant application reassessed – P.45 and 2016 income details should be submitted.

# Payment of Grant

- Normally paid three times a Year at University and once a month at a PLC. It does vary from H.E.I. to H.E.I.

# SUSI KEY DATES 2017

- New & Renewal Applications Opened:  
**23 April**
- Renewal Applications Closing: **12 June**
- New Applications Closing: **1 August**

# Websites

- [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) and follow the links to (Home>Students&Trainees>Financial Support Schemes)
- [www.susi.ie](http://www.susi.ie) – a comprehensive guide to Third Level Grants
- [www.revenue.ie](http://www.revenue.ie) – a quick and easy way to deal with your tax affairs using PAYE Self Service