

Key Eligibility Criteria

Residency

Applicants must be resident in Ireland or the EU, EEA or Switzerland for 3 of the last 5 years.

Nationality

Applicants must be an Irish, EU, EEA or Swiss National or have specific leave to remain in the State.

Previous Education

If applicants have previously attended further or higher education courses, regardless of whether they received a grant, this will be taken into account when assessing their application to ensure that they meet the 'progression' criteria.

Back to Education Allowance (BTEA)

If applicants are in receipt of BTEA and are attending a PLC course they will not be eligible for funding. If they are attending a Higher Education course they may be eligible for the student contribution Charge and tuition fees (in certain cases).

Income

Household income is assessed for the 2013 Tax Year and must fall between one of the specified thresholds in order to qualify for Grant funding.

The thresholds may be adjusted depending on the number of dependents in the household and how many of those dependents are attending further or higher education courses.

Maintenance Grant Values

The different rates of Maintenance Grants, depending on household income, can be seen below.

Adjacent Rate

Where travelling from within 45kms of college:

100% €1,215

75% €910

50% €605

25% €305

Non-Adjacent Rate

Where travelling from over 45kms to college:

100% €3,025

75% €2,270

50% €1,515

25% €755

Special Rate of Maintenance Grant

Payable to an applicant, whose household income is below **€22,703**, and contains an eligible Social Welfare payment on 31 December, 2013.

Non Adjacent Rate: **€5,915**

Adjacent Rate: **€2,375**

The other information brochures available are:

Student Grant Eligibility Criteria (Brochure 2)

Student Grant Application Process (Brochure 3)

SUSI Support Desk

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Student Universal Support Ireland

Information on Student Grants 2014/2015

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The information contained in this brochure should only be used as a guide.

For further information, please visit www.susi.ie

SUSI

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What is SUSI?

SUSI is the national awarding authority responsible for Student Grants.

Applications for Student Grants are assessed under the criteria set out in the Student Support Act 2011, Student Support Regulations 2014 and Student Grant Scheme 2014.

SUSI assess Grant applications from prospective students hoping to attend approved further or higher education courses. Applications are made online and are subject to supporting documentation.

The online application system for the 2014/15 academic year is open May 8 2014.

Who may be eligible for a Grant?

Students attending:

- **Approved** Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses in Ireland;
- **Approved** Undergraduate courses in Ireland, or another EU member state
- **Approved** Postgraduate courses in Ireland or Northern Ireland.

What Grants are they eligible for?

Post Leaving Certificate courses in Ireland:

- Maintenance Grant only.

Undergraduate courses in Ireland:

- Maintenance Grant;
- Student Contribution Charge;
- Tuition Fees (in certain cases); and
- Compulsory Field Trips (in certain cases).

Undergraduate courses in the EU, EEA or Switzerland:

- Maintenance Grant only.

Postgraduate courses in Ireland or Northern Ireland:

- Postgraduate Fee Contribution
- OR
- Postgraduate Tuition Fees; and
 - Compulsory Field Trips (in certain cases).

What does a Grant cover?

Maintenance Grant

A Maintenance Grant is a contribution towards the living costs of a student. Maintenance Grants are paid over nine monthly instalments during the academic year.

Student Contribution Charge

The Student Contribution Charge for 2014/15 is **€2,750**. Where the Student Contribution Charge applies to a course, the grant will cover 100% or 50% of this cost, depending on household income.

Tuition Fees

If a student, or a course, is not covered under the Free Fees Schemes, the grant will cover Tuition Fees subject to eligibility criteria.

Field Trips

The grant will cover eligible expenses for students attending compulsory field trips.

Postgraduate Fee Contribution

A contribution of **€2,000** is made towards the cost of the student's tuition fees.

Please note: No grant payments are made until SUSI confirms a student's registration and attendance with their college. The earliest this can take place is October 2014.