

*Third Level Access is co-funded by the Department of Education and Skills and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020*

## Student Assistance Fund 2019/2020

### Eligibility Criteria



1. The **ESF Student Assistance Fund** is open to the following students (Registered students on higher education programmes of not less than one year in duration) –
  - **Full time** students on courses that lead to a higher education award at level 6 to 10 of the national framework of qualifications (NFQ - <https://www.qqi.ie/Downloads/Understanding%20the%20NFQ%20-%20Interative%20Presentation.pdf>)
  - **Part-time** students – Blended/Distance learning programmes
  - **Springboard** students
  - **PhD** students Year 1-4 only
2. Students with a previous higher education qualification/period of attendance can be considered for support.
3. The DCU ESF Student Assistance Fund is in the first instance, a means tested fund. The eligibility income is up to €65,000 (total family income). For students under 23, this will be the parents/guardians plus any income the student, he/she, may have. For students over 23, who are dependent on their parents/guardians, this will be the parents/guardians income along with any income the student, he/she, may have. For students over 23, not dependent on parents/guardian, this will be the student's income plus partner/spouse's income where applicable.
4. Income is less than expenditure.
5. Online application to be completed.
4. All supporting documentation uploaded to online application.
5. Funding applications are open to students in receipt of the SUSI grant.
6. Students can only apply once within an academic year and if successful, the awarded sum is a once off payment.
7. International/non-EU fee-paying students are not eligible for funding.
8. Students who are non-EU nationals, but who are eligible for free or reduced fees in line with the criteria for the Free Fees Initiative may be considered for the SAF subject to meeting the criteria outlined above.  
(<https://hea.ie/funding-governance-performance/funding/student-finance/course-fees/>)

#### Queries to –

Celine Geraghty Financial Administrator  
Student Support & Development  
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Glasnevin Campus Dublin 9

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