

Integration Guides

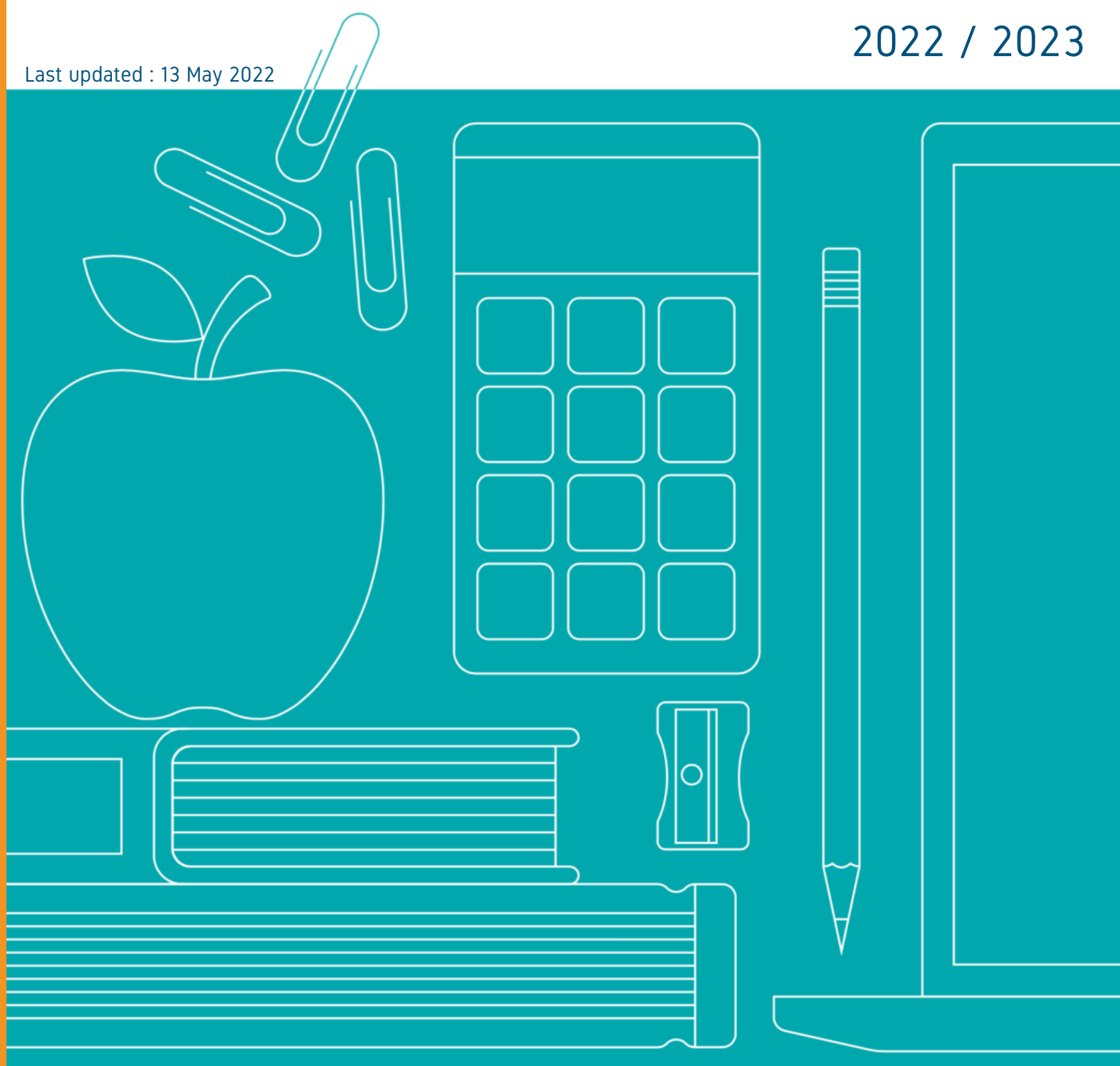
A series of manuals produced by the Irish Refugee Council supporting integration into Ireland



Guide to Further and Higher Education

Last updated : 13 May 2022

2022 / 2023



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IRISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

EDUCATION UPDATES FACEBOOK GROUP

*This Facebook page is only for
refugees / people seeking asylum*

Please click on this link and join us ...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IRCeducation>

We post regular updates on ...

- (1) Sanctuary Scholarships
- (2) Education opportunities
- (3) We invite you to monthly Zoom Information Sessions



What is this Booklet all about ?



This booklet focuses on education for people aged 18+. This is generally called Further Education, Higher Education or Third Level Education.

Below are some links for children's education in case you need that.

Primary Education in Ireland

- Children attend primary school from age 4 or 5 to age 12 or 13.
- The [Department of Education](#) is responsible for Primary Education.
- A [list of primary schools is available](#) to help you find your local schools.
- Citizens Information also provide information [here](#) on Primary Education.

Secondary Education in Ireland (also called post-primary education)

- Children attend secondary school from ages 12-13 to 17-19.
- The Department of Education is responsible for Secondary Education.
- A [list of secondary schools is available](#) to help you find your local schools.
- Citizens Information also provide information [here](#) on Secondary Education.

This Booklet will focus on Further and Higher Education opportunities for students over the age of 18.

Education Guidance for Adults

Age 18 +



The best piece of advice we can give you is to meet with an Education Guidance Counsellor and have a chat about what you want to do **BEFORE** you start any course.

This is a free and confidential service.

It is important to discuss your past work experience, your past education, and what your hopes and dreams are for the future in terms of education and employment.

An Education Guidance Counsellor will provide impartial careers and education information, they can offer one-to-one guidance as well as group guidance if you prefer that.

It is really important to get good advice at the very start so you begin your education journey on the road that is right for you.

Click on the Map Below to find an Education Guidance Counsellor near you.



The Structure of Education in Ireland



NFQ (National Framework of Qualifications) measures all learning achievements.

QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland) is the independent state agency responsible for quality and accountability in education in Ireland. They develop and maintain the NFQ.

Here are some examples ...

- Level 3 - Junior Certificate, normally taken by 15 year olds.
- Level 5 - Leaving Certificate, normally taken by 17-19 year olds.
- Level 5/6 - Post Leaving Certificate, takes 1 year.
- Level 7/8 - Undergraduate degree, typically lasts 3 or 4 years.
- Level 9 - Postgraduate (masters) degree, can last 1 or 2 years.
- Level 10 - A Doctorate (PhD) degree, can last 3 to 4 years.

QQI also facilitates the recognition of foreign qualification through NARIC (see page 8)

Levels 5 & 6 are generally called **Further Education**

Levels 7-10 are generally called **Higher Education**

How to have your previous qualifications recognised in Ireland



A GUIDE TO USING THE **FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS DATABASE**



NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centre) provides advice on the academic recognition of a foreign qualification by comparing it, where possible, to a major award on the NFQ (as explained on page 7).

You can access their guide in English [here](#)

You can access the guide in other languages [here](#)

Generally they can only offer comparability statements for fully completed degrees.

If you have a degree from another country it is important to know that you cannot receive state funding to complete a 2nd degree in Ireland. Nobody can receive funding for 2 undergraduate degrees or 2 postgraduate degrees, not even an Irish citizen.

Please don't hesitate to contact NARIC if you have any queries about your past education. You can email them on naric@qqi.ie



**Irish
Refugee
Council**



FURTHER EDUCATION & TRAINING COURSE HUB

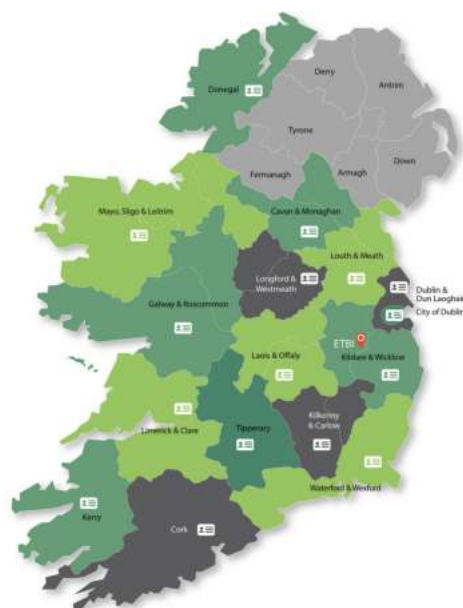
Further Education and Training (FET), offers a wide variety of life-long education options to anyone over 16. FET includes apprenticeships, traineeships, Post Leaving Cert (PLC) courses, community and adult education as well as core literacy and numeracy services. FET courses and programmes are provided through the Education and Training Board network throughout the country as well as through other local providers including online through SOLAS' eCollege.

SEE HERE A SHORT VIDEO THAT EXPLAINS FET AND HOW TO APPLY

FET courses are provided at levels one to six on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) - see graphic on page 7.

PLC courses at Level 5 & 6 can be used to gain entry to Undergraduate Degrees at Level 7 & 8 - see page 19 for more details.

Click on the map to find your local Education and Training Board (ETB) and all the Colleges of Further Education in your area.



Do you need help with your English Language?



Look for the county you live in here or the next page and call or email to ask for English Language classes. This is a free service.

County	Local area	Address	Contact name	Phone	Email	Website
Cavan and Monaghan	Cavan	4 Church View Sq H12 A592		049 4377001	cavanguidance@cmetb.ie	http://www.cmetbadultguidance.ie/
	Monaghan	Dun Mhuire, Mullaghmonaghan, Monaghan		042 9690739	monaghanguidance@cmetb.ie	
Cork	Macroom, Carrigaline, Midleton, Cobh, Youghal		John Murphy	086 833 7808	john.murphy@corketb.ie	
	Skibbereen, Bantry, Clonakilty, Bandon, Dunmanway, Castletownbere		Janice Creagh	087 622 8945	janice.creagh@corketb.ie	https://www.corketb.ie/about-cork-etb/further-education-training-f-e-t/adult-education-guidance-initiative/
	Mallow, Charleville, Millstreet		Joan McSweeney	086 833 7591	joan.mcsweeney@corketb.ie	
	Cork City		Andrea McCarthy	086 836 8561	andrea.mccarthy@corketb.ie	
			Oonagh Maher	086 047 9092	oonagh.maher@corketb.ie	
	Cork City, North Cork		Claire Nagle	086 795 9651	claire.nagle@corketb.ie	
Donegal			Shirley Deane	1800 40 41 41	shirley.deane@corketb.ie	
	Letterkenny	2nd Floor, McKendrick Place, Pearse Road		074 917 8088	adultguidance@donegal-etb.ie	
	Donegal Town	Ard Scoil na gCethre Maistir, Tirconnell Street		074 972 5520	adultguidance@donegal-etb.ie	https://www.donegal-etb.ie/further-education-training/adult-guidance/
Dublin City	North Central and East Dublin	Ballymun Road, Ballymun, D11	Michelle Morrissey	087 939 0894 / 01 862 3828	michelle.morrissey@aes.cdnetb.ie	
				086 061 2037 / 01 862 3835	paul.maguire@aes.cdnetb.ie	
	Finglas, Cabra, Glasnevin	Barry Road, Finglas West, D11	Karen Granville	087 294 5154	karen.granville@aes.cdnetb.ie	
			Jacqui Mythen	085 218 6146 / 01 5585199	jacqui.mythen@aes.cdnetb.ie	https://cityofdublin.etb.ie/adult-education-guidance-service/
	Dublin Inner City	10 Parnell Square East Transition Centre, D1	Fiona Clarke	087 935 0542	fiona.clarke@aes.cdnetb.ie	
Dublin and Dun Laoghaire	Crumlin, Ballyfermot	Crumlin College of Further Education, Crumlin Road, D12	Maura Conway	087 941 8084	maura.conway@aes.cdnetb.ie	
			Nicola Gilsean	087 386 1620	nicola.gilsean@aes.cdnetb.ie	
	Balbriggan, Swords		Majella Callaghan	01 840 8946	majellacallaghan@ddletbaes.ie	https://adulteducationnorthcountydublin.ie/
			Orla Hicks	01 841 7763	orlahicks@ddletbaes.ie	
			Kevin McCabe	087 405 0293	kevinmccabe@ddletbaes.ie	https://www.adulteducationsoutheast.com/
Dublin and Dun Laoghaire	Dún Laoghaire, Dundrum		Elizabeth O'Doherty	01 298 9283	elizabethodoherty@ddletbaes.ie	https://www.adulteducationsoutheast.com/
	Tallaght, Lucan, Clonsilla		Caroline Duffy	01 451 5733	carolineduffy@ddletbaes.ie	http://dublinadulteducation.ie/adult-guidance/
			Patrick Stewart	01 467 0043	patrickstewart@ddletbaes.ie	https://www.adulteducationblanchardstown.ie/
	Riversdale, Blanchardstown		Sharon Hennessy	01 821 2829	sharonhennessy@ddletbaes.ie	
	Galway, Roscommon		Nuala Kilgannon	087 351 5034	nuala.kilgannon@gretb.ie	https://gretb.ie/further-education-training/adult-guidance-and-information-service/
Galway, Roscommon	Galway City, Roscommon		Miriam Walsh	087 988 5969	guidance@gretb.ie	
	Ballinasloe, Tuam, Roscommon		Maura Fallon	086 014 6515	maura.fallon@gretb.ie	
	Galway City, Gort, Portumna		Siobhan Brangwyn	087 260 0133	siobhan.brangwyn@gretb.ie	
	Loughrea, West Galway		Tadhg Crowley	087 281 8506	timothy.crowley@gretb.ie	
	East Galway, Roscommon		Pauline Dillon	087 055 2292	guidance@gretb.ie	
Kerry		7 Denny Street, Tralee		066 714 96 96	info@kerrycollege.ie	https://kerrycollege.ie/admissions/admissions-information-hub/

Do you need help with your English Language?



Look for the county you live in here or on the last page and call or email to ask for English Language classes. This is a free service.

County	Local area	Address	Contact name	Phone	Email	Website
Kildare, Wicklow	Kildare (Newbridge)	Áras Sláinte, Station Rd, Newbridge, W12 XD45	Rachael Tuite	087 7006685	RachaelTuite@kwetb.ie	https://kwetbguidanceservice.ie/
	Kildare (Maynooth)	Manor Mills Shopping Centre, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	Shane Barrett	087 372 2234	shanebarrett@kwetb.ie	
	Wicklow (Bray)	Brennan's Parade, Bray, Co. Wicklow	Catherine Greene	086 806 0702	catherinagreene@kwetb.ie	
	Wicklow (Blessington)	Community Education Centre, Old Vocational School, Blessington, Co. Wicklow	Irene Hayden	086 806 1569	guidancewestwicklow@kwetb.ie	
Kilkenny, Carlow	Wicklow (Wicklow Town)	The Murrrough, Corporation Land (1st Division), Wicklow, A67 V248	Seona Hyland	087 707 4669	seonahyland@kwetb.ie	education-and-training/adult-education-guidance-service/
	Kilkenny	Lower New Street	Orla Reddy	056 776 4448	adultguidance@kkadulied.ie	
Laois, Offaly	Carlow	1a Meadow Court, Burrin Street	Shane Rooney	059 9133123	info@carlowadultguidance.ie	https://www.loetb.ie/adult-guidance
	Laois	FET Centre, Tower Hill, Portlaoise	Carmel Hoolan	057 867 2963	choolan@loetb.ie	
	Offaly	FET Centre, Castle Buildings, Tara St, Tullamore	Catherine Gavigan	057 935 1506	cgavigan@loetb.ie	
Umerick, Clare	Umerick, Clare			1800 70 70 77	coursechoices@loetb.ie	https://collegeoffet.ie/guidance/
Longford, Westmeath	Athlone	Athlone Training Centre, Garrycastle	Patricia Reilly	086 386 7847	preilly@lwebt.ie	https://www.lwebt.ie/adult-guidance/
	Longford	Church Street	John Doherty	085 808 6825	jdoherty@lwebt.ie	
			Fiona Murphy	087 266 9988	fiona.murphy@lwebt.ie	
		Further Education Centre	Caroline Connolly	086 386 7954	connolly@lwebt.ie	
	Mullingar	Marlinstown Business Park	Niamh Penrose	086 173 4626	npenrose@lwebt.ie	
Louth, Meath				041 984 2030 / 087 230		https://www.lmetb.ie/further-education-training/guidance-information-and-recruitment/
	Drogheda, Louth	FET Centre, King St, Drogheda	Ann Fallon	0195	laegis@lmetb.ie	
		Training Centre, Coe's Road, Dundalk A91 PH21	Carmel Smith	042 9355 700	smith.rst@lmetb.ie	
	Dundalk, Louth	FET Campus, Railway St, Navan C15 AW81	Shona Dunne	086 078 7988 / 087 953	maegs@lmetb.ie	
Mayo Sligo, Leitrim	Meath			9357		http://msletheadultguidance.ie/contact/
	Mayo	FET Centre, Lucan Street, Castlebar	Barbara Ronayne	094 903 5814	barbararonayne@msletb.ie	
	Sligo	Quay Street	Caroline King / Josephine McGread	071 913 8411	carolineking@msletb.ie	
				071 962 1371 / 086 036	josephinemcgread@msletb.ie	
			Martina O'Sullivan	2174	martinaosullivan@msletb.ie	
Tipperary	Leitrim	FET Centre, Marketyard, Carrick-on-Shannon	Jane Nolan	071 962 1371 / 086 774	janenolan@msletb.ie	https://tipperaryetb.ie/further-education/adult-guidance-in-education-service/
	North Tipperary (Borrisokane, Nenagh, Newport, Roscrea, Templemore, Thurles)	Teach an Léinn, Kenyon Street, Nenagh	Nora Gubbins / Martina Maher	3329	adultguidance@tipperaryetb.ie	
	South Tipperary (Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Cahir, Tipperary Town)	Front Building, Western Road, Clonmel	Tom Ryan / Brigid Keating	067 322 82 / 087 914 3505	adultguidance@tipperaryetb.ie	
				052 619 1424		
Waterford, Wexford	Waterford City	W.I.T. College Street Campus, X91 RX4R	Peter Lucey	086 069 6988	peterlucey@wwetb.ie	http://waterfordwexford.etb.ie/adult-education-services/adult-educational-guidance-services/
	Waterford County	Wolfe Tone Road, Dungarvan, X35 DX49	Philip Cullinane	058 482 28 / 087 701 0386	philipcullinane@wwetb.ie	
		Ardcavan Business Park, P9EA	Rosari Curran	087 137 9115 / 053 915 2067	rosariurran@wwetb.ie	
	Wexford					

How to fund your Education : State Support



(1) English Language

- English Language classes are free
- look at the list on pages 10 and 11

(2) Back to Education Initiative (BTEI)

- The Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) provides **part-time** courses for adults and young people aged 16+ who leave school with few or no formal qualifications or low literacy levels.
- It gives you the opportunity to combine learning with family and work etc.
- BTEI courses are usually level 3 and 4 on the National Qualification Framework (NFQ). It allows you to study part-time (up to 400 hours per year). It is possible to get a major award at NFQ levels 1-6 when part-time courses are combined to complete a major award.
- [Click here for further information](#)

(3) Back to Education Allowance (BTEA)

- BTEA provides a social welfare payment that allows you to go back to education **full-time**.
- You must be over 18 (or over 24 for postgraduate study).
- You must have a stamp 4 and be eligible for Job Seekers Allowance.
- **See next page** for more details relating to people who recently received stamp 4.
- Click [here](#) for Part-Time Education Option (PTEO).

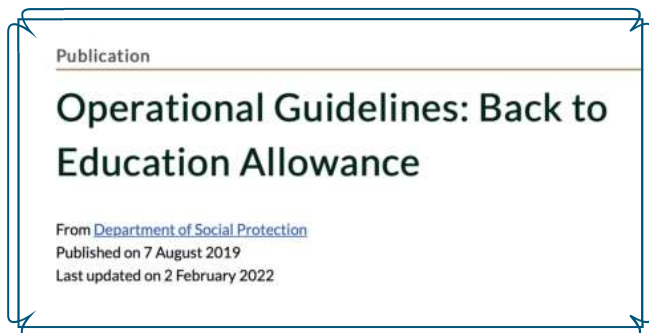
(5) Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS)

- If you are a protection applicant (person seeking asylum) you can apply to VTOS to study **full-time**, your fees will be free but you will not receive a social welfare (training) payment, you will continue to receive your weekly allowance of €38.80.
- If you have stamp 4 and are eligible for Job Seekers Allowance you can apply to VTOS to study **full-time**, your fees will be free & you will receive social welfare (training) payments.
- **See page 14** for full details relating to people seeking asylum or with refugee status.

(6) Support for Post Leaving Certificate (PLC)

- Once you have a work permit (or refugee status) you can join a level 5 or 6 PLC course for the same fees as Irish Citizens.
- You are also eligible to apply to SUSI or the Student Support Scheme for maintenance payments.
- See page 15 for further details.

How to fund your Education : State Support : Back to Education Allowance (BTEA)



What is Back To Education Allowance (BTEA)

BTEA provides a social welfare payment that allows you to go back to education **full-time** while continuing to receive a social welfare payment similar to Job Seekers Allowance.

Click [here](#) for the Part-Time Education Option (PTEO).

General Criteria to be eligible for BTEA

- You need to be age 18+ (or 24+ for postgraduate study)
- You must have a stamp 4
- Normally you secure a place on the course before applying for BTEA
- Normally you need to be on a social welfare payment for 9+ months for Higher Education and 3+ months for Further Education (PLC)

Exceptions to the Criteria for Refugees & Protection Applicants

- You can apply for BTEA after the course has started
- The 9+/3+ months can be a combination of Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) and Daily Expense Allowance (DEA)

Protection Applicants' entitlements to BTEA:
([click here for BTEA Operational Guidelines - see end of section 3](#))

"Protection Applicants who are studying full-time (including those previously supported through the Sanctuary Programmes) and who then receive their stamp 4 (permission to remain) after the commencement of the academic year are entitled to apply for BTEA.

This extends applications for BTEA to Protection Applicants who have commenced studying prior to receiving their permission to remain (stamp 4), from the date that they have received this permission (or commencement of an academic year)."

How to fund your Education : State Support : Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme



SINCE 2018 Protection Applicants with a work permit (Labour Market Access Permission) can avail of FET (Further Education & Training) including Apprenticeships & VTOS in the same manner as Irish Citizens.

People with Refugee status or Permission to Remain are also eligible to apply for VTOS.

VTOS PROVIDES FOR FREE FEES TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

The courses range from basic education and training to advanced vocational training and there is a wide choice of subjects. The courses are **full-time**, about 30 hours a week (for example, 6 hours a day for 5 days) and can last up to 2 years. Courses can lead to qualifications at Levels 3, 4, 5 or 6.

TO PLC CENTRES & VTOS CO-ORDINATORS

Proving Eligibility:

- (1) A student with a TRC (Temporary Residence Card) is a Protection Applicant.
- (2) The student requires a work permit (Labour Market Access Permission) to be eligible for VTOS (this is a letter from the Department of Justice). The LMAP is renewable every 12 months.
- (3) People with Stamp 4 (Refugee Status, Subsidiary Protection or Permission to Remain) are also eligible and will have an Irish Residency Permit (IRP) / GNIB.

TO STUDENTS: (must be over 21)

- (1) You need to complete a form given to you by your college / co-ordinator.
- (2) Take the form to be stamped at your local social welfare / INTREO office.
- (3) If there are fees associated with the course you do not have to pay any fees.
- (4) You are also eligible for a very small travel allowance from your ETB.
- (5) Protection Applicants are not eligible for the weekly social welfare payment / training allowance, you will continue to receive your DEA Allowance of €38.80 weekly.
- (6) People with stamp 4 will receive the social welfare training allowance similar to Job Seekers Allowance

HOW TO APPLY

Simply contact the VTOS coordinator in your local VTOS Centre or College of Further Education. Explain that you have a TRC & a work permit or an IRP/GNIB and would like to apply for VTOS.

How to fund your Undergraduate Degree : State Support



THE STATE PROVIDES GRANTS FOR FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION WHETHER
(a) YOU HAVE A STAMP 4 VISA OR
(b) IF YOU ARE STILL WAITING IN THE ASYLUM PROCESS.

SUSI GRANT is for people with Stamp 4 (not all stamp 4 are eligible - [check here](#))

- 10 Mar 2022 - Open for renewal applications (2nd, 3rd & 4th year)
- 28 April 2022 - Open for new applications (1st year)
- 09 June 2022 - Priority closing date for renewal applications (2nd, 3rd & 4th year)
- 07 July 2022 - Priority closing date for new applications (1st year)
- Early Nov 2022 - the normal closing date - although you can apply later if you had very specific change of circumstances.

STUDENT SUPPORT SCHEME is for people still waiting in the asylum process

- Similar to SUSI you must apply each year whether you are a new applicant or a renewal applicant.
- In 2021 this scheme opened in August (we have recommended that it open as soon as possible).
- Early Nov 2022 - the normal closing date - although you can apply later if you had very specific change of circumstances as per SUSI above.

Criteria for these state grants, you must ...

- be resident in Ireland for 3 years prior to the start date of your course for SUSI
- be a protection applicant prior to 31 August 2019 for the Student Support Scheme
- be undertaking an approved course in an approved college (see page 16)
- be progressing in your education (see National Framework on page 7)
- provide details of your income for the previous year, which must not exceed stated levels.

How to fund your Undergraduate Degree : State Support



The State will only fund approved public institutions under SUSI or the Student Support Scheme. The following are approved, but please [click here](#) as the list may change during the year.

Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology 2022-23	Carlow College (St. Patrick's) 2022-23	Dublin City University 2022-23
Dundalk Institute of Technology 2022-23	Marino Institute of Education 2022-23	National University of Ireland, Maynooth 2022-23
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology 2022-23	Mary Immaculate College 2022-23	Munster Technological University Cork 2022-23
Institute of Technology, Carlow 2022-23	National College of Art & Design 2022-23	Munster Technological University Kerry 2022-23
Institute of Technology, Sligo 2022-23	National College of Ireland 2022-23	National University of Ireland, Galway 2022-23
Letterkenny Institute of Technology 2022-23	Pontifical University of Maynooth 2022-23	Trinity College Dublin 2022-23
Waterford Institute of Technology 2022-23	Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland 2022-23	TU Dublin – Blanchardstown Campus 2022-23
	St. Angela's College 2022-23	TU Dublin – City Campus 2022-23
	St. Nicholas Montessori College 2022-23	TU Dublin – Tallaght Campus 2022-23
		TUS-Midlands Midwest, Athlone Campus 2022-23
		TUS-Midlands Midwest, Limerick Campus 2022-23
		University College Cork (NUI) 2022-23
		University College Dublin (NUI) 2022-23
		University of Limerick 2022-23

Although you might receive a CAO offer from one of the colleges listed below, they are not eligible for state funding from SUSI or the Student Support Scheme because they are private colleges.

Please [click here](#) as the list may change during the year.

Institution Code	Institution Name
AC	American College
CI	Irish College of Humanities & Applied Sciences
CT	College of Computing Technology
DB	Dublin Business School
DS	Dorset College
GB	Galway Business School
GC	Griffith College
ID	ICD Business School
PI	Portobello Institute

1916 Bursary

The 1916 Bursary Fund is managed by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) on behalf of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS), with the purpose of encouraging participation and success by students from sections of society that are significantly under-represented in higher education.

- You must have a Stamp 4 - similar to SUSI (see page 15).
- You must be a first time student entering 1st year.
- All publicly funded Universities offer this bursary.
- Google 1916 and the name of the University to find more details.
- Each University will have different closing dates.
- The bursary is worth €5,000 each year.

1916 Bursary Fund



How to Apply to ... Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) Courses



What is PLC

PLC courses are Level 5 and Level 6 courses, previously mentioned on page 7 (National Framework of Qualifications - NFQ) and page 9 (Further Education & Training - FET).

Each level is one year in duration and they provide an excellent education after which you might want to look for work in your chosen area or you might want to use your PLC results to enter Higher Education / University (see page 18 and 19).

How to find the right course

There are several websites to help you find the right course, including ...

[Fetch Courses](#) - [Qualifax](#) - [This is FET](#) - [ETB Ireland](#)

HOWEVER, we strongly recommend you contact an Education Guidance Counsellor as well who can support you and help you to make a good choice - find a counsellor on page 6

How to apply for a PLC course ?

- When you find the course you want, simply click on 'Apply Now'
- See [HERE](#) for example
- And it is a good idea to go along to the college open days to ask questions
- You will find PLC courses in your local College of Further Education - Training Centre - and Community College

How much will it cost ?

- Protection Applicants with work permits and Refugees or people with Permission to Remain are charged the same fees as Irish students.
- In October 2021 the Minister for Further & Higher Education abolished the €200 Government Levy that was previously payable on PLC courses.
- You will probably have to pay a non-refundable deposit of €50 to hold your place.
- Then, each course will have their own charges attached but the majority will cost in the region of €200.
- Some courses will have high costs for materials, for example Beauty courses, €600.
- Some courses will carry professional fees, for example Account Technician, €700.
- These are just examples, be sure to check all the fees before you commit.

How to apply to University ... for an Undergraduate Degree (Level 7/8)



You need to do two very separate things ...

1. you need to apply for a place on a course (see below how to do that)
2. you need to apply for funding (see pages 15 and 23-31)



The CAO (Central Applications Office) processes applications for undergraduate degrees in Irish Universities & Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

Decisions on admissions to undergraduate courses are made by the Universities/HEIs who instruct the CAO to make offers to successful candidates.

Most Universities / HEIs use the CAO but not all - you can find a [list of participating Universities / HEIs by clicking this link](#) and also printed on the page 20.

Please also note that not all Universities / HEIs are eligible for state grants (more about that on page 16)

- You apply for University online at this link www.cao.ie
- If you apply before January 20th the application fee is €30 (early fee)
- If you apply before February 1st the application fee is €45 (normal fee)
- If you apply before May 1st the application fee is €60 (late fee)
- Not all courses or all Universities accept late applications so if you miss the normal closing date of February 1st you should contact the University to ask if you can apply late (see contact details on the next page) .
- Offers of places on courses are made between July and October each year (you can [check the important dates here](#)).

IMPORTANT - when you apply for a place on a course, you apply on the basis of (1) having completed a Leaving Cert or (2) having completed a QQI Level 5 course or (3) having completed an Access Programme or (4) as a mature student. See page 19 for more details.

How to apply to University ... for an Undergraduate Degree (Level 7/8)



As mentioned on page 18 - when you apply to the CAO you need to indicate which pathway or which route you want to enter University.

Here are some of the most popular routes you can use ...

- [Leaving Certificate \(Level 5\)](#)
- The majority of students leaving secondary school use their Leaving Certificate to apply for a place at University.
- [Post Leaving Certificate \(PLC\) \(Level 5 or 6\)](#)
- Most Universities will reserve a certain number of places on most courses for people who have completed a PLC course. This is a very popular route for people seeking asylum to use.
- [Access Programme \(Level 6\)](#)
- Not all Universities offer Access Programmes, you can find a list on page 24. This is a one year pre University preparation course. Again a very popular route for people seeking asylum.
- [Mature Student](#)
- If you are 23 years old on January 1st in the year you want to go to University you can apply on the basis of being a mature student. Some Universities will set aside a percentage of places on some courses for mature students. However, you may have to take an English Language test and you may have to take a Mature Student Assessment (MSAP). In all cases you should contact the Access Office of your chosen University and ask them what is required to enter University through this route.

Two Further Important Points to Note ...

1. You might find some International Foundation Programmes on offer for €15,000 for one year and they often guarantee you a place in University. It is **not recommended** that you take this route as if you get to University you will have to pay International fees and you will not be eligible for state funding.
2. Also note that many health professional courses will require other pre-qualification assessments e.g. HPAT, GAMSAT or PAS.

If in doubt please go to see an Education Guidance Counsellor - find one on page 6.

Universities / Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) who participate in CAO

[Click here for a live link of the details below](#)



REFERENCE LIST OF PARTICIPATING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIs)

INSTITUTION / ADDRESS	HEI CODE	PAGE	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE	EMAIL
ATHLONE					
Athlone Institute of Technology, Dublin Road, Athlone.	AL	38/39	(090) 646 8000	ait.ie	admissions@ait.ie
CARLOW					
Institute of Technology, Carlow, Kilkenny Road, Carlow.	CW	40-42	(059) 917 5000	itcarlow.ie	admissions@itcarlow.ie
Carlow College, St Patrick's, College Street, Carlow.	PC	43	(059) 915 3200	carlowcollege.ie	admissionscc@carlowcollege.ie
CORK					
Munster Technological University – Cork, Bishopstown, Cork, Ireland	MT	44-47	(021) 433 5380	mtu.ie	AdmissionsCork@mtu.ie
University College Cork (NUI), Western Road, Cork.	CK	48-50	(021) 490 3571	ucc.ie	www.ucc.ie/en/ask/
Griffith College Cork, Wellington Road, Cork.	GC	50	(021) 450 7027	griffith.ie	admissions.gcc@griffith.ie
DUBLIN					
American College Dublin, 1 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.	AC	51	(01) 676 8939	amcd.ie	info@amcd.ie
CCT College Dublin, 30-34 Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2.	CT	51	(01) 633 3444	cct.ie	info@cct.ie
Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9.	CM	52	(01) 805 7742	mie.ie	admissions@mie.ie
Dorset College, 7/8 Belvedere Place, Dublin 1.	DS	52	(01) 830 9677	dorset.ie	info@dorset.ie
Dublin Business School, 13/14 Aungier Street, Dublin 2.	DB	53	(01) 417 7500	dbi.ie	admissions@dbi.ie
Dublin City University, Dublin 9.	DC	54/55	(01) 700 5338	dcu.ie	ugadmissions@dcu.ie
Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology.	DL	56	(01) 239 4400	iadt.ie	admissions@iadt.ie
Griffith College Dublin, South Circular Road, Dublin 8.	GC	57	(01) 415 0415	griffith.ie	admissions@griffith.ie
IBAT College Dublin, 16-19 Wellington Quay, Dublin 2.	BY	58	(01) 807 5055	ibat.ie	admissions@ibat.ie
ICD Business School, 84-88 South Great George's Street, Dublin 2.	ID	58	(01) 633 3222	icd.ie	admin@icd.ie
National College of Art and Design, 100 Thomas Street, Dublin 8.	AD	59	(01) 636 4200	ncad.ie	admissions@ncad.ie
National College of Ireland, IFSC, Mayor Street, Dublin 1.	NC	60	1850-221721	ncirl.ie	admissions@ncirl.ie
RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences, 123 St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.	RC	61	(01) 402 2228	rcsi.ie	admissions@rcsi.ie
St Nicholas Montessori College Ireland, Block C, Century Court, George's Street Upper, Dun Laoghaire.	NM	61	(01) 230 0080	smsi.ie	info@smsi.ie
Technological University Dublin City Campus, Rathdown House, Grangegorman, Dublin 7.	TU	62-67	(01) 402 3445	tudublin.ie	admissions@tudublin.ie
Technological University Dublin Blanchardstown Campus, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15.	TU	62-67	(01) 885 1530	tudublin.ie	info.blanchardstown@tudublin.ie
Technological University Dublin Tallaght Campus, Tallaght, Dublin 24	TU	62-67	(01) 220 7680	tudublin.ie	admissions.tallaght@tudublin.ie
Trinity College Dublin, College Green, Dublin 2.	TR	68-71	(01) 896 4500	tcd.ie	academic.registry@tcd.ie
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4.	DN	72-75	(01) 716 1608	ucd.ie	www.ucd.ie/askus
DUNDALK					
Dundalk Institute of Technology, Dublin Road, Dundalk.	DK	76/77	(042) 937 0200	dkit.ie	admissions@dkit.ie
GALWAY					
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, Dublin Road, Galway.	GA	78/79	(091) 753 161	gmit.ie	admissions@gmit.ie
National University of Ireland, Galway.	GY	80/81	(091) 495 999	nuigalway.ie	admissions@nuigalway.ie
Galway Business School, The Prom, Salthill, Galway.	GB	81	(091) 529 000	galwaybusinessschool.ie	admissions@galwaybusinessschool.ie
LETTERKENNY					
Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Port Road, Letterkenny.	LY	82/83	(074) 918 6000	lyit.ie	irene.heavey@lyit.ie
LIMERICK					
Mary Immaculate College, Limerick.	MI	84	(061) 204 348	mic.ie	admissions@mic.ul.ie
Griffith College Limerick, 3 O'Connell Avenue, Limerick City, Limerick.	GC	85	(061) 310 031	griffith.ie	admissions.gcl@griffith.ie
Irish College of Humanities and Applied Sciences, Limerick.	CI	85	(061) 216 288	ichas.ie	info@ichas.ie
Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish Park, Limerick.	LC	86-88	(061) 293 000	lit.ie	admissions@lit.ie
University of Limerick, Limerick.	LM	89-91	(061) 202 015	ul.ie	admissions@ul.ie
MAYNOOTH					
Pontifical University, St Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	MU	92	(01) 708 3964	maynoothcollege.ie	admissions@spcm.ie
Maynooth University, National University of Ireland Maynooth, Co. Kildare.	MH	93-95	(01) 708 3822	maynoothuniversity.ie	admissions@mu.ie
SHANNON					
Shannon College of Hotel Management, Co. Clare.	GY	96	(091) 497212	shannoncollege.com	admissions@shannoncollege.com
SLIGO					
St Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo.	AS	97	(071) 914 3580	stangelas.nuigalway.ie	admissions@stangelas.nuigalway.ie
Institute of Technology, Sligo, Ash Lane, Sligo.	SG	98/99	(071) 931 8510	itsligo.ie	admissions@itsligo.ie
TIPPERARY					
Limerick Institute of Technology (Tipperary), Thurles, Co. Tipperary.	LC	86-88	(0504) 28000	lit.ie	tippadmissions@lit.ie
Mary Immaculate College, St Patrick's Campus, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.	MI	84	(0504) 21201	mic.ie	admissions@mic.ul.ie
TRALEE					
Munster Technological University – Kerry, Dromtacker, Tralee, Kerry, Ireland	MT	44-47	(066) 7145635	mtu.ie	AdmissionsKerry@mtu.ie
WATERFORD					
Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford.	WD	100-102	(051) 845 555	wit.ie	caoadmissions@wit.ie

The cost of Higher Education: Undergraduate Degree



INTERNATIONAL FEES (Non-EU) versus EU FEES

Each University / College sets their own fees. Normally they will quote you International Fees if you have not been living in Ireland for 3+ years and if you do not have a Stamp 4 visa (Refugee status, Subsidiary protection, or Permission to remain).

However Universities and Colleges are self-governed and so you might find some willing to overlook that norm. Many will ask you to do a fees assessment to determine if you will be enrolled as an International student or an EU student.

FREE FEES INITIATIVE / SCHEME

The state provides each person one opportunity to complete an undergraduate degree, including Irish citizens. This Free Fees scheme covers the tuition fees (approximately €3,000) but the student still needs to pay a Student Contribution (also approximately €3,000).

Typically this is the cost of an undergraduate degree, they do vary but this is for illustrative purposes.

€15,000 = the cost per year for an International student.

€ 6,000 = the cost per year for an EU student not eligible for the Free Fees scheme.

€ 3,000 = the cost per year for an EU student eligible for the Free Fees scheme.

€ 0 = the cost per year for an EU student eligible for a state grant (more info page 15)

To qualify for the Free Fees scheme you must satisfy the following criteria:-

- be a full-time undergraduate student undertaking an approved course in an eligible institution.
- be resident in the EU/EEA/UK/Swiss State for 3 of the past 5 years.
- be a first-time undergraduate.
- possess refugee status or similar.
- note that Free Fees are not available if you are attending a private college, eligible universities & colleges are listed at the link below.

Full details on these criteria can be found [here](#).

How to apply to University for ...



a Postgraduate / Masters Degree (Level 9)

a PhD / Doctorate (Level 10)

The best way to apply for a Postgraduate Masters Degree is to contact the University / Higher Education Institute of your choice.

Carefully research what programmes interest you.

The details of how to apply will be on the webpage of the course at each University. If you are unsure, make an appointment to see an Education Guidance Counsellor (you can find their details on page 6)

Funding for Masters Degree (level 9)

(1) The state

provides funding for Masters Degrees (level 9) to people with Stamp 4 and to people in the protection / asylum process (see state grants on page 15)

(2) Some Universities

provide Sanctuary Scholarships for Masters Programmes (see page 30 for more details)

How to fund your Education : Sanctuary Scholarships



University of Sanctuary Ireland (UoSI) is an Irish initiative to encourage and celebrate the good practice of universities, colleges and other education institutes in welcoming refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants into their university communities and fostering a culture of welcome and inclusion for all those seeking sanctuary. We want to spread this culture of welcome across the institutions of higher education all over the island.

The practice of offering Sanctuary Scholarships began in Ireland in 2016 with DCU being the first to receive University of Sanctuary status. Since then the following Universities / Higher Education Institutes have received their Sanctuary status:

- DCU
- Maynooth University
- NUI Galway
- Trinity College
- TUS
- UCC
- UCD
- UL

Those listed below also offer Sanctuary Scholarships and several are in the process of applying for their University of Sanctuary status:

- ATU - Galway/Mayo, Donegal & Sligo
- DkIT - Dundalk
- Holmes Institute - Dublin
- IADT - Dun Laoghaire
- ICD Business School - Dublin
- MTU - Cork & Kerry
- NCI - Dublin
- SETU - Carlow, Waterford & Wexford
- TU Dublin

On the pages that follow you will find the details of Sanctuary Scholarships on offer for 2022/23.

[Access Programmes \(p24\)](#) / [Undergraduate Programmes \(p25\)](#) / [Postgraduate Programmes \(p30\)](#) / [Other \(p31\)](#)

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023

ACCESS PROGRAMMES (Level 6) One Year



University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
NUIG Galway					
Trinity Dublin					
TUD Dublin	15*	fee waiver	laptop loan		
TUS Midlands (Athlone) & Midwest (Limerick)	10	fee waiver & €960	laptop loan	<u>Midlands Midwest</u>	
UCD Dublin	4	fee waiver & €1,437 - €2,957	Welcome, Academic & Social Student Adviser		
UL Limerick	5	fee waiver	not available	<u>Apply here Funding</u>	31 May

This information will be updated regularly as we receive more details from the Universities.

* These Scholarships are shared across undergraduate, postgraduate and access where available

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023



UNDERGRADUATE (Level 7/8)

CARLOW

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
SETU	2**	fee waiver & €1,200	mentor & laptop loan	Click Here	

CORK

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
MTU Cork	3	fee waiver & €5,000		Click Here	03 Jun
UCC Cork	7	fee waiver & €400 per month x 12m	laptop loan	Click Here	01 Jun

DONEGAL

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
ATU Donegal	5	fee waiver & €2,000	mentor		

This information will be updated regularly as we receive more details from the Universities.

** These Scholarships are shared across multiple campuses.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023



UNDERGRADUATE (Level 7/8)

DUBLIN

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
DCU	0	--	--	--	--
HOLMES **	12	fee waiver	mentor	Click here then 'Apply'	open
IADT	2	fee waiver		access@iadt.ie	
ICD	2	fee waiver	--	admin@icd.ie	open
NCI	2	fee waiver	laptop loan, on-campus food, local transport	Click Here	19 Jul
TRINITY	4	fee waiver & €1,500	laptop loan, on-campus food, local transport	Click Here	30 Jun
TU Dublin	15*	fee waiver & €1,437- €5,915	laptop loan		
UCD	7 to 9	fee waiver & €1,437- €5,915	Welcome, Academic & Social Student Adviser	Click Here	30 Jun

This information will be updated regularly as we receive more details from the Universities.

* These Scholarships are shared across undergraduate, postgraduate and access where available.

** You must apply directly to this college, it does not participate in the CAO process, mention Sanctuary Scholarship in your application.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023



UNDERGRADUATE (Level 7/8)

GALWAY

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
ATU Galway	2**	fee waiver & €2,375	mentor	Click Here	15 Jun
NUI Galway	12*	fee waiver & €3,000			

KERRY

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
MTU Kerry	1	fee waiver & €5,000		Click Here	03 Jun

KILDARE

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
Maynooth	4	fee waiver	academic advisor, HEAR/DARE CAO points, support with travel, books & meals.	Click Here	22 April

This information will be updated regularly as we receive more details from the Universities.

* These Scholarships are shared across , postgraduate and access where available.

** These Scholarships are shared across multiple campuses.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023

UNDERGRADUATE (Level 7/8)



LIMERICK

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
TUS Midwest	5	fee waiver & €960	laptop loan & travel bursary, if applicable	mona.khan@tus.ie	20 Sep
UL	10	fee waiver	laptop loan, dongles for wifi, books & phone allowance	Click Here	31 May

LOUTH

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
Dundalk IT	2	fee waiver & €3,000		Click Here	30 Jun

MAYO

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
ATU Mayo	2**	fee waiver & €2,375	mentor	Click Here	15 Jun

** These Scholarships are shared across multiple campuses.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023



UNDERGRADUATE (Level 7/8)

SLIGO

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
ATU Sligo	5	fee waiver & €2,000	mentor, laptop loan	access@itsligo.ie	29 July

WATERFORD

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
SETU	10*	fee waiver	--	Click Here	

WEXFORD

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
SETU	2**	fee waiver & €1,200	mentor & laptop loan	Click Here	

WESTMEATH

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
TUS Midlands	5	fee waiver & €960	laptop loan & travel bursary, if applicable	jenny.burke@tus.ie	20 Sep

* These Scholarships are shared across undergraduate, postgraduate and access where available.

** These Scholarships are shared across multiple campuses.

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES (Level 9)



University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
DCU Dublin	5	fee waiver & €3,000 for f/t or €1,500 for p/t	Laptop / lunch vouchers / stationery pack	Click Here	01 July
ICD Dublin	2	fee waiver	--	admin@icd.ie	open
MU Kildare	2	fee waiver	HEAR/DARE CAO points, travel, books and meal support.	Click Here	22 April
NCI Dublin	2	fee waiver	--	Click Here	01 Aug
NUIG Galway	12*	fee waiver & €1,437 - €2,957	laptop loan, on-campus food, local transport		
TUD Dublin	15*	fee waiver			
UCD Dublin	2 - 4	fee waiver & €1,437 - €5,915	Welcome, Academic & Social Student Adviser	Click Here	30 Jun
SETU Waterford	10*			Click Here	

* These Scholarships are shared across undergraduate, postgraduate and access where available

SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS 2022-2023



OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

University	No. of Scholarships	Scholarship includes	Other supports	More Info & Application Form	Closing Date 2022
UCC English Language	4	fee waiver		Click Here	29 July
UCD Open Learning	2	fee waiver		Click Here	

How to fund your Undergraduate Degree : Charitable Support



(1) Uversity

Uversity is a Registered Charity that has been awarding Higher Education Scholarships to Adult Learners since 2018. You must have a Stamp 4 - click logo for more details.

Applications open 01 Feb 2022 and closed 25 March 2022.



(2) Movement of Asylum Seekers Ireland

MASI is an independent platform for asylum seekers to join together in unity and purpose. They have a Legacy Project which supports Education - click the logo for more details.



(3) Saint Vincent de Paul

The SVP is a charity, their Education 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 - click the logo for more details.



(4) Doras

Doras is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation working to promote and protect the rights of people from a migrant background in Ireland. They can offer support with English classes, online classes and general education support - click logo for more details.

Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project

(5) Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project

Dun Laoghaire Refugee Project is a voluntary collective of people who offer friendship and support to protection applicants and refugees. They also provide support for education - click on the logo to email them for more details.



(6) Nasc - Migrant and Refugee Rights

Nasc works with migrants and refugees to advocate and lead for change within Ireland's immigration and protection systems. They can also provide support and information around education - click on the logo for more details.



(7) Irish Refugee Council

The IRC works to promote and protect the rights of people seeking protection and those recognised as refugees in Ireland. They also have a dedicated Education Team who offer advice and referrals. Our Education Fund opens for applications in June and the closing date is 31 July - click on the logo for more details.

How to get discounted public transport?



The Student Leap Card is the national student travel discount card. It enables you to receive student discounts on fares across public transport services nationwide.

HOW TO GET YOUR STUDENT LEAPCARD

- You will need a letter from your college to confirm you are a student.
- Go to [Buy a Leapcard](#) and follow the steps to buy a 'Student' leapcard.
- It costs €10 to buy a Student Leapcard.
- You will need to upload a photo during this process.
- Go to a Leapcard Agent - you can find them [here](#) - and they will print your card for you.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REGISTER YOUR STUDENT LEAPCARD

- You can do that [here](#)
- Then you can view your transactions online.
- If your card is lost or stolen, login and ask for a replacement card so nobody can use your credit. The credit will be moved to your new card.

Saor Ed - Free online education platform



[Click here](#) to apply ?



The [SaorEd online education platform](#) for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants provides free, convenient access to a range of courses across a variety of topics and disciplines. To access it, go to www.saored.com.

The most popular courses chosen are English language, information technology, healthcare, and professional skills development. SaorEd also offers a range of education programmes across business, humanities, engineering and computer science. These provide an opportunity for learners to gain essential skills, and to spend time acquiring new skills and knowledge. Courses are available in Arabic as well as English, with plans to add support for additional languages in the future.

Certificates of completion of SaorEd courses are provided free of charge to international protection applicants. Work is also under way to enable learners who complete courses on SaorEd to qualify for programmes at Higher Education Institutes in Ireland.

SaorEd enables integration through education, and offers pathways to employment and further education for people who do not have easy access to other forms of education.

For more information, contact SaorEdInfo@gmail.com.

SaorEd is a collaborative initiative from Doras, New Horizon and Dignity Partnership. It is built on the Kiron online learning platform which has been designed specifically for refugees and underserved communities and is already widely used in the Middle East and Europe.



Useful Websites



Aontas- <https://www.aontas.com>

Aontas is the National Adult Learning Organisation advocating for the right of all adults in Ireland to quality lifelong learning

Apprenticeships - <https://apprenticeship.ie>

Generation Apprenticeship – find your apprenticeship here – a work based structured education and training programme which combines and alternates learning in the workplace with learning in an education or training centre. This is for school leavers, older learners, career changers, women and men with diverse backgrounds, talents and abilities.

Careers Portal – www.Careersportal.ie

Careers Portal Course Finder allows you to search for a course and to filter by course type, NFQ Level, Career sector, Region, County and College.

Citizenship Information – www.citizensinformation.ie

A one stop shop which provides information, advice and advocacy on a wide range of public and social services.

Citizens Information – **College application procedures and entrance requirements**

A very useful overview of collage applications.

Community Education

Community education refers to adult education and learning, generally outside the formal education sector. It aims to empower and support communities. It is firmly community-based, with local groups taking responsibility for, and playing a key in, organising courses and deciding on programme content.

Europass - www.europa.eu/europass

Europass is an initiative which aims to help you make your skills and qualifications clearly and easily understood in Europe - whether you are enrolling in an education or training programme, looking for a job, or getting experience abroad.

Fetch Courses - www.fetchcourses.ie

Developed by SOLAS and the ETBs, similar to Qualifax this is a search engine to help you find the right course near you.

Useful Websites



Further Education and Training provision www.thisisfet.ie

Further Education and Training or FET, offers a wide variety of life-long education options to anyone over 16. FET includes apprenticeships, traineeships, Post Leaving Cert (PLC) courses, community and adult education as well as core literacy and numeracy services.

MyFuture+

MyFuture+ is a programme designed to assist you develop and progress your career. Designed by career professionals, it contains a number of interactive tools to help you become clearer about what you would like to do (or not do!), and to explore the world of education, work and employment.

NARIC - www.naric.ie

NARIC Ireland provides advice on the academic recognition of a foreign qualification by comparing it, where possible, to a major award type and level on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

NCGE - www.ncge.ie

The National Centre for Guidance in Education is an agency of the Department of Education, with responsibility to support and develop guidance practice in all areas of education.

QQI - www.qqi.ie

QQI is an independent State agency responsible for promoting quality and accountability in education and training services in Ireland.

Qualifax - www.qualifax.ie

A search engine provided by QQI to help you find the right course. Click on 'search all courses' and you can enter the type of course that interests you near where you live.

The Right Course

The Right Course is your one-stop-shop for finding out the opportunities available to you, provided by the Department of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.

Skills to Advance - <https://www.solas.ie/programmes/skills-to-advance/>

Aim to equip employees with the skills, to progress in their current job, or to take advantage of new job opportunities.

[Social Welfare Entitlements for People living in Direct Provision](#)

There are different categories of people living in direct provision centres, and in similar centres, such as Emergency Reception and Orientation Centres (EROCs). The purpose of this guideline is to bring together in a single document the key information in relation to the rules for social welfare entitlements for this diverse group.

[Traineeships - https://www.solas.ie/programmes/traineeship/](https://www.solas.ie/programmes/traineeship/)

A Traineeship combines learning in the classroom and experience in the workplace to improve employment outcomes for participants and increase retention and productivity in the sector.

[Union of Students in Ireland - https://usi.ie](https://usi.ie)

The student movement on the island of Ireland promotes the interests of students studying in third level colleges and universities. On this site you'll find information about their campaigns, policies and work for students, students' unions and all of society in Ireland.



All information is for guidance only, it is not complete and any errors are unintentional.

Please consult the relevant websites mentioned throughout for up-to-date information.

Irish Refugee Council
37 Killarney Street
Dublin 1
D01 NX74

Phone: 00 353 1 764 5854
Fax: 00 353 1 672 5927
CHY Number: 10153
Registered Charity Number: 20025724
CRO Number: 188693

The Irish Refugee Council provide services and support for people seeking protection and people recognised as refugees in Ireland and advocate for humane and dignified protection procedures and responses to people fleeing persecution.

