



Student Universal Support Ireland



PLC Student



Undergraduate Student



Postgraduate Student



Student Studying Outside the State



Student Information Pack

Eligibility Criteria



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Are you eligible?

You should use our Eligibility Reckoner on the SUSI website (www.susi.ie) to give you an idea if you meet the criteria to receive Student Grant funding.

To be eligible for a grant you must qualify under the following criteria:

Nationality and Residency:

- You must be an Irish, EU, EEA or Swiss National or have specific leave to remain in the State; and
- You must be ordinarily resident in Ireland the EU, EEA or Switzerland for 3 of the last 5 years. If you were resident outside the Irish State, it may affect the type of funding you could receive.

Course:

- You must be progressing in your education (increasing your NFQ level); and
- You must be attending an approved course in an approved institution.

Income:

- Your reckonable income (income calculated for grant purposes) must fall under the specified thresholds. This income will be a factor in determining what type of funding you could receive; and
- Applications are assessed with regard to gross household income from the previous year.

Class of Applicant

Knowing what class of applicant you are is very important in deciding if you may be eligible for a grant, if or how you should apply and whose income is taken into account when assessing your application for funding. Students' Applicant Class falls into two categories:

- Dependent; and
- Independent.

As a Dependent Student you may fall into either one of two categories:

Dependent

If you are under 23 years of age on January 1st of the year of your first point of entry into further or higher education you are automatically classed as a dependent student and you are assessed based on your parent's/ legal guardian's income and your own income; OR

Mature Dependent

Over 23 years of age on January 1st of the year of your first point of entry into further or higher education and still residing with your parents/ legal guardians.

As an Independent Student you must be:

- 23 years of age or over on January 1st of the year when you first enter/re-enter further or higher education; and
- You must have been living independently from your parents/legal guardians from the October in the year prior to your first point of entry/re-entry into further or higher education and you will be required to provide evidence of this.

Grant Process



1. Make your application

You must have an online account with SUSI before you can make your grant application. For information on how to create an account, please go to www.susi.ie.

Fill in and submit your online application.

Please ensure that you provide complete and accurate information (dates of birth, PPS numbers and bank details in particular) as failure to do this will delay processing of your application. Please note that you must apply to SUSI each year to renew your application.

2. Supply supporting documentation

Based on the information supplied in your online application form you will receive either a refusal letter or a letter requesting the supporting documents required to further process your application.

3. Receive grant decision

You will be advised of your grant decision.
Your application may be:

- **Awarded**

An award letter is issued to you offering you a grant and highlighting the further steps you need to take before your grant can be paid; or

- **Refused**

A refusal letter is issued to you. This letter will also highlight the further steps you may take if you wish to request a review of your grant decision. These steps are also outlined in the SUSI [Reviewing your Grant](#) or [Appealing your Grant](#) processes available on www.susi.ie

4. Receive your payment

Maintenance grants are paid directly into your bank account and fee grants (or student contribution) are paid directly to your college.

To ensure payment of your grant, you must have:

- Provided your bank details to SUSI (maintenance grants only) – this can be done at any time through your online grant application account;
- Had your course details confirmed by the CAO to SUSI or submitted your Final Course Acceptance (FCA) form on-line to SUSI; and
- Been confirmed to SUSI by your college as registered and attending your course.

About

SUSI is Ireland's single national awarding authority for all higher and further education grants. We began processing in 2012, replacing the sixty-six local awarding authorities who had previously processed student grant applications.

SUSI offers funding to eligible students in approved full-time third-level education in Ireland and also, in some cases, funding for students studying outside the State. We offer support to all types of students, from school leavers to mature students returning to education.

We process applications under the criteria set out in the Student Support Act 2011, the Student Support Regulations and the Student Grant Scheme – this legislation can be found in our "Resources" page on the SUSI website. (www.susi.ie)

Year on year process improvements mean that SUSI now delivers:

- A user-friendly informative website;
- More automated validation of the online application form;
- Streamlining of the internal processing of applications;
- Extended data sharing with Government Departments and agencies;
- Increased stakeholder engagement; and
- Enhanced functionality of the online grant eligibility reckoner.



SUSI Support Desk
Website: www.susi.ie
Tel: 0761 087 874
Email: support@susi.ie
[Facebook.com/susisupport](https://www.facebook.com/susisupport)
[Twitter.com/susihelpdesk](https://twitter.com/susihelpdesk)

Visit www.susi.ie for more information.