

Maynooth University 1916 Bursary Application Guide 2021/22



What is the 1916 Bursary Fund?

The 1916 Bursary Fund is funded by the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS) and aims to **encourage participation and success by students who are most socio-economically disadvantaged and from groups most under-represented in higher education.**

Right across Ireland, colleges have come together to award this fund in regional clusters. The MEND cluster comprises 4 Higher Education Institutions: Maynooth University (MU), Dublin City University (DCU), Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT) and Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT).

This cluster has a limited number of bursaries for 2021/22: 40 x Tier 1 (€5,000), 21 x Tier 2 (€2,000) and a number of once-off Tier 3 (€1,500) available to students applying to these HEIs. There is a central online application process for the MEND Cluster which is administered by DCU on behalf of the other three institutions. **Applications close at 5pm on Friday, 22nd October, 2021.**

For those successful in receiving this bursary it will continue for the entire duration of the undergraduate programme of study. This is normally 4 years for full-time students & six years for part-time students once you comply each year with the bursary guidelines.

Tier 1 & Tier 2 bursaries will continue to be awarded at postgraduate level.

Tier 1 Bursary

- **€5,000** per year of study
- 4 years or normal duration
- Awardee can progress Level 6,7,8
- Continues to PG (4 yrs max)

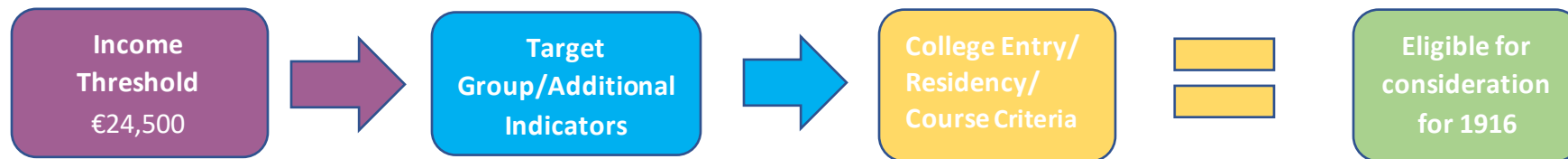
Tier 2 Bursary

- **€2,000** per year of study
- 4 years or normal duration
- Awardee can progress Level 6,7,8
- Continues to PG (4 yrs max)

Tier 3 Bursary

- **€1,500 once-off**
- 1 year only 21/22
- Awardee can be at Level 6,7, or 8
- Does not continue beyond 21/22

Undergraduate 1916 Bursary: What is the Criteria?



In summary, students who are

- resident in the Irish state for 3 of the last 5 year and are now
- entering year 1 of an (undergraduate) programme in the academic year 2021/22 (or repeating YR1 due to significant life event)
- on a full or part-time course at Level 6 or above which is at least 2 years long,
- with a household reckonable income less than €24,500 in 2020,
- who are in one or more of the identified target groups,
- who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage and experiencing significant financial hardship,

can apply for the Bursary via a central MEND cluster **online application form before 5pm on Friday, 22nd October, 2021.**

- Find the full criteria including more detail on who can and cannot apply at the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#).

What are the stages of the application?

There are three stages to apply for the Undergraduate 1916 bursary. Please note that students can only apply once and that all the applications for all HEIs in the MEND cluster must be submitted to DCU using the online application form before the closing date.

STAGE 1

Check eligibility against
the Criteria

STAGE 2

Collect & scan supporting
documents and save them
to your device, ready for
upload.

STAGE 3

Complete the online
Application Form before
17:00 Fri 22nd Oct 2021 (&
upload supporting docs).

- Find the link to the online application form at [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#) or on the 1916 Bursary page at any of the other MEND Cluster HEIs (DCU, Dundalk IT, Athlone IT).

Stage 1: Check Eligibility & Criteria

Income Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be from a socio-economic disadvantaged background - You are not required to submit supporting documentation, we will verify this by using your address.
- Applicants who applied for SUSI have to be on the special Rate of SUSI grant 2021 - If this is your case you do not need to submit supporting documentation as we will verify this with SUSI.

I do not have a SUSI Special Rate letter, what do I submit?

- A letter that shows that you are in receipt of a Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) means tested social Welfare payment.

OR

- Other proof of household income documents which would show that you would qualify for the special rate of SUSI i.e. household income was under €24,500 in 2020.

- Find more details on the criteria at the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#).
- Refer to the [1916 Supporting Documents Checklist](#) for detailed information on what income documents to provide.

Target Group/Additional Indicators Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be from one or more specific target groups:
 - Socio-economic groups that have low participation in higher education (i.e., **either** eligible for the highest level of SUSI **or** be in receipt of a Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) means-tested social welfare payment)
 - First-time mature students (23 or older on 1 January of their year of entry to higher education)
 - Students with a disability, particularly students with a physical/mobility impairment or students with a sensory disability, students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing, students who are blind or visually impaired
 - Irish Travellers
 - Entering University on the basis of a further education award
 - Lone parents with a DEASP means-tested Social Welfare payment (*20% of the bursaries reserved for this category*)
 - Ethnic Minorities ([see further information on definition](#))
 - Refugees ([see further information on definition](#))
 - People who are or were in the care of the State

- Identify the target group/s to which you belong. The target groups are set out in more detail on the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#).

- Refer to the [1916 Supporting Documents Checklist](#) for detailed information on what documents to provide for each target group. Provide documents (where required) for all target group/s to which you belong.

College Entry/Residency/Course Criteria

Applicants must:

- Be a **new entrant** (1st year student) pursuing an undergraduate course and progressing to higher education **for the first time** in the 2021-2022 academic year.
- Have been a resident in the Irish State for three of the past five years.
- Be studying an approved **full-time or part-time undergraduate course** - leading to a major higher education and training award at **Level 6 (Higher Certificate), Level 7 (Ordinary Bachelor Degree), or Level 8 (Honours Bachelor Degree)** on the national framework of qualifications or equivalent awards and must **be at least two years in duration**. Use [course finder](#) to see the level of your course at Maynooth University.

I am a continuing student, can I apply?

- No. A new entrant means a 1st year student.

I am repeating 1st year, can I apply?

- Applications from those due to repeat Year 1 of their undergraduate programme will only be considered in cases where evidence is supplied that a significant life event was the reason for poor performance in the last academic year. Examples of such life events include major ill health which was certified at the time, pregnancy, bereavement in the immediate family. The student must have been enrolled in a HEI participating in Path 2 funding.

- Find more detail on who can and cannot apply at the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#).

Stage 2: Gather & Scan Supporting Documents

Applicants must:

- Gather electronic copies of the supporting documents relevant to their situation. Scan and save the documents to your device (laptop/phone/USB key), This must be done on the application form.
 - Upload the document as part of the application form process. Submit clear, complete and required supporting documentation.
 - **Important note: if a document is not to hand, the owner of the document (student/parent/partner/guardian) will need to request them from the relevant source. This can take several weeks.**
- Refer to the [1916 Supporting Documents Checklist](#) for more information on what documents to provide.
- Find help on [How to Scan documents](#).

Stage 3: Complete online application form & upload documents

Applicants must:

- Complete the form accurately with the required supporting documentation by **5pm Friday 22nd October 2021**.
- Get ready to complete your application form:
 1. When you start the application form you must agree to the data sharing policy to be able to proceed.
 2. Locate your 9-digit CAO number.
 3. Locate your student email address
 4. Provide your phone number.
 5. Find your Eircode on [Eircode Finder](#).
 6. Have the required documents saved on your device, ready to upload.
 7. You must have your PPS number ready. It is very important that you insert the correct number.
 8. If you have applied to SUSI, you will need the W number or your application number.

Remember ...

- Applications can only be made online.
- All applicants must be pursuing their studies in one of the approved institutions in the MEND cluster.
- Supporting documentation must be uploaded as part of the application.
- Additional supporting documentation WILL NOT be accepted after the closing date.

Assessment & Outcome

- Applications will be assessed based on the information submitted in the application form and the documents provided.
- There is no guarantee of award, even if eligible. The number of bursaries is limited, and the number of applications is expected to exceed the number of bursaries.
- Each applicant will be notified of the outcome.
- There will be an opportunity to appeal (strict grounds & no new information). Appeal information will be notified in outcome letters.
- Successful applicants will be required to sign a contract and to adhere to certain conditions in order to receive the bursary.
- Find more information on these stages on the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary webpage](#).
- Find information in the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary FAQs](#)

Other Information about the undergraduate 1916 Bursary:

Progression – academic progression is a condition of award, the Bursary will not be paid for repeating years except in exceptional cases. Verification of progression is required.

Duration – normally 4 years for UG course but if the normal duration of a Level 8 UG course is longer, the bursary will be paid. The 1916 Bursary can follow student progression from Level 6 to 7 to 8 at UG.

Deferral – one year is permitted, prior approval of HEI is required.

Transfer to another HEI – the Bursary follows the student provided at least one year of study is completed, prior approval of HEI is required.

Change of course – prior approval of HEI is required.

Conditions of Award/Termination of Award – find more information in the [Maynooth University 1916 Bursary FAQs](#)

Payment – Payments are generally by instalment and by electronic funds transfer directly to the student's bank account.