

ROUGH GUIDE TO COLLEGE GRANTS*

*Aimed at U23, mature students should check out our 'student financial Support' leaflet

www.studentfinance.ie

Maintenance Grant

Age:	At least 17, at least 16 for PLCs
Where you live:	If you are under 23 you must apply in the area your parents were living last October
Where you are from:	EU Nationality, Refugee Status, or leave to remain
The course:	Must be a full time course in an approved college
Income levels:	Your income must be below a certain level (Means Test ↓)

How the Means Test Works?

- The income limit is based on Jan - Dec 2011
- Income includes; wages, social welfare payment etc.
- Income Limit: Below are the approx rates for 2011/12 application

No. of Dependent Children	Full Maintenance	Part Maintenance (75%)	Part Maintenance (50%)	Part Maintenance (25%)	Exempt from Student Service Charge	Exemption from 50% of the new Student Contribution
Less than 4	€1,110	€2,235	€4,720	€7,205	€1,380	€5,920
4 - 7	€3,680	€6,415	€9,145	€1,880	€6,460	€1,440
8 or more	€7,430	€0,400	€3,360	€6,320	€1,295	€6,700

- You may be eligible for part-payment of the grant if you are over the initial limit
- If more than one person is going to college then the income limit will be increased to take this into consideration

Apply in July

Contact VEC
Ph: 214 7200

Co. Council
Ph: 205 4777

If your parents/guardians circumstances have changed since last year and this affects the overall family income you may find yourself eligible for the Maintenance Grant under 'Change in Circumstances'.
It is worth making an enquiry to see if you qualify.

The Money



How much do I get

- It depends on where you live and how much you and your parent's earn
- But if you live near the college and are entitled to a full maintenance grant you will receive approx €1,248
- Student Contribution— up to €2,250 will be paid directly to the college, depending on your entitlement. (Registration fee is not covered for PLC's)
- Top Up Grant— if income is below €22,703 (2010/2011 rates) and you are in receipt of an approved social welfare payment, you may receive an additional payment of €1,195 approx (if you live near, more if you don't!)

2011/12 Rates	Non—Adjacent Rate Live more than 45km from college*	Adjacent Rate Live 45km or less from college*
Full Maintenance	€3,120 approx.	€1,248 approx.
Part Maintenance (75%)	€2,338 approx.	€941 approx.
Part Maintenance (50%)	€1,560 approx.	€624 approx.
Part Maintenance (25%)	€778 approx.	€317 approx.

Filling in the form

1. Fill in all sections where they apply to you or your family, put in N/A where it is not relevant
2. Keep your application clean and clearly written (block letters)
3. Make sure both you and your parent/s sign the declarations at the back of the form

Key Documents

Get your supporting documents ready soon to avoid the backlog with the tax or social welfare offices—you can ring up now and request these forms, and they will be posted out to you

- ✓ Original Long Form Birth Certificate
- ✓ P21 (PAYE Statement—from the local Tax Office) Ph: 1890333425
- ✓ P60 for each employment during 2011
- ✓ P45 if employment ceased
- ✓ Social Welfare Statement for 2011
- ✓ Health Board Statement (SWA/Rent Allowance)

How We Can Help



Provide information on additional funding options



Provide the form you need for the 'Maintenance Grant'



Help you fill in the form



Give information on college courses



You can look through our college prospecti or we have free internet access so you can search online

Dun Laoghaire Youth Information Centre
Library Road
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

Ph: (01) 280 9363
www.youthquest.ie
info@youthquest.ie