


## Financing adult learning database

<b>Name of the instrument - Local language</b>	Student Grant Scheme
<b>Name of the instrument - English translation</b>	Student Grant Scheme
<b>Scheme ID</b>	116
<b>Country</b>	 Ireland
<b>Reporting year</b>	2015
<b>Type of instrument</b>	Grant for individuals
<b>Type of entry</b>	Single instrument

<b>Short description</b>	Student enrolled in full-time further and higher education undergraduate courses can apply for the grant to cover the fees and living costs. The grant is means-tested. There are special eligibility criteria and rates for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Maximum amount of the grant is EUR 5 915.
<b>Short description of the related instruments</b>	nap

<b>Level of operation</b>	National
<b>Name of a part of the country</b>	nap
<b>Name of the region (for regional instruments)</b>	nap
<b>Name of the sector (for sectoral instruments)</b>	nap
<b>Relevance</b>	Key scheme
<b>Legal basis</b>	Student Support Act 2011
<b>Objective(s) and target(s)</b>	To assist students with the various costs of participating in full-time further or higher education; provide financial help for students from disadvantaged backgrounds to participate in further and higher education.
<b>Year of implementation</b>	2014

<b>Year of latest amendment</b>	2011
<b>Operation/management</b>	Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI), an agency sponsored by City of Dublin Education and Training Board, is the body responsible for processing the applications and paying grants to the successful applicants. Previously, the student grant was awarded by any of the 66 local authorities around Ireland.
<b>Eligible group(s)</b>	Higher education students meeting the means-test criteria.
<b>Group(s) with preferential treatment</b>	Students from disadvantaged backgrounds
<b>Education and training eligible</b>	Full-time further and higher education undergraduate courses.
<b>Source of financing and collection mechanism</b>	Department of Education and Skills
<b>Financing formula and allocation mechanisms</b>	<p>There are different types of formula for the grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maintenance grants are a contribution to the student's living costs</li> <li>- fee grants can cover all or part of the student contribution to tuition fees.</li> </ul> <p>The level of the grant is related to the means test. The latter is based on the applicant's family's gross income for the previous full tax year. Independent mature students are assessed on the basis of their own income.</p> <p>There are also special eligibility criteria for students from disadvantaged backgrounds (where family income is almost entirely based on receipt of social welfare).</p> <p>There are 5 rates: special rate (for disadvantaged students), full maintenance, 75% part maintenance, 50% part maintenance and 25% part maintenance.</p> <p>Max. amount of the grant: EUR 5 915.</p> <p>Allocation: applicants receive the grants directly from SUSI.</p>
<b>Eligible costs</b>	Fees and other costs related to education and training (living costs)
<b>Frequency of the use</b>	Only once
<b>Volumes of funding</b>	For the academic year 2012/2013, the budget was EUR 103 400 000.
<b>Beneficiaries/take up</b>	For the academic year 2012/13, 47 585 individuals received grants by SUSI.
<b>Organisation responsible for monitoring/evaluation</b>	Student Universal Support Ireland.
<b>Monitoring/evaluation reports available</b>	One evaluation available - <a href="http://www.cdetb.ie/getattachment/footer/News/Latest/CDVEC-publishes-th...">http://www.cdetb.ie/getattachment/footer/News/Latest/CDVEC-publishes-th...</a>

<b>Most relevant webpage - in English</b>	<a href="http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...">http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...</a> and <a href="http://www.studentfinance.ie/">http://www.studentfinance.ie/</a>
<b>Most relevant webpage - local language</b>	<a href="http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...">http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...</a> and <a href="http://www.studentfinance.ie/">http://www.studentfinance.ie/</a>
<b>Recent changes</b>	In 2011, various student assistance grant schemes were consolidated into the current version of the Student Grant Scheme. The reform of the Student Grant Scheme resulted from a need to streamline various forms of student assistance.
<b>Sources</b>	<a href="http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...">http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...</a> and <a href="http://www.studentfinance.ie/">http://www.studentfinance.ie/</a>
	<a href="http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...">http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/third_level_education/fe...</a> and <a href="http://www.studentfinance.ie/">http://www.studentfinance.ie/</a>