

All Ireland Scholarship Scheme 2018

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Overview

The All Ireland Scholarship Scheme, which is funded by JP McManus, provides financial support to high achieving students from low income households. The Scholarships were first awarded in the Republic of Ireland in 2008 and they became available in Northern Ireland in 2009.

The Scholarship offers students financial support of £5,500 per annum for the duration of their undergraduate degree course.

The Scholarship will be awarded to the top 25 performing students who attend a grant aided post primary school or a Further Education (FE) college in Northern Ireland.

They will be awarded to the top:

- 19 performing 'A' level students in grant aided post primary schools; and
- 6 performing Level 3 Extended Diploma students in the FE colleges.

Applicants must be in receipt of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) at the time **of the** application, and due to commence an undergraduate degree course at a university in **September/October 2018**.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Where can I access an application form?

Details of the Scholarships, including how to apply, will be available from the following websites from **the end of March 2018**:

- NI Direct: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/all-ireland-scholarships>
- Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA): www.ccea.org.uk

- Colleges Northern Ireland: www.collegesni.ac.uk

You can complete the Nomination forms either as a hard copy form or as an interactive PDF format that can be emailed.

The Confirmation of Results form should be completed as a hard copy and either posted or scanned and emailed to CCEA (Post Primary Schools only)

By submission, you are confirming that the information contained in the form is accurate. Any inaccuracies may mean your application cannot be processed.

Nomination Stage

What is the deadline for applying?

Nomination forms must be received by post or by email by **4.00 pm Friday 29 June 2018**. Nomination forms which are not fully completed cannot be accepted.

Please ensure you send your form through to the correct organisation, as detailed below.

Where do I send my completed Nomination form to?

For applications from students in post primary schools

Nomination forms can be returned either by post or email:

- By Post:

Postal applications from students in **Post Primary Schools** should be sent to:

The Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment
(CCEA),
QDS, Room 300
29 Clarendon Road,
Clarendon Dock,
Belfast, BT1 3BG

- By Email:

The Nomination form is an interactive PDF which means you can add information to the form electronically, save it and send it via email. Emailed applications from students in **Post Primary Schools** should be sent to: ais@ccea.org.uk

Where do I send my completed Confirmation of Results and Statement of Results to?

- By Post:

Postal applications from students in **Post Primary Schools** should be sent to:

The Council for Curriculum Examinations and Assessment
(CCEA),
QDS, Room 300
29 Clarendon Road,
Clarendon Dock,
Belfast, BT1 3BG

- By Email:

You can email your Confirmation of Results form and Statement of Results, by scanning and emailing to: ais@ccea.org.uk
(please ensure this is signed and verified by your Head of Centre)

Confirmation of results forms must be received by **4.00 pm on Friday 24 August 2018**. If you are unavailable at this time to forward your results you must make arrangements for them to be forwarded on your behalf. Results received after the deadline will not be considered.

For applications from students in Further Education colleges:

Application forms can be returned either by post or email:

- By Post:

Postal applications from students in **Further Education colleges** should be sent to:

Aisling Twomey

Colleges Northern Ireland (Colleges NI),
Hawthorn Business Park,
39 Stockman's Way,
Belfast, BT9 7ET

- By Email:

The application form is an interactive PDF which means you can add information to the form electronically, save it and send it via email. Emailed applications from students in **Further Education colleges** should be sent to:

aisling.twomey@collegesni.ac.uk

If I am applying to do a Foundation Degree in September 2018 – can I apply for a J P McManus award?

No. Applicants must be intending to commence a full time undergraduate degree course at a university in **September/October 2018**.

If I am required to complete a Foundation Diploma before I enrol on my Honours Degree course, am I eligible to apply?

You can apply, as long you can continue onto Honours Degree the following year. The Scholarship will be a 2018 award, this will only be payable during the life of the Honours Degree course and not during the Foundation Diploma.

If am in receipt of an FE Award, rather than EMA, can I apply?

No you must be in receipt of EMA to be eligible.

Review of Marking (formerly known as re-marks)

Are outcomes from a Review of Marking taken into account?

Outcomes from a review of marking will be taken into account. Applicants must indicate their intention to apply for a Review of Marking on the Confirmation of A-Level Results form and submit this to CCEA by **4.00 pm on Friday 24 August 2018**.

Applicants should apply for a Review of Marking as soon as possible after receipt of A-Level results using Priority Service 2.

Outcomes from a Review of Marking **must** arrive with CCEA **no later than 4.00 pm on Monday 3 September 2018**.

What processes are used to select successful applicants?

The process for each category is as follows:

- The CCEA will determine the academic performance of those 'A' Level students who have applied for the Scholarship and provide a ranked list of the top students to the Department for the Economy (DfE). A minimum of two Scholarships will be offered in each county based on applicant's home address. This will ensure that the Scholarships meet the requirements of the Trustees in terms of a minimum two awards per county.
- Colleges NI will rank the academic performance of FE students in accordance with their Level 3 Extended Diploma results. From the ranked list, the top performing FE student from each FE College will be identified. This meets the requirements of the trustees in terms of one award per FE College catchment area. If there is a tie in the ranking for any individual FE College area, then a random selection will be made to determine the successful applicant in that catchment area.

Once the 25 successful applicants have been identified DfE will provide their details to the Scholarship Trust. Successful students should then receive a scholarship offer from the Trust by the end of September.

If I have been unsuccessful will I be notified?

No, only those candidates who have been successful will be informed. If you have not received notification from DfE by the **end of September 2018** your application has been unsuccessful.

Will the award of this Scholarship affect my entitlement to any student support grant?

No.

Must I attend a university in Northern Ireland?

This Scholarship is for students on a full time undergraduate degree course who will be attending university in Northern Ireland or other part of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland.

My course includes a placement, how will this affect my scholarship?

The scholarship is paid for mandatory elements of the undergraduate degree. It is not paid during the course of intercalated degrees or sandwich years. For shorter term placements you must notify DfE and they will advise accordingly.

How/when will I receive the Award?

When the Trustees have confirmed that you have been awarded a Scholarship you will be asked to provide DfE with your bank details. DfE will pay your award in three instalments each year upon receipt of your Confirmation of Enrolment. DfE will advise Scholarship holders of these dates at a later stage.

What happens if I do not complete my course?

You must inform DfE immediately if for any reason you change course or cease your university studies.

The Scholarship shall be terminated if a student has abandoned his/her course or has been expelled from the course or relevant institution. A student shall be deemed to have abandoned the course if he/she is absent

for a period of 60 days or more without prior permission of the scholarship trust.

Will I have to pay back any monies if I cease my university studies?

You will not be expected to pay back any money received up to the point of ending university studies.

Can I take a gap year before commencing university if I have been awarded a scholarship?

Yes. The scholarship may be deferred for one academic year and for that period only, with prior written permission of the Trustees and the academic institution. The scholarship will, however, remain a 2018 scholarship.

Can I apply for the scholarship if I am repeating my examinations this year?

No. Applications will only be considered from those sitting their examinations for the first time.

Who should I contact for further information?

In the first instance you should contact your school or college Principal. Additional points of contact are listed below.

General Enquiries:	Dominic O'Farrell Higher Education Policy Branch Department for the Economy Adelaide House, 39-49 Adelaide Street Belfast, BT2 8FD Tel: 028 9025 7498 Email: Dominic.O'Farrell@economy-ni.gov.uk
School Enquiries:	Margaret Donald Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) 29 Clarendon Road, Clarendon Dock Belfast BT1 3BG Tel: 028 9026 1200 Email: mdonald@ccea.org.uk

	<p>Julie Craig Department of Education Rathgael House, Balloo Road Rathgill, Bangor BT19 7PR Tel: 028 9127 9565 Email: 14-19CurriculumTeam@education-ni.gov.uk</p>
<p>FE College Enquiries:</p>	<p>Aisling Twomey Colleges Northern Ireland (Colleges NI) Hawthorn Business Park, 39 Stockman's Way Belfast BT9 7ET Tel: 028 9068 4952 Email: aisling.twomey@collegesni.ac.uk</p>