

# All Ireland Scholarship Scheme 2018 Guidance Notes

## 1. Introduction

The All Ireland Scholarship Scheme will provide **twenty-five Scholarships** to the top-performing students in receipt of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), who reside in Northern Ireland, and attend a grant aided Post Primary School or Further Education College in Northern Ireland.

Subject to the conditions set out in this document, Scholarships awarded will be renewed annually and continue until the completion of the undergraduate course chosen. The scholarship is not paid during work placements or periods of intercalation. Students must inform Department for the Economy (DfE) in writing if they intend to undertake a placement or intercalated degree.

The All-Ireland Scholarship Trust (The Trust), which was established by JP McManus, will provide funding for the provision of these Scholarships. The Scholarship scheme will continue to operate while the All Ireland Scholarship Trust Fund remains in place.

## 2. Number of Scholarships

The **twenty five scholarships** will be awarded across two categories:

- **Nineteen Scholarships will be awarded to the top 'A' Level students from grant aided Post Primary Schools.** In order to meet the requirements of the All Ireland Scholarships Trust a minimum of two of these Scholarships will be awarded in each county of Northern Ireland, based on the home address of the student (See Section 3a and 4a for more details).
- Six Scholarships will be awarded to the top Level 3 Extended Diploma students from Further Education Colleges. In order to satisfy the Trustees' requirement one scholarship will be awarded to each FE College catchment area in Northern Ireland (based on the FE College which the applicant is attending).

### 3. Eligibility Criteria

#### (a) Students from grant aided Post Primary Schools must:

- Have completed a **minimum of three 'A' Levels** by the summer of 2018. (A levels offered by any awarding body will be accepted and this must be the first time that students have achieved overall grades in these A level subjects);
- **Be in receipt of the EMA** at the time of application; and
- Have been **conditionally accepted onto a full-time undergraduate degree course** in the United Kingdom, or the Republic of Ireland, in the academic year 2018/2019. The Scholarship may be deferred for one academic year and for that period only, with prior written permission of the Trust and the academic institution. The Scholarship will, however, remain a 2018 Scholarship.

#### (b) Students from Further Education Colleges must:

- Have completed a **Level 3 Extended Diploma in the summer of 2018**;
- **Be in receipt of the EMA** at the time of application; and
- Have been **conditionally accepted onto a full-time undergraduate degree course** in the United Kingdom, or the Republic of Ireland, in the academic years **2018/19**. The Scholarship may be deferred for one academic year and for that period only, with prior written permission of the Trust and the academic institution. The Scholarship will, however, remain a **2018** scholarship.

#### **4. Application and Selection Process**

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](http://www.ccea.org.uk)
- Colleges Northern Ireland: [www.collegesni.ac.uk](http://www.collegesni.ac.uk)

#### **Section 4a: Students from Grant aided Post Primary Schools**

##### **Nomination Stage**

Nomination forms from students at grant aided post primary schools must be fully completed and either:

- Posted to AIS (QDS, Room 300), Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), 29 Clarendon Road, Clarendon Dock, Belfast BT1 3BG *or*
- Emailed to [ais@ccea.org.uk](mailto:ais@ccea.org.uk)

**To arrive on or before the closing date by 4.00 pm on Friday 29 June 2018.**

Please note that the following **will not** be considered:

- Application forms submitted after the closing date **by 4.00 pm Friday 29 June 2018**
- Application forms which are not fully completed
- Applications submitted on forms from previous years.

## Confirmation of Results Stage

In addition, as awarding organisations issue A Level results directly to schools and a centralised results list is not published, students from grant aided post primary schools will be required to provide CCEA with a **photocopy** of their **Candidate Statement of Results** and a completed **Confirmation of A Level Results form**, which is also available to download from the websites mentioned above. These must be returned to CCEA **on or before 4.00 pm on 24 August 2018 and sent either:**

- **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 or

- **By Email:**

You can email your Confirmation of Results form and Statement of Results, by **scanning and emailing to:** [ais@ccea.org.uk](mailto:ais@ccea.org.uk)

**(please ensure this is signed and verified by your Head of Centre)**

Please do **not** send original Candidate Statement of Results.

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.

## **Important additional information**

### **Modular Specifications** (CCEA / WJEC)

Please note, for each GCE A Level subject listed if the Awarding Organisation is **CCEA or WJEC**, you must enter the **total uniform marks obtained** and **maximum uniform marks available** for each subject in the relevant columns in the **table on page 1** of the Confirmation of A Level Results form.

### **Linear Specifications** (OCR / Pearson (Edexcel)/ AQA / Eduqas)

Please note, for each GCE A Level subject listed if the Awarding organisation is **not CCEA or WJEC**, you must enter the **final scaled mark total** and **maximum scaled marks available** for each subject in the relevant columns in the **table on page 2** of the Confirmation of A Level Results form.

If your statement of results does not include this information please ask your centre to source this and send along a copy signed by your Head of Centre with the Confirmation of A Level Results form.

**Late applications will not be considered and failure to provide CCEA with the completed Confirmation of A-Level Results form and a photocopy of the Candidate Statement of Results will result in the application being withdrawn.**

In early August DfE will email each post primary school applicant, who has provided an email address on their nomination form, with a reminder to provide CCEA with the Confirmation of A-Level Results form accompanied by a **photocopy** of their Candidate Statement of Results.

### **Review of Marking (formerly known as re-marks)**

Outcomes of a Review of Marking will be taken into account. Students applying for a Review of Marking must indicate this clearly on their Confirmation of A-Level Results form and should ensure that they submit this along with a photocopy of their Candidate Statement of Results on or before the closing date of **4.00 pm Friday 24 August 2018**, even if they have not received the outcome of their Review of Marking by then.

Students should apply for any Review of Marking as soon as possible after they receive their A level results using Priority Service 2.

The results of Priority Service 2, Review(s) of Marking should be known by **Friday 31 August 2018**, and these results should be sent immediately to CCEA to arrive with CCEA **no later than 4.00 pm on Monday 3 September 2018**.

**If seeking a Review of Marking on receipt of results pupils are strongly advised to submit the application for a Review of Marking as soon as possible.**

CCEA will determine the academic performance (based on the average percentage uniform mark across a student's best three A level subjects) of those students who applied for the Scholarship and will provide a ranked list of all applicants to the Department for the Economy (DfE). DfE will identify students eligible for receipt of the Scholarship based upon the selection criteria and notify the Scholarship trust of the 25 successful applicants. Successful students should receive a Scholarship Offer from the by the end of **September 2018**. Unsuccessful students will not be notified.

**Failure to provide CCEA with all the details requested on the Confirmation of A-level Results form and with a photocopy of the Candidate Statement of Results form will result in the application being withdrawn.**

In order to satisfy the Trustees' requirement that a minimum of two Scholarships are awarded per county, the following process will be used:

- The two per county requirement will be met from the ranked list of applicants from the school sector based on the student's home address.
- The remaining Scholarships will be allocated to those next in this ranked list.

#### **Section 4b: Students from Further Education Colleges (FE Colleges)**

Application forms from students at Further Education Colleges must be fully completed and either:

- Posted to Colleges Northern Ireland, 39A Stockman's Way, Belfast, Co. Antrim, BT9 7ET *or*
- Emailed to **aisling.twomey@collegesni.ac.uk**

To arrive **on or before the closing date of 4.00 pm on Friday 29 June 2018.**

Please note that the following **will not** be considered:

- Application forms submitted after the closing date of **4.00 pm on Friday 29 June 2018**
- Application forms which are not fully completed
- Applications submitted on forms from previous years.

Copies of the official Level 3 Extended Diploma/Notification of Performance form must be sent to Colleges Northern Ireland by **Friday 24 August 2018**. Please **do not** send original result documentation.

Failure to provide Colleges Northern Ireland with the official Level 3 Extended Diploma/Notification of Performance form by the deadline above will result in the application being withdrawn.

CNI will identify all those applicants who meet the eligibility criteria set out in section 3(b). Then CNI will determine the academic performance (based on Level 3 Extended Diploma results) of those students who applied for the Scholarship and will provide a ranked list of all applicants to the Department for the Economy (DfE).

Based on this ranked list, CNI will identify the top performing student per FE College.

In order to satisfy the Trustees' requirement one scholarship will be awarded to each FE College catchment area in Northern Ireland (based on the FE College they are attending as a student).

If there is a tie in the ranking for any individual FE College area, then a random selection will be made to determine the winner in that FE College catchment area.

### **All Applicants**

Successful applicants should receive a scholarship offer by the end of **September 2018**. Applicants will be asked to confirm, in writing, that he/she intends to enter a full-time undergraduate degree course in the United Kingdom, or the Republic of Ireland, in September/October 2018. Applicants who are intending to defer their university place must inform DfE and must also confirm that their chosen university has agreed to defer their place for the period of deferral.

**Unsuccessful candidates will not be notified.** If you do not receive notification from DfE by the end of **September 2018**, stating that you are in contention for the Scholarship, your application has been unsuccessful.

## **5. Scholarship Offers**

The Trust will contact successful applicants identified by DfE regarding a formal Scholarship offer. The successful candidates must accept the Scholarship offer within the timeframe specified, or the offer will be withdrawn. The right to withdraw an offer is maintained, where information given by the applicant is false, misleading or incomplete.

## **6. Conditions Attached to Scholarship Offers**

Every applicant to whom a Scholarship is offered must fulfil the terms and conditions of the Scholarship, together with the entry requirements for the degree course. Scholarship holders will be expected to fulfil the regulations stipulated by their institution and undergo all compulsory examinations as required for their undergraduate course.

It will not be permissible for a Scholarship holder to be in receipt of:

- (i) a scholarship awarded by another scholarship or trust
- (ii) any award paid by a public body or
- (iii) the equivalent in another EU member state.

The exclusions do not include the awards of scholarships, prizes or bursaries by the institution attended or any statutory support granted to an eligible student taking a designated higher education course under the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010.

## **7. Value of Scholarship**

The annual value of the Scholarship is £5,500 for academic year **2018/19**.

## **8. Payment of Scholarship**

The Scholarship holder will be paid the scholarship in three instalments during each academic year by electronic transfer directly into the student's account. The first

instalment will be paid by the DfE when the student has provided DfE with proof of registration with the university or higher education institution. Further payments can only be made by DfE on provision of confirmation of continued attendance at university and DfE will advise the Scholarship holder of the required submission dates for this confirmation and of future payment dates.

## **9. Termination or Deferral of the Scholarship**

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.

The Scholarship may not be paid in respect of a second period of attendance at the same course level. The Scholarship will however recommence upon successful progression into the next course year.

A Scholarship holder who wishes to, during the course of his/her studies, change course or faculty or defer his/her Scholarship for one academic year must obtain prior written approval of the Trust for that period. Where a student changes course, the Scholarship payments will be deferred until the student reaches the same level at which participation on the original course ceased.

## **10. Data Protection**

All data provided by applicants will be protected in accordance with The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

Information on how your personal data will be used is available in the privacy notice published alongside the nomination form. You must read and familiarise yourself with the content of the privacy notice before applying for the Scholarship. The nomination form includes a section for you to complete, giving your explicit consent to the processing of your data for the purposes of the Scholarship.