The National Student & Researcher Helpdesk FAQ

Updated 20 September 2022

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Questions and Help

What is the National Student and Researcher Helpdesk?

The National Student and Researcher (NSR) Helpdesk has been established by the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science as part of a sectoral response in welcoming, supporting and meeting the needs of students and researchers displaced from Ukraine who having Temporary Protection status in Ireland wish to pursue further studies in Ireland in the 2022/2023 academic year.

The primary role of the NSR Helpdesk is to assist Ukrainian displaced persons in Ireland in making informed decisions about their continued education in Ireland for the new academic year. The NSR Application Desk has been developed to allow you to apply for higher education opportunities in Ireland in the 2022/2023 academic year. This application process is free of charge.

How do I contact the Helpdesk for help?

The NSR Helpdesk is here to guide and assist you in progressing your application. You can contact the NSR Helpdesk by email at NSRHelpdesk@mu.ie and by telephone at (01) 474 7788.

Temporary Protection

What is Temporary Protection?

The Temporary Protection Directive (2001/55 EC) has been activated by EU Council Decision EU 2022/382 of 4 March 2022, to provide immediate protection in EU countries for people displaced by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The legislation transposing this decision in Ireland is the International Protection Act 2015. Section 60 of this Act confers on qualified persons the right to access to the labour market, education, healthcare and social protection to qualified persons on the same basis as Irish citizens.

Who can avail of Temporary Protection?

Temporary Protection in Ireland applies to the following groups of people who have had to flee Ukraine due to the invasion by Russia:

(a) Ukrainian nationals who were residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022;

(b) Nationals of a third country (other than Ukraine) or a stateless person who would have benefited from international protection (for example: Refugee status) or an equivalent national protection status in Ukraine and were residing there before 24 February 2022;

(c) Family members of persons covered by a) and b), where their family already existed in Ukraine, prior to 24 February. (Family members include a spouse or partner, unmarried minor children of either of them, and their other close dependent family relatives who have been living with them as part of the family unit before 24 February 2022.)

(d) Temporary protection also applies to nationals of a third country (other than Ukraine) and stateless people who were residing in Ukraine before 24 February 2022 with a permanent Ukrainian residence permit, who cannot safely return to their country of origin.

You will be issued with a document by the Department of Justice to confirm your status. You will need to provide a copy of this letter to the National Student and Researcher (NSR) Helpdesk should you wish to pursue higher education study in Ireland.

How long will Temporary Protection apply for?

This is a temporary measure for a period of one year, with scope to extend this by a further two periods of 6 months. Any decision in this regard will be informed clearly by the status of the conflict, and any subsequent actions recommended by the EU Heads of State.

Any extension beyond these periods will require a new decision from the EU Heads of State.

I am not based in Ireland right now; can I apply to study in Ireland and get the same financial support as those who are already in Ireland?

No - access to the recently announced financial supports for those qualified persons is predicated on being granted temporary protection under the International Protection Act 2015. Therefore, you cannot access or apply for a place in Higher Education through the recently established National Student and Researcher (NSR) Helpdesk.

Please note that you can, however, still apply as International Student and you should contact the institution of your choice for further information.

I am a Ukrainian national in Ireland on an International Student visa. What are my options?

Any Ukrainian national who is currently in Ireland on another immigration permission or stamp, has the option to either further extend or renew their existing permission if this is in line with the conditions attached to their particular permission or they can avail of Temporary Protection for the remainder of the period for which Temporary Protection is available as determined by the EU Council.

If I have temporary protection in another EU Member State, can I apply for temporary protection in Ireland?

An individual who has successfully applied for Temporary Protection in another EU country is entitled to revoke that protection and apply for it elsewhere.

I am a Third Country National studying in the Ukraine. Am I eligible for Temporary Protection?

No - Third Country Nationals in possession of Ukrainian student visas are not considered as having permanent status in Ukraine.

I have been a student in Ukraine (but not of Ukrainian nationality), am I eligible to apply to a HEI in Ireland?

Yes, if you have been granted temporary protection by the Department of Justice.

I am based in Ukraine. How do I apply as an international student and what course fees would apply?

International Student applications are made directly to individual higher education institutions.

Typically, there are two rates of fee, an 'EU' or a higher 'Non-EU' (sometimes referred to an International) rate of fee for each course. The institution of choice will determine the rate of tuition fees and students are required to pay Non-EU fees in full to their higher education institution.

International students can contact the higher education institution they wish to attend for details of the application process and guidance on the fee criteria of their individual institution.

Once you have an offer of a place from an institution, you should then apply for an International Student Visa.

What is the difference between an international student and a student who has temporary protection in Ireland?

International students are also required to obtain a student visa prior to undertaking study in Ireland, while those with temporary protection are not required to obtain a student visa to live and study in Ireland.

An international student typically pays their higher education institution of choice their full Non-EU or International fees on acceptance of a place. Under the International Protection Act 2015, qualified persons will be able to apply for their course of choice through the National Student and Researcher Helpdesk.

Further information on student visas can be found here - https://www.irishimmigration.ie/coming-to-study-in-ireland/what-are-my-study-visa-options/

I am from Ukraine and currently studying in Ireland as an international student. Can I apply for temporary protection?

The Department of Justice has advised that those existing Ukrainian students who were studying in Ireland prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 have the option to either further extend or renew their existing permission, if this is in line with the conditions attached to their particular permission, or they can avail of Temporary Protection for the remainder of the period for which Temporary Protection is available, as determined by the EU Council.

Those granted temporary protection by the Department of Justice are given the right to access education on the same basis as an Irish citizen and will be eligible to apply for the new temporary tuition scheme for the academic year 2022/2023. They will not have to pay fees in respect of attendance on an approved undergraduate or postgraduate course, or authorised transition programmes in an approved Higher Education Institution.

It is important to note that in the event you get Temporary Protection Status, your stay in Ireland will subject to these regulations, which **does not include the two year stay back available under the International Student process.**

I am from Ukraine and have been offered a place in a HEI in Ireland as an international student. Can I seek to access temporary protection when I arrive in Ireland?

Once you arrive in Ireland, and satisfy the eligibility requirements, you are free to apply for temporary protection. If granted temporary protection by the Department of Justice, the student will be eligible to apply for the new temporary tuition scheme for the academic year 2022/2023.

Any decision in regard to the extension or not of the Temporary Protection Directive will be informed clearly by the status of the conflict, and any subsequent actions recommended by the EU Heads of State.

I have temporary protection and will be studying in Ireland for 2022/2023. Can I continue to study on my course in 2023-24?

Yes – however, it may be necessary for you to apply for a student visa to continue your studies in academic year 2023/2024 and you may be eligible for Non-EU fees.

I have temporary protection and will be studying in Ireland for 2022/2023. What will be my position regarding fees in 2023/2024?

The directive from the European Council will see temporary protection applied for a year until February 2023, with the possibility for it to be extended for a further 2 more periods of six months pending Council decision.

The Government recently announced that a temporary administrative tuition scheme will be established for the academic year 2022/23. The scheme will be reviewed in light of the prevailing situation in 2023 in advance of academic year 23/24.

Making an application to the National Student and Researcher Application Desk

Why would I use this application system to apply to study in a higher education institution in Ireland?

The NSR Application Desk is the single point for all applications from students displaced from Ukraine seeking to access higher education opportunities in Ireland in the 2022/2023 academic year.

Who can use this application system to apply to study in a higher education institution in Ireland?

You must be a student displaced from Ukraine in Ireland seeking to access higher education opportunities in Ireland in the 2022/2023 academic year to use this application process. You must be covered by the EU's Temporary Protection Directive to apply and you must also already be living in Ireland. Helpful information can be sourced on www.gov.ie and Citizens Information (Temporary Protection Directive).

How do I apply to study in a higher education institution in Ireland?

You must apply via the NSR Application Desk and make an application **by 2nd August 2022.** You must supply all supporting documentation to the NSR Application Desk **by 8th August 2022**. It is your responsibility to submit all required documentation as part of your application.

Do I need to pay for my application to study in Ireland?

No, your application through the NSR Application Desk is free of charge.

What documents will be requested as part of my application to study in a higher education institution in Ireland?

You must have an active e-mail account to make an application. You will be asked to submit a copy of the following documents:

- **Passport page or National Identity Card** with name: date of birth and photograph,
- **Letter confirming your eligibility for Temporary Protection in Ireland**,
- **Transcripts relating to your studies previously** completed at secondary level and or current/previous third level studies (Академічна довідка з вищого навчального закладу, Додаток до диплому бакалавра/спеціаліст).
- **Evidence of English language competency.**

What information requested must be provided as part of my application to study in a higher education institution in Ireland?

To apply to the online application system, you will need an active e-mail account. You will be asked to submit (i) passport page or National Identity Card (name, date of birth, photograph) (**Mandatory**) (ii) letter confirming your eligibility for Temporary Protection in Ireland (**Mandatory**) (iii) academic documents relating to your studies previously completed at Secondary level and/or previous or current third level studies and (iv) English language qualification results (if you have one). All documentation must be uploaded by you via your 'My Account' access.

If your application does not include the mandatory documents, it will not be processed by the Helpdesk, and you will not be allowed to submit your application. If your application does not include academic documents and English language qualification results, it may not be possible for a Higher Education Institution (HEI) to consider your application.

What academic documents/transcripts can I submit in support of my application for entry to higher education in Ireland?

You may submit transcripts relating to your studies previously completed at secondary level and or current/previous third level studies. These will include the following, or may include other relevant records attesting to your readiness to commence or continue in higher education

Secondary Level:

- Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education**: Атестат/Свідоцтво про повну загальну середню освіту**
- Certificate of Complete General Education Addendum: **Додаток до атестата/свідоцтва** which typically accompanies /is part of your Certificate of Complete General Secondary Education

- Diploma of Professional Junior Bachelor**: Диплом фахового молодшого бакалавра**
- Junior Specialist Diploma (Junior Bachelor Diploma)**: Диплом молодшого спеціаліста (Диплом молодшого бакалавра)**
- External Independent Evaluation**: Зовнішнє незалежне оцінювання – ЗНО**, (associated Information card or Certificate of Independent Evaluation)
- National Multi-subject Test (2022)**: НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ МУЛЬТИПРЕДМЕТНИЙ ТЕСТ**

Third Level:

- Bachelor's degree**: Диплом бакалавра**
- Specialist Diploma: **Диплом спеціаліста**

Where students have 'incomplete education' in third level (e.g. transferred to another institution, personal reasons) students are advised to contact the Educational Department of their Institution to request the 'Vytyag iz Zalikovo-Ekzamenatsiynoyi Vidimosti '– an extract from the test-examination Records which is prepared by the Dean's office of the relevant faculty.

You may also have a 'European Qualifications Passport for Refugees' issued by the Council of Europe.

I am midway through my studies what documents do I need to submit?

You need to submit a statement of your results (Академічна довідка з вищого навчального закладу) for all years that you attended.

What if I do not have my results/documents at the time of application?

If your results/documents cannot be submitted at the time of application (e.g., awaiting results), they may be submitted no later than **8th August 2022** by uploading them to your online NSR Application Desk account. Otherwise, please contact NSR Helpdesk at nsrhelpdesk@mu.ie, Tel. 01 474 7788.

What if I am missing results/documents and cannot locate them?

Instructions for Ukrainian Students on how to obtain their official documents is available on **https://info.edbo.gov.ua/**

What level of English is required to study in Ireland?

You will be asked to provide evidence of your English Language competency, a requirement for admission to each HEI.

If you already have results from an acceptable English Language Competency test (IELTS (International English Language Testing System), Cambridge English Exams, Trinity College London ISE (III), TOEFL (Test of English as Foreign Language), Pearson, Oxford Test of English, Duolingo), you must upload proof of your results as part of your application.

Otherwise, you will be asked to take an online Duolingo test that will be provided for free. Expect the message from Duolingo inviting you to do your English test. It will be sent to your email address after you make your application. All students who are taking the Duolingo test must read the Duolingo instructions that will be available on the NSR Application Desk in the Language section of your application.

Please note that each HEI may have specific requirements in relation to the level of English Language Competency required for admission to specific programmes.

How can I get my documents translated into English?

If you don't have your documents translated, the NSR Helpdesk will do that on your behalf. Simply upload all required documents to the application system and the Helpdesk will send them to professional translators.

I already have my documents translated into English; do they need to be translated again?

If your documents have been officially issued in English, or in bilingual format, and carry the stamp of a certified translation into English (verifiable by means of an apostille seal/stamp), we can accept them without the need for additional translation. Please note we cannot accept any translations that are self-made, not stamped, not certified or in any way unofficial.

Do I need to submit original documents?

The original copies are not required when submitting your application. However, if you are accepted on a course, you may be asked for the original certified documents by the HEI who makes an offer to you.

Will my qualifications be recognised in Ireland?

Quality and Qualifications (QQI) Ireland have information (in Ukrainian) about its academic qualifications recognition service (pdf). This guide helps you to use QQI's foreign qualifications recognition service (NARIC).

What does HEI mean?

It means Higher Education Institution in Ireland. Those institutions are listed on the NSR Helpdesk application system.

Which Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) in Ireland can I apply to?

There are 18 institutions that you can apply to through the NSR:

- ATU (Atlantic Technological University),
- Dublin City University (DCU),
- Dundalk Institute of Technology,
- Institute of Art Design + Technology, Dun Laoghaire (IADT),
- Mary Immaculate College,
- Munster Technological University (MTU),
- Maynooth University (MU),
- National College of Art & Design (NCAD),
- National University of Ireland Galway (NUI Galway),
- RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences (RCSI),
- South East Technological University (SETU),
- St Angela's College Sligo,
- Trinity College Dublin the University of Dublin (TCD),
- TU Dublin,
- Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest (TUS),
- University College Cork (UCC),
- University College Dublin (UCD) and
- University of Limerick (UL).

How many HEI's I can apply to?

You have the option, as part of your application, to apply to a maximum of three Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) that you wish to attend, although you may of course wish to specify just one HEI. You must list these in your order of preference. You will firstly be considered for an offer by the HEI that you listed as your first choice. If you are not made an offer by that HEI, your application will then be considered by any other HEIs that you have listed in order.

Can I change my mind about the HEI/course that I selected as part of my initial application?

This may be an option in a small number of cases if you have moved location/accommodation in Ireland since you submitted your original application. To make this change contact the NSR Helpdesk at: NSRHelpdesk@mu.ie, tel. + 353 1 474 7788. However, you should note that you must have made a complete application **by midnight, 2nd August 2022**. It may not be possible to make any changes to your application after that date.

Can I choose more than one course?

Yes, you can select a maximum of two course choices per each of the Higher Education Institutions (HEI's) that you wish to attend.

What is a Full-Time student?

This is a student who takes an academic year (September 2022 – June 2023) of undergraduate or postgraduate study and is enrolled on a full-time programme/course of study.

What is a Part-Time/Flexible student?

This is a student who takes an academic year (September 2022 – June 2023) of a programme/course of study that is offered by a HEI on a part time basis.

I have completed some of my studies in Ukraine, but I have not completed my programme. Can I apply to continue my studies on a similar programme in Ireland? For example, I've completed years 1 and 2, can I apply to enter 3rd year?

Yes, you may apply for advanced entry. An application under this heading will require detailed work on the part of the HEI, as it is necessary to compare your previous learning with the Irish programme and identify an appropriate entry point. Sometimes, this is not possible and therefore, there is no guarantee that this option will be available or offered to you.

What is advanced entry?

It is where an applicant seeks to gain entry to the second or subsequent academic year of a programme/course of study, based on prior education in a relevant discipline at an appropriate standard.

Can I make a Springboard+ application through the NSR Helpdesk system?

No. All applications must be made online through the Springboard website. Further information on Springboard courses is available here: https://springboardcourses.ie/

Assessment of Applications

What happens after I make my application to the NSR Helpdesk?

Once you have made a complete application, your application will be processed by the NSR Helpdesk. All communications regarding the status of your application will be sent to you via e-mail. Once the NSR Helpdesk has completed the processing of your application (your documents have been translated/verified, and your English language competency assessed), your application may then be assessed by each of the HEI's that you chose in your application. If you are offered a place in a HEI, that HEI will contact you directly to progress that offer.

How will I know how my application is progressing?

You can check how your application is progressing by logging into the 'My application' section of your application. It is strongly recommended that you check the status of your application regularly by logging into the NSR Application Desk

How is my application assessed?

Your application may be assessed by each HEI that you mention in your application. As you have listed your preferred HEIs in order, you will firstly be considered for an offer by the HEI that you listed as your first choice. If you are not made an offer by that HEI, your application will then be considered by any other HEIs that you have listed in order.

Will I get the place on the course I have chosen?

The places on courses you chose are subject to availability. There is no guarantee of an offer on the programme (s) in your chosen HEI and in some cases alternative study options may be offered.

What will happen if I am not offered my first choice HEI?

The NSR Helpdesk will progress your application to the second HEI of your choice.

What will happen if I am not offered my second-choice HEI?

The NSR Helpdesk will progress your application to the third HEI of your choice.

What will happen if I am not offered my third-choice HEI offer?

You do not need to take any further action; your application will not progress further.

What should I do if I get an offer of a place on a course in a HEI?

You can only receive an offer through the Helpdesk system and if you wish to accept or decline that offer, you must do so through the Helpdesk system. You have **five days** to accept the offer. If you don't accept it your application will not progress further. You will not be offered any further choices.

You can check the status of your application by logging into the NSR Application Desk. The HEI you have applied to will contact you confirming if you have been given an offer of a place. It is important to carefully read the offer and any conditions which may be attached. You will get an email with an offer. **You will have one week from the date of the offer to accept that offer.**

Once you have received an offer, all further communications to you will come from the HEI that made the offer.

What will happen if I do not accept a HEI offer?

You have **five days** to accept an offer sent by your chosen HEI. If you don't accept your first choice offer your application will not progress further. You will not be offered any further choices.

How do I accept/decline an offer of a place on a course in a HEI?

The HEI you have applied to will contact you confirming if you have been given an offer of a place. It is important to carefully read the offer and any conditions which may be attached. You will get an email with an offer. Once you have received an offer, all further communications to you will come from the HEI that made the offer.

If you wish to accept or decline an offer, you must do so through the Helpdesk system. **You will have one week from the date of the offer to accept that offer.** You can confirm your acceptance of the offer on the NSR Application Desk by clicking the Green Accept button. If you wish to decline the offer, click the Red Decline button.

Do I have to pay a deposit to accept an offer of a place?

No, there is no deposit payment required in accepting an offer of a place made to you by your HEI.

After I accept a place, when will I hear about details of starting and registering for my studies?

If you have been offered a place by one of your chosen HEI's, and you accept the offer, the relevant HEI will then correspond with you via email regarding the steps required for registration, etc. This information will issue to you direct from the HEI.

What are my options if I do not receive an offer from any of the HEIs that I listed in my application?

There are a wide variety of other education opportunities in the Irish education system. These include Further Education and Training (FET) options and Springboard courses. These are outlined in more detail later in the FAQ section.

Fees and Funding Supports

Fees and Funding for students with Temporary Protection in Ireland

For the academic year 2022/2023 persons issued with temporary protection under Section 60(6) of the International Protection Act 2015 will be able to access education on the same basis as Irish citizens. See a table below of the category of study and corresponding fee being charged for students with temporary protection for the academic year 2022/2023.

If a student officially withdraws from a programme before specific dates a refund of some fees may be possible. Students should refer to the refund policy of the institution attended or contact the fees office of the institution for guidance on the policy of the institution and financial implications of withdrawal.

A student who was already registered at an Irish HEI before 24 February 2022 and is continuing to study on the same programme and same HEI for the coming academic year, but who is now in Ireland under Temporary Protection status, does not need to re-apply to study in their HEI via the Helpdesk.

Type of Offer from HEI	Fees and Funding Academic Year 2022/2023 Students with Temporary Protection
Full time undergraduate programme (Year 1, Transfer/Advanced Entry) Applicant has not completed an undergraduate degree previously	Tuition Fee and Contribution Fee will be paid on your behalf to the institution attended via the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Temporary Tuition Fee Support scheme. The HEI offering you a place will confirm if you are liable for the local Student Levy*. An Erasmus grant, covered by the European Erasmus+ Fund via the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, amounting to a stipend of €1,150 will be available to you each month and you will no longer be entitled to social welfare supports for the duration of the academic year.
Full time undergraduate programme (Year 1, Transfer/Advanced Entry) Applicant has completed an undergraduate degree (major award) in Ireland previously or an undergraduate degree abroad that is comparable to an undergraduate degree (major award) on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).	Student will pay the EU rate of fee, the fees for this programme will not be covered by the temporary tuition fee support scheme via the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. In circumstances where a previously obtained degree is not recognised as a comparable major award (National Framework of Qualifications) by the institution assessing your application you may be deemed eligible under the temporary tuition fee support scheme and for a stipend under the European Erasmus Fund. However, it should be noted that most Ukrainian degrees are recognised in Ireland.
Full time Postgraduate Programme (Year 1, Transfer/Advanced Entry) Applicant has not completed a postgraduate degree (NFQ major award) previously.	Tuition Fee and Contribution Fee will be covered up to €6,270 by the Temporary Tuition Fee Support Scheme from the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. The HEI offering you a place will confirm if you are liable for the local Student Levy*. An Erasmus Grant amounting to a stipend of €1,150 will also be available to you each month and you will no longer be entitled to social welfare supports for the duration of the academic year.

Full time Postgraduate Programme (Year 1, Transfer/Advanced Entry) Applicant has completed a postgraduate (NFQ Major Award) previously.	Student will need to pay the EU rate of fees, the fees for this programme will not be covered by the Temporary Tuition Fee Support Scheme from the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. In circumstances where a previously obtained degree is not recognised as a comparable major award (National Framework of Qualifications) by the institution assessing your application you may be deemed eligible under the temporary tuition fee support scheme and for a stipend under the European Erasmus Fund. However, it should be noted that most Ukrainian degrees are recognised in Ireland.
Part Time Programme	Student is liable for the full cost of the programme which is based on the number of credits being taken. There are already schemes in place to support part-time students under a programme called Springboard. This will enable you to maintain access to existing financial supports from the Department of Social Protection, while you study.

*A Student Levy is charged by an individual Higher Education Institution and fees collected are usually allocated to funding for sports facilities and a Student Union.

I have temporary protection and plan on attending a university in Ireland as a full-time student. Will I have to pay fees and what funding supports will be available to me?

Persons issued with temporary protection under Section 60(6) of the International Protection Act 2015 will be able to access education on the same basis as Irish citizens.

A temporary scheme to provide full time EU tuition fee supports for persons with temporary protection will shortly be introduced.

Details of the scheme will be published in due course on www.gov.ie.

Please note that Irish HEIs may charge other fees towards the cost of registration, examination and student services.

Arrangements are also being made to pay an Erasmus Grant amounting to a stipend of €1,150 per month to displaced person who are registered with an Irish institution on a full-time basis

I have temporary protection and plan on attending a university in Ireland as a part time/flexible student. Will I have to pay fees and what funding supports will be available to me?

Persons issued with temporary protection under Section 60(6) of the International Protection Act will be able to access education on the same basis as Irish citizens.

Irish students who choose to study part time are required to pay fees and this also applies to Ukrainian nationals.

However, there are already schemes in place to support part-time students under a programme called Springboard. This will enable you to maintain access to existing financial supports from the Department of Social Protection, while you study.

Springboard+ provides free and heavily subsidised courses at certificate, degree, and masters level. There are over 300 courses available for 2022-23, the majority of which are flexible and part-time.

Details about the Springboard Programme are available at Springboard: Online Courses to Future Proof Your Career.

I will be attending a HEI in 2022/2023. Do I apply to SUSI for a student grant?

No, displaced Ukrainian students accessing a HEI for the academic year 2022/2023 do not meet the requisite residency and nationality requirements to apply for a SUSI student grant, which is why the Government have agreed to introduce new measures to help these students access higher and further education.

If I receive financial support to attend a HEI in 2022/23, will this have an impact on any social welfare supports that I am in receipt of?

If you are in full-time education in a publicly funded HEI, you will be entitled to the new administrative tuition scheme and a stipend of €1,150 under the Erasmus national grant allocation.

You will no longer be entitled to any social welfare payments if in full-time education, and you will be required to sign an undertaking to that effect.

I will be attending a HEI in 2022/2023. Are there any additional financial supports that I can apply for?

Displaced students with temporary protection will also be eligible to apply for the Student Assistance Fund, which provides financial support to full or part-time students who are experiencing financial difficulties while attending college. Students can apply for the Student Assistance Fund to help with either temporary or ongoing financial difficulties including:

- books and class materials
- rent and other utility bills
- food
- essential travel
- childcare costs
- medical costs

The above list is not exhaustive; however, it is important that the nature of the expenditure for which assistance is being provided is clearly identified.

I have temporary protection and plan on attending a foundation programme in a university in Ireland. What funding supports will be available to me?

In relation to foundation programmes – as supports for these courses are not available to Irish students, higher education institutions can determine the rate of tuition fee payable for these programmes and students pay the applicable tuition fees to the higher education institution.

Students can contact the Higher Education Institution they wish to attend for details of the application process and guidance on the fee criteria of an individual institution.

I have temporary protection and will be studying in Ireland for 2022/2023. Can I continue to study on my course in 2023-24?

Yes – however, it may be necessary for you to apply for a student visa to continue your studies in academic year 2023/2024 and you may be eligible for Non-EU fees.

I have temporary protection and will be studying in Ireland for 2022/2023. What will be my position regarding fees in 2023/2024?

The directive from the European Council will see temporary protection applied for a year until February 2023, with the possibility for it to be extended for a further 2 more periods of six months pending Council decision.

The Government recently announced a temporary administrative tuition scheme, which only applies for the academic year 2022/23. The scheme will be reviewed in light of the prevailing situation in 2023 in advance of academic year 23/24.

I am worried that I will be anxious while studying in a university. What academic or personal supports will be available to me post entry?

You will be able to access existing mental health and wellbeing supports in your higher education institute post entry.

Springboard Study Options

What is Springboard+?

Springboard+ is a government initiative that aims to reskill or upskill people in areas where job opportunities are growing in Ireland by providing free or heavily subsidised places on selected higher education courses. Course areas include ICT, engineering, green skills, manufacturing and construction, among many others.

What courses are provided under the Springboard+ programme?

The courses funded under Springboard+ are available at www.springboardcourses.ie under 'Courses'. Here you will be able to see a full list of courses, or you can search by keyword, provider,

skills area, etc. Courses will have varying start dates, but the majority are starting from September 2022. Courses with later start dates may not be open for application yet.

I have recently arrived from Ukraine and have temporary protection. Am I eligible to start a Springboard+ course?

You are eligible if you have a letter from the Department of Justice confirming that you have temporary protection in Ireland.

Other eligibility criteria are outlined below and at www.springboardcourses.ie under 'Am I eligible'. This will be updated should there be any changes to the eligibility criteria.

English language ability will also be taken into consideration as all programmes are delivered in English. The course provider will be able to provide guidance on this.

When applying for a course through Springboard+ you will need to apply on the basis of either being:

- Employed - working either for yourself or someone else.
- Unemployed - not currently working, receiving a qualifying welfare payment from the Department of Social Protection (unless you are formerly self-employed) and actively seeking employment.

Your eligibility is assessed based on your status on the date your course first starts.

I have temporary protection and plan on attending a Springboard+ programme. Will I have to pay fees and what funding supports will be available to me?

Unemployed Applicants:

- If you are unemployed and receive a welfare payment from the Department of Social Protection your fees will be covered in full for 1-year part-time Springboard+ courses
- For 1-year full time Springboard+ courses, you must have been in receipt of a Department of Social Protection payment for a period of 9 out of the last 12 months before the course begins under Back to Education Allowance (BTEA)
- Applicants who are in receipt of a Jobseekers' payment are not eligible for a place on two-year part-time ICT Skills conversion course

Employed Applicants:

- If you are employed, you may be required to contribute 10% of the course fee depending on the level of the course - if you are applying to a course at level 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), your fees will be covered in full. For courses at levels 7 to 9, you or your employer will need to pay 10% of the course fee

Where can I find more information about Springboard+ and courses?

There are Frequently Asked Questions at www.springboardcourses.ie under 'FAQ'.

If you have a specific question about the course content, you should contact the course provider directly.

How do I apply for a Springboard+ course?

How to apply for a course is outlined at www.springboardcourses.ie under 'How to Apply'.

Each applicant needs their own PPSN to apply.

Before applying for a course, you must register on the website and log-in.

Do I apply for a Springboard+ course to the NSR Helpdesk?

No, you apply through the Springboard+ website www.springboard.ie. On the homepage, click on Search Courses. When you have found a course which you are interested in, click on More Details. If you would like to apply to the course, click on Apply Now.

I am not sure what courses would be best for me. Is there anyone that I can contact for some guidance?

There is a guidance helpline in operation Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm and Julie and Patricia would be very happy to chat through options with you. It's a freephone number 1800 303 523. If its busy you can leave a message and you will receive a call back.

I have a specific query, who can advise me about that query?

You can email springboard@hea.ie and they will be happy to help.

Further Education and Training Study Options

Further Education and Training or FET, offers a wide variety of life-long education options. FET includes apprenticeships, traineeships, Post Leaving Cert (PLC) courses, community and adult education as well as core literacy and numeracy services. FET courses and programmes are provided through the Education and Training Board network throughout the country as well as through other local providers including online through SOLAS' eCollege. FET courses are provided at levels one to six on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ).

FET is for anyone who is over 16 who wants to learn new skills or enhance existing skills to get the right job, progress to third-level or to support the achievement of personal goals.

Find out more about Further Education and Training at thisisfet.ie and search over 6000 FET courses nationally through the Course Finder on fetchcourses.ie. A wide range of Apprenticeship options which allows you to earn money and become qualified while you are learning on-the-job are available on apprenticeship.ie.

NSR Application Desk System FAQS

Error Messages

You may see an error message when you try to submit your application via the NSR Application Desk. There will be a reason for this.

The most common error will happen if you try to submit your application without filling in all mandatory fields. The error will read: “There are errors in your application. Please check the following college/ HEIs…” and identify the college page of the application where you have missed a question. If you scroll to the top of the page, the missing information will be clearly identified.

Another error that may appear if there are any mistakes on the form is “Error saving attribute values” – this error message means that you have entered incorrect data in an answer field – for example text in a number only field such as your phone number. If this happens, please click “save” on every page until you see the error again to identify where the incorrect data is.

I cannot submit my application, what is the error?

To apply to the online application system, you will be asked to submit (i) passport page or National Identity Card (name, date of birth, photograph) (**Mandatory**) (ii) letter confirming your eligibility for Temporary Protection in Ireland (**Mandatory**) (iii) academic documents relating to your studies previously completed at Secondary level and/or previous or current third level studies and (iv) English language qualification results (if you have one). All documentation must be uploaded by you via your 'My Account' access.

If your application does not include the mandatory documents, it will not be processed by the Helpdesk, and you will not be allowed to submit your application. If your application does not include academic documents and English language qualification results, it may not be possible for a Higher Education Institution (HEI) to consider your application.

Uploads

The NSR Application Desk accepts documents in all formats and sizes. Click the “choose files” button to upload the documents from your device.

Ukrainian Higher Education Exams

What is the National Multi-Subject Test (NMT)?

The NMT will consist of three exam subjects - Ukrainian language, Mathematics and History of Ukraine. The test will contain 20 questions from each subject, which must be completed in 120 minutes. The test will take place in special temporary examination centre provided in the host country, Ireland.

What is the purpose of the test?

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, the Ukrainian authorities decided to offer a new online National Multi-Subject (NMT) test to students that wish to enter into high education in Ukraine. Previously students would have completed a paper-based test called the External Independent Evaluation (EIE). This new NMT test is being conducted across Ukraine and in European Member States where there are displaced students, including Ireland, to help facilitate the continuing education.

How do I apply to take the test?

Unfortunately, it is no longer possible to apply to take the NMT as the closing date for registration online with the Ukrainian authorities was 20 June.

When will these exams take place?

The NMT will take in Ireland from 27-29 July and from 2-4 August.

Where will they take place?

The exams will be held in Trinity College Dublin from 27-29 July and in Dublin City University, Glasnevin Campus from 2-4 August.

Where are the exam test centres located?

Trinity College Dublin, College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland

The test centre will be located at the East End Development 4/5. A map to the test centre can be found here: https://www.tcd.ie/Maps/map.php?q=East+end

Dublin City University Glasnevin Campus, Dublin 9, Ireland,

The test centre(s) will be located at The Henry Grattan Building on DCU Glasnevin Campus, Room numbers: CG08-A, CG08-B & C106

What time do the exams take place?

The exams will take place between 1 – 3pm Irish time.

How long is the test?

The test is 120 minutes in total.

When should students arrive?

Students should arrive at the test centre **no later** than 30 minutes before the beginning of the exam. This will give the student time to find their test centre and sign in. It is the student's responsibility to turn up on time for the test.

What happens when students arrive?

Students will have present themselves to the Test Centre Manager, who will have a list of students due to participate in the exam on the given day. They will have to verify their identity using a passport or ID card. They will then be given their unique log-in for the OpenEdX system and shown to their seat.

Link to further information

https://zno.testportal.com.ua