

1916 BURSARY FUND

South Cluster SOAR Project



2020/2021 Application Clinic



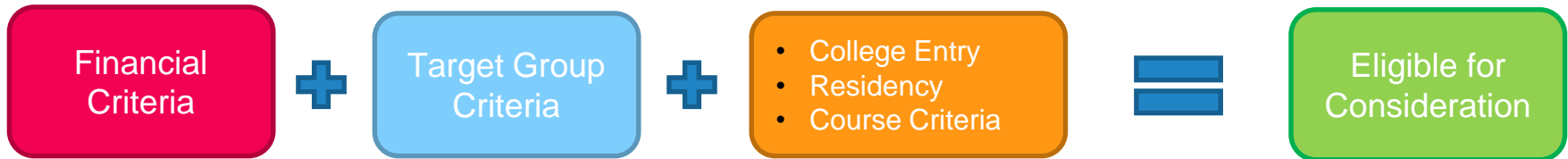
What is the 1916 Bursary Fund?

- The 1916 Bursary Fund was established by the Department of Education and Skills to encourage participation and success by students who are **most socio-economically disadvantaged** and from **groups most under-represented** in higher education.
- Each student awarded will receive a bursary to the amount of €5,000 per annum for the normal duration of a full-time undergraduate programme. A bursary will be awarded for the normal duration of a part-time undergraduate programme up to a maximum period of six years.

What is the Criteria?

Applicants must meet specific:

- 1) Financial Criteria
- 2) Target Group Criteria
- 3) College Entry / Residency / Course Criteria



1) Financial

The applicant must:

Be from a socio-economically disadvantaged background and can provide evidence of such by demonstrating:

- Applicant is eligible for the Special Rate of SUSI grant 2020

and/or

- Is in receipt of a Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) means-tested social welfare payment

What is the SUSI Special Rate?



To qualify for the Special Rate of SUSI 2020:

- Qualify for the ordinary rate of grant;
 - Total reckonable household income (2019) must not exceed €24,500;
- and**
- the 2019 reckonable household income must include an eligible long-term DEASP payment

2) Target Group

Target Group
Criteria

Applicants must be from at least one of the following target groups:

- Socio-economically disadvantaged communities
- Socio-economic groups that have low participation rates in higher education
- Students with a disability
- Lone parents in receipt of a means-tested social welfare payment
- Irish Travellers
- First time, mature student entrants
- Students entering on the basis of a QQI Further Education award
- Persons from Ethnic Minorities who are lawfully present in the State

3) College Entry/Residency/Course

- College Entry
- Residency
- Course Criteria

Applicants must

- Be a new entrant pursuing an undergraduate course and progressing to higher education for the first time in the 2020-2021 academic year.
- Have been a resident in the Irish State for three of the past five years.
- Be studying an approved full-time or part-time undergraduate course - leading to a major higher education and training award at Level 6 (Higher Certificate), Level 7 (Ordinary Bachelor Degree), Level 8 (Honours Bachelor Degree) on the national framework of qualifications or equivalent awards that take no less than two years to complete.

How Do I Apply?

Stage 1

- Complete the online 1916 Bursary Fund: South Cluster SOAR Project 2020/2021 **Application (Part I)**
- The online Application (Part I) can be found at <https://www.soarforaccess.ie/1916-bursary-fund/>
- Closing date for completion of the online Application (Part I) is **17:00 Friday 16 October 2020**

- After completing the online Application (Part I) you will receive an email with a link to the online Application (Part II)

Stage 2

- Complete the online **Application (Part II)**
- This involves providing additional information and uploading supporting documentation
- Closing date for completion of the online Application (Part II) is **17:00 Friday 30 October 2020**

Applications can only be made online

Supporting Documents

Applicants are required to provide appropriate supporting documentation to complete their application:



- Supporting documentation can only be submitted by the upload facility on the online Application (Part II).
- It is the responsibility of the Applicant to upload all required supporting documentation.
- Upload clear, legible, complete copies of the original document including all pages front and back.
- Scan all documents in a PDF format. To merge PDFs, use an PDF / Adobe Acrobat or other software.
- Only supporting documentation uploaded to the online Application (Part II) will be considered.

Supporting Documents -

Financial

Applicant	Supporting Documentation
Awarded SUSI Special Rate 2020	The 3-page letter you received from SUSI
All other Applicants	Relevant documentary evidence of all household income for 2019

Income	Document
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) payments	Full DEASP statement of payments breakdown dated 1 January to 31 December 2019
Income from Employment (PAYE)	Status of Liability (formally called End of year statement - P21) for 2019
Self-Employed	Notice of Assessment / Self-Assessment Letter–Chapter 4 or 5 for 2019
Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS) Payment	Letter from Educational Training Board (ETB) or Post-Leaving Certificate (PLC) College confirming the total amount earned in 2019

For further information see: [Supporting Documentation List Guide](#) and the Supporting Documentation Presentation

Target Group: Student with a Disability

Target Group

Supporting Documentation

- If you were deemed eligible for the **2020** Disability Access Route To Education (DARE) your disability information will be verified directly with your institution, you are not required to submit supporting documentation.
- If you have 'carried forward' DARE eligibility upload a copy of your DARE eligibility 'carry forward' email/letter.
- If you were not deemed eligible for DARE or did not enter college through DARE; you are required to provide appropriate documentary evidence of your disability from a relevant medical professional(s):

as per DARE guidelines: <http://accesscollege.ie/dare/providing-evidence-of-your-disability/>
or
as per the Fund for Student with Disabilities Evidence of Disability Guidelines
- If you are repeating you may provide a letter confirming your registration with the college's Disability Support Service.

Target Group: Lone Parent

Target Group

Supporting Documentation

- Evidence of being in receipt of a DEASP One-Parent Family Payment in 2019.

Or

- Evidence of being in receipt of a DEASP One-Parent Transitional Payment in 2019.

Or

- Letter from DEASP stating that the applicant is or was formally on a One-Parent Family payment and met the criteria of a lone parent.

Target Group: Irish Traveller

Target Group

Supporting Documentation

- Letter from a Traveller advocacy organisation indicating that the applicant is a member of the Traveller community.

Or

- Letter from a school indicating that the applicant is a member of the Traveller community.

Or

- Letter from a state body indicating that the applicant is a member of the Traveller community.

Target Group: Ethnic Minority

Target Group

Supporting Documentation

- Official letter from the Department of Justice and Equality confirming the specific 'right and permission to remain' or naturalisation of applicant and/or parent/dependant.
- Photocopy of passport(s): This is to include the applicant's passport **and if necessary** a copy of the applicants parents/ guardians' country of origin passport and Irish/EU/EEA or Swiss confederation passport if possible.
- Copy of the applicant's Irish Residence Permit (IRP) that details your Visa stamp details. For more info please see: <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/about-registration-system#gnib-card>

Additional Circumstances

Additional
Circumstances
(if applicable)

Applicant	Supporting Documentation
Attended DEIS second level school(s) for 5 years	Letter from second level school(s) confirming the dates and timeline that the applicant attended the DEIS school.
Is or was in the care of the State / TUSLA	Letter from TUSLA or official associated agency confirming the dates the applicant was/is in the care of State.
Resides in a Direct Provision Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Letter from Department from Justice and Equality stating the applicant resides in Direct Provision.Or➤ Letter from a registered Direct Provision Centre confirming that the applicant resides in the centre.Or➤ Full DEASP statement for 2019 showing applicant is in receipt of the Daily Expenses Allowance.
Resides in Supported Accommodation	Letter from the Health Service Executive (HSE), TUSLA or registered Charity/Agency confirming the applicant resides in Supported Accommodation.

Supporting Documentation

Personal
Statement

Applicants are **strongly advised** to submit a personal statement to support their application addressing the following questions:

- Why you are applying for the 1916 Bursary Fund? (Refer to your individual circumstances and your decision to pursue higher education)
- Challenges you have experienced/will experience in accessing and participating in education? (e.g personal, family, community, social, cultural, financial, disability etc)
Refer to the target group(s) you are applying under.
- What difference do you think the 1916 Bursary Fund would make to your higher education? Refer to your financial circumstances and overall college experience.

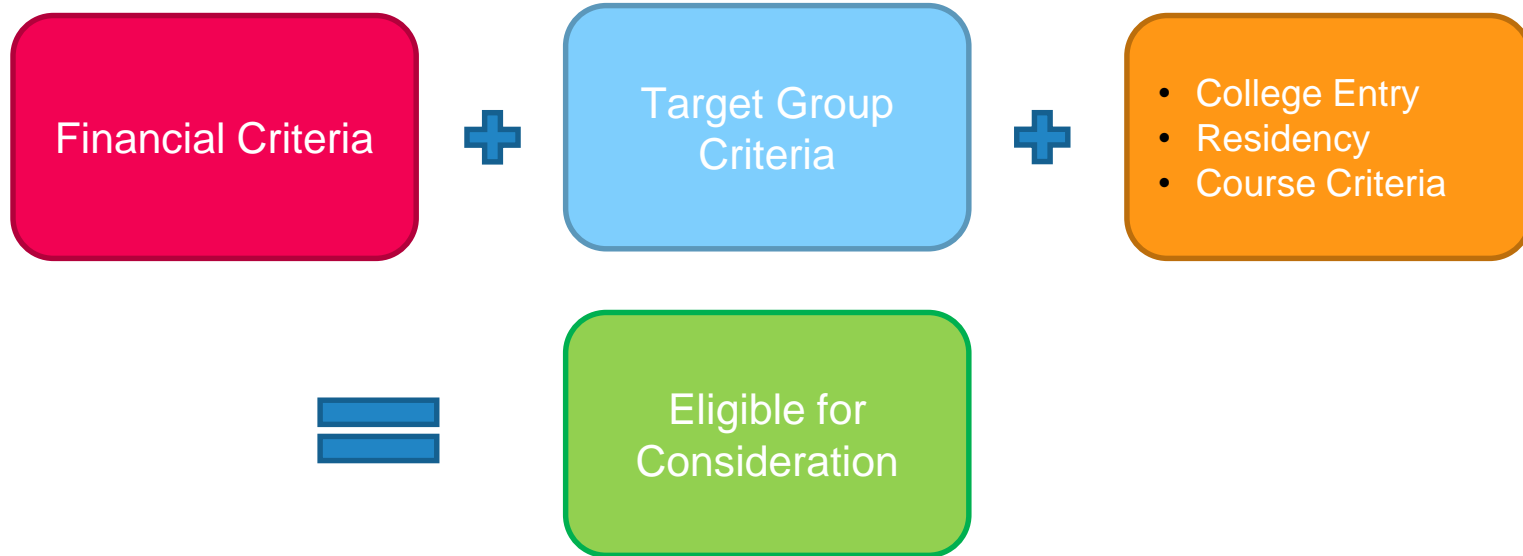
Supporting Documentation

Letter of
Support

Applicants are **strongly advised** to provide a letter of support from a community organisation, community leader/mentor, school /state service or other appropriate individual to support the application. Letter(s) of Support should include the following:

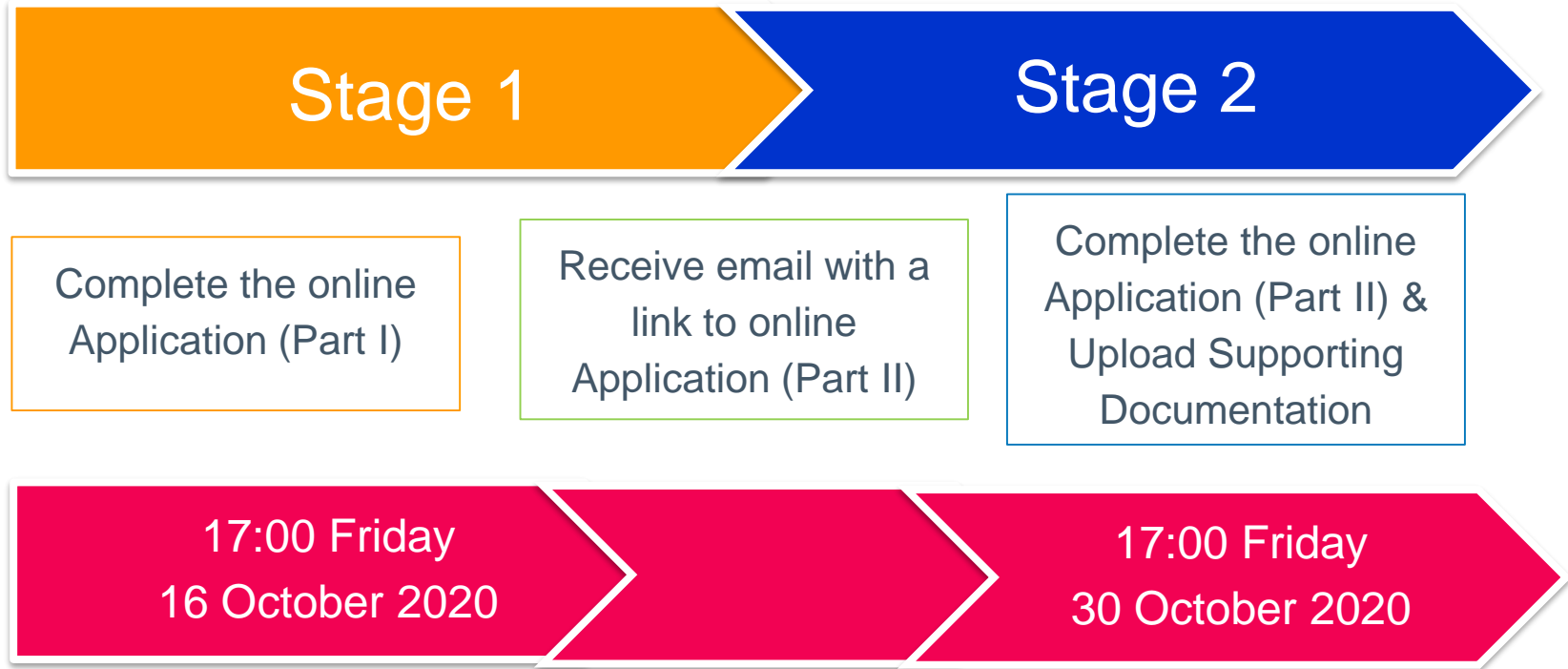
- Description of the organisation, what capacity they know the applicant, why they support the application.
- Additional information regarding the individual's personal/ family /community circumstances that align with the aims of the 1916 Bursary Fund.
- The letter should highlight why the applicant should be considered for a 1916 Bursary while reflecting on the target group(s) the applicant is applying under.

Eligibility Criteria



Bursaries will be awarded to the eligible students that demonstrate the greatest need.
Each college can award up to 7 bursaries.

Timeline



Remember!

- ✓ Applications can only be made online.
- ✓ Complete the online applications accurately.
- ✓ Only information and supporting documentation provided on the online application will be used to consider your application.
- ✓ Submit clear, complete, required supporting documentation.
- ✓ Ensure all documents are scanned in a PDF format before uploading.

For further information see:

www.soarforaccess.ie/1916-bursary-fund/

Email queries to:

1916BursaryQueries@soarforaccess.ie