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ofGalway.ie



OLLSCOIL NA  
GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF GALWAY

# Undergraduate Scholarships 2026



Explore Our  
Scholarships



# Rewarding *Your* Excellence

Explore a wide range of scholarships designed to support your academic journey. From academic excellence to creative arts, civic engagement, sports, and more, we offer numerous opportunities to help you succeed. For full details and application information, visit our [scholarships webpage](#).

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# University of Galway Excellence Scholarships

At University of Galway, we are committed to supporting students who demonstrate talent, ambition, and potential across a wide range of disciplines and backgrounds. Our undergraduate entrance scholarships recognise academic achievement, creative excellence, civic engagement, sporting talent, and personal resilience. Whether awarded automatically or through application, these scholarships are designed to help students thrive during their time at university and beyond.

## Academic Excellence Scholarship

The University of Galway Excellence Scholarship is designed to celebrate the success of high-performing students entering undergraduate programmes. This scholarship reflects our commitment to supporting ambition and encouraging students to reach their full potential from the very beginning of their university journey.

**Value:** €1,500 (in the event of a tie, the scholarship will be shared).

**Eligibility:** Automatically awarded to 40 new entrant undergraduate students based on CAO points.

**Benefits:** Recognises academic excellence.

**Application:** No application required – awarded automatically after enrolment in Year 1.

**Deadline:** Not applicable.

**Find Out More:**



## Creative Arts Performance Points Scholarship

The Creative Arts Performance Points Scholarship is designed to recognise students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the arts. Whether your passion lies in writing, music, drama, or digital media, this scholarship offers additional CAO points to help you pursue your chosen undergraduate course and thrive in a creative academic environment.

**Value:** Additional 40 CAO points.

**Eligibility:** Applicants with exceptional artistic promise in Creative Writing, Film and Digital Media, Drama and Theatre, Non-fiction writing (including Journalism) or Music.

**Benefits:** Adds 40 CAO points for entry to all undergraduate courses (except GY501, Medicine).

**Application:** Online written application (no audition).

**Deadline:** Opens for applications on 31 January 2026. Deadline May 2026 (Date TBC).

**Find Out More:**



## Sporting Excellence Scholarships

Our sporting excellence scholarships are designed to reward athletes who demonstrate outstanding sporting ability and academic ambition and to support them as students to reach their full potential both on the field and in the classroom. Through two schemes – the Elite Athlete Scholarship and the Performance Points Sports Scholarship – we offer a comprehensive support package to help students balance their sporting commitments with university life.

**Value:** Varies depending on scheme.

**Eligibility:** Open to athletes of outstanding calibre who register as students at University of Galway.

**Elite Athlete Scholarship:** Includes a subsistence grant, coaching support, medical and physiotherapy assistance, performance nutrition, psychology, strength and conditioning, performance planning, mentoring, and career development support.

**Performance Points Sports Scholarship:** Includes all Elite Athlete supports plus an additional 40 CAO performance points (excluding GY501 Medicine and courses requiring fewer than 350 points).

**Application:** One online application covers both schemes.

**Deadline:** Opens Spring 2026 (Date TBC).

**Find Out More:**



## Civic Engagement Scholarship

The Civic Engagement Scholarship recognises students who are committed to making a difference in their communities. It is designed to foster global citizenship and empower student leaders who actively contribute to civic and social initiatives. As the first scholarship of its kind in Irish higher education, it highlights our dedication to promoting community engagement and leadership among our students.

**Value:** €1,500

**Eligibility:** Open to one new Year 1 undergraduate student who has actively participated in national civic service programmes such as Gaisce – The President’s Award, Young Social Innovators, and the Foróige Youth Citizenship Award. Applicants who demonstrate sustained and substantial community volunteering are encouraged to apply.

**Benefits:** Recognises leadership and civic engagement, and positions recipients as ambassadors for community development.

**Application:** Online written application.

**Deadline:** Opens in Spring 2026 (exact date to be confirmed).

**Find Out More:**



# Access Scholarships

At University of Galway, we believe that higher education should be accessible to all, regardless of background or circumstance. Our Access Scholarships are designed to support students who may face barriers to university participation – including mature learners, those from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and individuals from underrepresented communities. These scholarships promote equity, inclusion, and opportunity, helping students succeed and thrive throughout their academic journey.

## University of Sanctuary Scholarship

This scholarship supports individuals from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds, vulnerable immigrant groups, and Irish Travellers, helping them access and succeed in third-level education at University of Galway.

**Value:** Full fee waiver (except student levy), annual stipend of €3,300 and support & academic mentoring.

**Eligibility:** Open to International Protection Applicants, refugees, vulnerable immigrant groups, and Irish Travellers entering undergraduate or postgraduate programmes.

**Benefits:** Supports access to higher education for underrepresented and vulnerable groups.

**Application:** Details available via the Access Centre.

**Deadline:** Summer of 2026 for students commencing studies in September 2026.

**Find Out More:**



## Mature Student Entrance Scholarship

University of Galway values lifelong learning and the diverse experiences mature students bring to campus. The Mature Student Entrance Scholarship is designed to support 30 mature students each year returning to education and beginning full-time undergraduate studies.

**Value:** €1,500 for the first year of the degree programme. Scholarship holders coming from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply to the University's Financial Aid Fund for funding for subsequent years.

**Eligibility:** Students must be at least 23 years old on January 1st of the entry year and have accepted an offer for a full-time undergraduate degree programme.

**Benefits:** Supports mature students in transitioning to university life.

**Application:** No application required. Scholarships are awarded automatically based on merit. See full details for the basis of awards on our Access Centre website.

**Find Out More:**



# National Scholarships and Funding Schemes

There are a number of national schemes designed to improve access to higher education for underrepresented groups. The following schemes may of interest to some incoming undergraduate students.

## 1916 Bursary Fund

The 1916 Bursary is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union and aims to encourage participation and success by students who are most socioeconomically disadvantaged and from groups most under-represented in higher education.

**Value:** The Bursary is a financial award of up to €5,000 per year, available for the duration of a student's undergraduate programme. Eligible students may be awarded under one of three tiers:

**Tier 1:** €5,000 per year for the normal duration of an undergraduate programme.

**Tier 2:** €2,000 per year for the normal duration of an undergraduate programme.

**Tier 3:** A once-off bursary of €1,500 for the 2025/26 academic year only.

Recipients of Tier 1 and Tier 2 bursaries may also be eligible for continued funding if they progress to postgraduate study.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for a 1916 Bursary, applicants must meet Financial, Priority Group, and College Entry criteria. Applicants must be commencing Year 1 of an undergraduate programme to be eligible to apply. Refer to the 1916 Bursary website linked below for full eligibility details.

**Benefits:** The 1916 Bursary provides sustained financial support throughout undergraduate studies, with eligibility for continued funding should the recipient advance to postgraduate education. Supports such as the 1916 Bursary are key to helping students from under-represented groups access third-level education and reach their full potential, regardless of background.

**Application:** Applications for 2026/2027 are likely to open in September 2026. Please monitor the 1916 Bursary website for any updates or changes to the application process.

### Find Out More:



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach  
Co-Funded by the  
European Union

## Uversity Scholarship

Uversity is a Registered Charity that grants Higher Education Scholarships to Adult Learners seeking to unlock their potential and realise their academic, personal and professional ambitions. Uversity's Scholarships help to alleviate the financial barriers that may be preventing older students, aged 23 and over, from earning a Bachelor's Degree for the first time.

**Value:** Uversity provides two levels of financial support, €5,000 or €7,000 per annum for the duration of the chosen degree i.e. 3 or 4 years.

**Eligibility:** Uversity's Scholarships are for adult learners who wish to complete a Bachelor's (Ordinary or Higher) Degree, for the first time, that will help transform their lives and the lives of those around them.

**Benefits:** Scholarships enable successful candidates to pursue a degree, in any discipline, in selected institutions on the island of Ireland. Preference is given to candidates enrolling on full-time programmes. Part time or blended programmes will also be considered.

**Application:** Applications are expected to open on 1st February 2026 for the 2026/2027 academic year.

**Find Out More:**



## Google Insight Scholarship

The Google Insight Scholarship programme supports new entrants to higher education from underrepresented and socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds and communities.

**Value:** Successful applicants will be awarded €5,000 per year, up to a maximum duration of 5 years.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be entering their first year of university and be registered with the University's Access Centre. Applicants must fall under one or more of the following minority categories, including but not limited to:

- HEAR Students
- DARE Students
- Members of the Traveller community and members of the Roma community
- Lone Parents and Care Leavers
- Women in STEM

Applicants must also be registered on one of the following eligible courses:

- GY350 BSc Computer Science and Information Technology
- GY133 BA Education (Computer Science and Mathematical Studies)
- GY301 Bachelor of Science
- GY319 BSc (Mathematical Science)
- GY321 BSc (Genetics and Genomics)
- GY406 BE+ME (Electronic and Computer Engineering)
- GY414 BE+ME (Electrical and Electronic Engineering)

**Benefits:** In addition to the €5,000 offered to students per year, each successful applicant must take part in a scholarship mentoring programme delivered by Insight. Each scholar will be provided with mentoring support from senior Insight academics and industry leaders.

**Application:** October each year after enrolment in Year 1. Please note if you are successful in your application, you will be invited to attend a launch event for the scholarship programme in Google head office in February.

### Find Out More:



# Donor and Industry Scholarships

University of Galway partners with generous donors and industry leaders to offer a range of scholarships that support students based on a variety of factors including academic merit, financial need, geographic region and chosen field of study. These scholarships reflect our commitment to widening access to higher education and building strong connections between students and the professional world.

## Hygeia Scholarship (Access Scholarship)

The Hygeia Scholarship supports students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds enrolling in business and engineering programmes at University of Galway. It is part of a 10-year partnership with Hygeia, a leading Galway-based manufacturer committed to sustainability, innovation, and community impact.

**Value:** €4,000 per annum, paid towards tuition fees and living expenses.

**Eligibility:** The scholarship is aimed at incoming first-year students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds who meet one of the following criteria:

- Total household income under €50,000
- HEAR eligible

**Benefits:** Financial support for students facing financial barriers and an opportunity for summer internships and graduate placement at Hygeia.

**Application:** Students invited to apply after enrolment in Year 1, submitting a personal statement and supporting financial documentation. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed in person.

**Deadline:** October each year after enrolment in Year 1.

**Find Out More:**



## James Massey Keegan Scholarship (Mayo Scholarship)

The James Massey Keegan Scholarship recognises academic excellence among students from County Mayo. It is awarded automatically to one high-achieving student each year entering the University of Galway.

**Value:** €1,500 (one-time award).

**Eligibility:** Incoming first-year undergraduate student from Co. Mayo. Must register for course by the official university deadline and remain registered until at least March 1st of the academic year.

**Awarding Criteria:** Based on Leaving Certificate results (CAO points). Valid only for the academic year in which it is awarded.

**Benefits:** Automatic financial support for high-achieving students from Mayo.

**Application:** No application required – awarded automatically.

**Find Out More:**



## Optum North-West Healthcare Scholarship (Donegal Healthcare Scholarship)

The Optum North-West Healthcare Scholarship provides substantial financial support to students from County Donegal pursuing healthcare programmes. It is designed to reduce financial barriers and promote access to healthcare education. Please check the website for the designated course list for CAO 2026/2027. The designated course list normally medicine, nursing, health sciences, pharmacy, psychology and specific science and engineering courses.

**Value:** €25,000 over the duration of studies.

**Eligibility:** Incoming undergraduate students from County Donegal applying to an eligible healthcare programme.

**Benefits:** Significant financial support for students pursuing healthcare studies.

**Application:** Application directly to Optum is required.

**Deadline:** Expected to be April 2026 for CAO 2026.

**Find Out More:**



## Pauline and Bunnie Jones Scholarship (Roscommon Scholarship)

The Pauline and Bunnie Jones Scholarship supports students from County Roscommon who demonstrate academic excellence. It provides financial assistance throughout undergraduate studies and reflects the generosity of the Jones family and their commitment to education.

**Value:** €3,250 per year (€13,000 over four years).

**Eligibility:** Four incoming undergraduate students from County Roscommon, awarded based on CAO points. Two scholarships for students of Scoil Mhuire Strokestown and two scholarships for all other secondary schools in Co Roscommon.

**Benefits:** Financial support for high-achieving students from Roscommon.

**Application:** Short online application to University of Galway is required.

**Deadline:** 1 August 2026 (for CAO 2026).

**Find Out More:**



## Terence O'Malley DLA Piper Scholarship (Law Scholarship for West of Ireland Students)

The Terence O'Malley DLA Piper Scholarship is awarded to a student from the West of Ireland pursuing a degree in law. It provides financial support to help students succeed in their legal studies.

**Value:** €7,500 over the duration of studies.

**Eligibility:** One incoming undergraduate student from County Mayo (or the West) enrolling in a programme offered by the School of Law (excluding Law subject students on GY101).

**Benefits:** Financial support and recognition for students pursuing legal studies.

**Application:** Students will be invited to apply after enrolment in Year 1.

**Find Out More:**



## Cunningham Civil & Marine Scholarship (Engineering Scholarship)

This scholarship supports first-year Engineering students at University of Galway, with a focus on encouraging careers in Civil Engineering. Sponsored by Cunningham Civil & Marine Ltd, a Mayo-based company, it provides financial support and aims to promote diversity and inclusion in the engineering field.

**Value:** One scholarship of a max. €10,000 across the duration of studies (€2,000 per annum for a max of five years).

**Eligibility:** Incoming first-year undergraduate student registered on GY401 (Engineering Undenominated) or GY402 (Civil Engineering). Demonstrated commitment to a future career in Civil Engineering. Preference may be given to students from underrepresented groups or economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Benefits:** Financial support for the duration of the programme. The scholarship value will be paid towards annual tuition or issued as a stipend if the student is already in receipt of other financial aid.

**Application:** Application including a personal statement (max 500 words) required addressing academic and career aspirations, financial need, and passion for Civil Engineering. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed in person.

**Deadline:** October each year after enrolment in Year 1.

**Find Out More:**



## Dr Karen Guinee Scholarship (Medicine Scholarship)

The Dr Karen Guinee Scholarship supports students entering undergraduate Medicine at University of Galway who may be facing financial or other obstacles that hinder their access to third-level education. The scholarship is funded by the Michael Guinee Charitable Foundation in memory of Michael's late niece, Karen, who graduated from Medicine at University of Galway in 2006.

**Value:** One scholarship for €6,250 per year for the duration of the undergraduate Medicine degree (5-year or 6-year programme).

**Eligibility:** Incoming first-year student registered on GY501 Medicine (5-year or 6-year programme) at University of Galway. Must provide a personal statement outlining financial or other obstacles (emotional, physical, cultural, or social) that may hinder access to or continuation in higher education.

**Application:** Students must complete an online application form and submit personal statement (max. 500 words) including: academic achievements, career aspirations, and challenges faced and submit a letter of reference from high school Principal or Vice Principal. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview with a selection panel.

**Benefits:** Substantial financial support to help overcome barriers to accessing and sustaining university education. Award renewed annually for the duration of the degree, subject to continued registration.

**Find Out More:**



## CLS Excellence Scholarship for Science (Science Scholarship)

The CLS Excellence Scholarship for Science encourages high-achieving students who qualify for financial support under the SUSI scheme to study Science (GY301) at University of Galway. The scholarship is funded by Complete Laboratory Solutions (CLS), a leading provider of sampling, analysis, and analysts to the pharmaceutical, medical device, food, and environmental industries.

**Value:** One scholarship with a max value of €12,000 total (€3,000 per year for the 4-year Science programme).

**Eligibility:** Incoming first-year student registered on GY301 Science at University of Galway in receipt of a SUSI grant (Special Rate or Bands 1–4).

**Awarding Criteria:** Based on Leaving Certificate results (highest scores achieved).

**Benefits:** €3,000 annual payment for each year of the Science undergraduate degree (subject to progression) and recognition of academic excellence in science.

**Application:** Students must complete online application form.

**Deadline:** October each year after enrolment in Year 1.

**Find Out More:**



## Naughton Scholarship (National Scheme – Science, Engineering and Technology)

The Naughton Scholarships are a scheme of scholarships to promote the study of engineering, science and technology at third level by students in Ireland. Each year Leaving Certificate students can apply for a scholarship if they intend on studying science, engineering or technology at third level that year.

**Value:** A large number of scholarships are available (37 scholarships awarded in 2025) – one to a student from each of the Applicable Counties with the exception of Dublin where there will be four. There will also be additional scholarships awarded by choice of the Trustees. Each Scholarship award will be €6,000 for each year of that student's third-level course (up to a maximum of four years).

**Eligibility:** To be considered for a scholarship students must (a) be attending a second level school in the Republic of Ireland (b) be a CAO applicant applying for admission to an engineering, science, maths or technology related course in any publicly funded university or third-level institution in Ireland (including University of Galway) or Northern Ireland. Full eligibility details are available on the scholarship website.

**Application:** Online application is made during the Leaving Cert year. The application portal normally opens in March (please check website for details for CAO 2026).

**Evaluation:** The Trustees of The Naughton Foundation have established a Selection Panel for assessing all applications. Significant importance and preference will be given to those candidates who achieve the highest combined results in the Leaving Certificate in the Applicable Subjects (Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Physics and Chemistry, Biology, Engineering, Agricultural Science, Technology and Design and Communication Graphics). However, the Selection Panel will also review and evaluate the merits and eligibility of candidates using several other criteria (see website below for full details). The onus is on the candidate in completing the Application Form, particularly the personal statements, to demonstrate the degree to which he/she meets these criteria.

### Find Out More:



## All Ireland Scholarships (National Scheme)

The All-Ireland Scholarships were established by the JP McManus Trust in 2008 to provide third-level scholarships to students throughout the island of Ireland. In excess of €42.7m has been disbursed to scholarship recipients to date, 1924 scholarships have been awarded and over 1,300 All Ireland Scholarships winners have already graduated from university. The All-Ireland Scholarships operate under the control of five Trustees Gerry Boland, Pat Dowling, Prof. Sarah Moore Fitzgerald, Diana McCabe and John Kiely. The Trustees are supported in the administration of the programme by the Department of Further & Higher Education, Research, Innovation & Science in Ireland, and by the Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland.

**Value:** The value of each All-Ireland Scholarship is set at €6,750 per annum in Ireland and the scholarships apply for the duration of the undergraduate programmes chosen by the scholarship winners.

**Eligibility:** To qualify for an All-Ireland Scholarship, eligible students should meet the following criteria:

- You must have attended a non-fee-paying school.
- You must have completed the Leaving Certificate Examination for the first time.
- You must in receipt of a third level education maintenance grant from Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI), having applied for same on or prior to the SUSI closing date.
- You cannot be a recipient of another third level education scholarship

**Application:** You do not need to apply for an All-Ireland Scholarship in the Republic of Ireland. The Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS) works with SUSI and the AIS Trust to identify scholarship candidates that fit the eligibility criteria.

**Find Out More:**



# Where will it take you?

## Open Days

Friday 3 October 2025

Saturday 4 October 2025

Saturday 21 March 2026



## Important

This hard copy booklet lists all scholarships on offer at University of Galway, at the time of going to press, for entry in 2026. Details of new scholarship programmes announced subsequent to the printing of this booklet will be listed online at: [www.universityofgalway.ie/scholarships](http://www.universityofgalway.ie/scholarships). The information contained in this booklet is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate at the time of publication. The content of the booklet is for information purposes only and should not be viewed as the basis of a contract between students and the University. The booklet sets out the broad benefits and terms of the scholarship schemes available. Full details on terms and conditions will be contained in the official scholarship schemes and policies. University of Galway reserves the right to amend scholarships or regulations at any time without notice. The University also reserves the right to withdraw scholarships periodically for any reason (e.g., withdrawal of funding). The University reserves the right to amend scholarship benefits, application processes, regulations or rules. This booklet also signposts to relevant external or national scholarships schemes (details in line with publicly available information at time of going to print) but students should note that these schemes may change and the official websites for the schemes should be consulted by interested students.