

Connect2...

Educational Bursaries and Trusts



www.connect2learn.org.uk

This factsheet contains information on bursaries and trusts, based mainly in Northern Ireland, which may help with the costs of education for adults.

Please note that closing dates are approximate in some cases, so check with the relevant organisation directly. Applications can take some time to process and should not be relied on if you need help urgently.

Aisling Bursary

Funding: The aim of the bursary programme is to give financial assistance to students from West Belfast progressing to further and higher education and training. Some of the bursaries are specifically for those participating in vocational training.

Policy: The aim is to boost the educational prospects of West Belfast achievers. Applicants must be resident in the West Belfast Westminster Parliamentary Electoral Constituency. Confirm your parliamentary constituency at <http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/> - enter your postcode in "Find your MP" search box.

Amount: £1,000 for full time study or £500 for part time study.

How to apply: Contact the West Belfast Partnership Board on T: 028 9080 9202 for further details. Application forms can also be downloaded from www.westbelfast-partnership.com/AISLINGBURSARY.html

Closing date: July 2011

Belfast Association for the Blind

- Funding:** Bursary for people in Northern Ireland who are registered as blind.
- Policy:** Bursaries are available for educational needs such as computers and course fees.
- Amount:** Grants are from £250 - £350
- How to Apply:** Write to the Correspondent, through a social worker or from the secretary of an organisation. Applications are considered throughout the year. Correspondent: R Gillespie, Hon. Secretary, 30 Glenwell Crescent, Newtownabbey, BT36 7TF

Coiste Na nlarchimi Education Bursary

- Funding:** Bursary scheme to help republican ex-prisoners, displaced persons and their immediate family fund their studies. The scheme is financed by the EU Peace 3 programme and the education and training grants are being offered through Coiste Na nlarchimi.
- Policy:** Bursaries are only available for assistance towards the payment of course fees or training tuition. Help will **not** be available for any other costs, including course material and travel. Courses can range from week long language courses to a full degree. Driving lessons are available to ex-prisoners and immediate family members. Only approved driving instructors can be used.
- Amount:** An overall total of £50,000 is available each year. The panel plan to meet once a month to consider applications.
- How to Apply:** Contact your nearest group within the Coiste network. Details can be found at www.coiste.ie or T: 028 9020 0770
- Closing Date:** Contact Coiste Na nlarchimi on T: 028 9020 0770 for further details.

Helena Kennedy Foundation

Funding: You can apply if you are in your final year at a publicly funded further education institution (for example last year of Access or A level course at a UK further education or sixth form college) and you aim to start a programme of higher education for the first time in autumn 2011 (such as an HND, degree or Foundation Degree) at a UK higher education institution. Students taking a gap year will also be considered.

or

you are in your final year of an HND or Foundation Degree at a UK publicly funded further or higher education institution and are progressing to a top up year at a UK further or higher education institution.

Awards are **not** made for postgraduate courses.

Policy: Awards are made primarily to disadvantaged students who have overcome significant barriers in order to continue with their education at university level.

Amount: One off bursaries of £1,500 (paid in two equal instalments).

How to apply: Applicants must be nominated by their further education college, adult education centre or sixth form college. Colleges can nominate up to 5 students for the awards. Application forms are available to download from the website at www.hkf.org.uk or T: 01908 321155 / 232641.

Closing date: Applications will be accepted between 1 January – 31 March 2011

Horizons Your Education

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| Funding | Developed by Barclaycard Horizons in partnership with Family Action (formerly the Family Welfare Association) to help lone parents with the costs of education and training in order to improve their job prospects |
| Policy | <p>You must be a lone parent living in the UK, on a low income with sole responsibility for dependent children. Applicants must be British citizens or have refugee status, indefinite leave to remain, discretionary leave to remain or have been granted humanitarian protection.</p> <p>Horizons will consider making a grant towards expenses for any course where you can demonstrate that it will improve your employment prospects. There are a number of exclusions, such as postgraduate study</p> |
| Amount | There is no standard grant, each applicant's circumstances are assessed individually. Grants can be made for courses lasting for more than one year, up to a maximum of three years. The amount of the grant can vary from £500 to a maximum of £1,500 per year. |
| How to Apply | Application forms can be obtained via the Horizons Education website at www.yourhorizons.com , Family Action's website at www.family-action.org.uk or by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope marked "Horizons Education Fund" to EGAS, Family Action, 501- 505 Kingsland Road, London E8 4AU. |

IELT Power Academy Engineering Scholarships

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| Funding | Scholarships are provided by the Institution of Engineering and Technology in association with several UK Universities and leading organisations in the field. |
| Policy | Scholarships are available to learners in the field of engineering and technology who have a place to study for a degree at Cardiff, Imperial College London, Strathclyde, Manchester, Southampton or Queen's University Belfast. Applicants must have good A Level grades, including Maths and Physics. |

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| Amount | The scholarship is worth £2,200 per year to cover course costs plus £220 per year for books and equipment. |
| How to apply | For further information contact the Institution of Engineering and Technology. Further details are available at www.theiet.org , click “About Us”, then “Awards and Scholarships”. |

Institute of Physics Undergraduate Bursary Scheme

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| Funding | The Institute of Physics (IoP) Undergraduate Bursary Scheme supports undergraduate physics students. |
| Policy | Bursaries are available to help with course fees and are paid for each year of the course. Applicants must be studying at one of the participating universities in the UK or Ireland and be on a course accredited by the IoP. |
| Amount | £3,000 is available for undergraduate courses and £4,000 is available for four year Masters courses. The IoP will award between 200 and 300 bursaries each year. |
| How to apply | For those planning to attend a course at Queen’s contact: Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, T: 028 9097 3189 |

The Lawlor Educational Grants Programme

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| Funding: | Priority is given to students undertaking their first degree or qualification, although others may be considered. Postgraduates are considered if the course is a necessary add-on to their degree. |
| Policy: | Any student in need with an Irish background studying in the UK can apply. Applicants are required to provide clear information as to the special circumstances which they feel qualify them for financial assistance. |
| Amount: | The maximum grant is £500 per year. Grants are paid in 3 instalments throughout the year. |

How to apply: Students should apply to the following address during April/May for an application form: Linda Tanner (Administrator), Irish Youth Foundation (UK), The Irish Centre, Blacks Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 9DT, T: 020 8748 9640.

Closing date: The submission deadline is at the end of May / early June. Contact the Irish Youth Foundation (UK) for further information. Grants are awarded in early September.

Northern Ireland Assembly

Funding: An innovative postgraduate bursary programme, leading to a Masters in Legislative Studies and Practice, has been developed by the Northern Ireland Assembly, in conjunction with Queen's University Belfast. Up to ten bursaries per year will be funded by the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Policy: Applicants for the programme should possess a 2:1 (or equivalent) Honours degree in Politics, European Studies, International Studies, Philosophy or a related subject area. In line with University Regulations, there is a language requirement for applicants whose first language is not English (IELTS 6.5 or approved equivalent).

Amount: Bursaries will cover the equivalent of home / EU fees and include maintenance support in the region of £11,500.

How to Apply: Contact the School of Politics, International Studies and Philosophy at Queen's University on T: 028 9097 5048.

Closing Date: The deadline for applications is the end of May. Shortlisted applicants for the programme will be interviewed.

The Northern Ireland Memorial Fund

- Funding:** Any educational course or training that could help to improve career opportunities or personal development. Expenses such as fees and books may be covered but costs such as travel, subsistence, accommodation and childcare are not.
- Policy:** The scheme is open to those who have lost a grandparent, parent, child, brother or sister in the Troubles, those who have suffered injury as a direct result of a Troubles-related incident and the primary carers of people injured in the Troubles.
- Amount:** Grants will not exceed a maximum of £1,200 in one year.
- How to apply:** Download application forms from www.nimf.org.uk or contact the Northern Ireland Memorial Fund, T: 028 9024 5965 / 5949, E: nimfgao@belfast.org.uk
- Closing date:** Contact the Northern Ireland Memorial Fund Grants Administration Office for details.

North - South Masters Bursaries 2011/2012

- Funding:** The aim of this scheme is to encourage outstanding students from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to undertake postgraduate study and experience life in the other jurisdiction.
- Policy:** Bursaries are open to students currently registered at an Irish or Northern Irish university or Dublin Institute of Technology (or who have graduated within the past five years) proposing to take up a place on a Masters or PhD course which would require them to relocate to the other Irish jurisdiction.
- They are also open to Irish or Northern Irish-born students currently registered at (or who have graduated within the past five years from) a British university.
- Amount:** 2 - 4 scholarships, worth €15,000 will be in areas of study of particular relevance to business and industry.

Two additional bursaries will be awarded in the area of humanities and social sciences.

How to apply: To be considered for this award, applicants will be required to write a short essay explaining why they wish to study in the other Irish jurisdiction and how they believe their studies will enhance understanding of innovation and business development on the island of Ireland.

For further information, including an application form, contact Eimear Donnelly or Patricia McAllister, Universities Ireland, (Centre for Cross Border Studies), T: 028 3751 1550, E: p.mcallister@qub.ac.uk

Closing date: May 2011

O'Reilly Foundation

Funding: The Foundation provides scholarships each year for postgraduate studies at PhD or equivalent level. While outstanding candidates of any recognised academic discipline are encouraged to apply, preference will be given to those planning their doctoral studies in the following academic areas: Business Studies, Law, Marketing, Media Studies, Science, Technology or Arts.

Policy: Applicants must have an excellent academic record and have demonstrated leadership qualities as well as the potential and desire to make a significant contribution to the future of Ireland.

Applicants should have a first class or at least 2:1 honours undergraduate record to date with reasonable expectation of a first class or at least a 2:1 honours degree in the current academic year. Graduates with a similar high honours degree or with equivalent professional qualifications, or who are completing a master's degree and wish to continue their studies to PhD or equivalent level, are also eligible to apply. Candidates must be normally resident in the island of Ireland.

Amount: €25,400 per year per applicant. The award will generally be for a maximum of two years. The Foundation may, at its discretion, extend or reduce this period to meet the particular circumstances of students.

How to apply: The application form can be downloaded from the O'Reilly Foundation's website at www.oreillyfoundation.ie

Closing date: Contact the O'Reilly Foundation for information at E: info@oreillyfoundation.ie (closing date last year was in November)

Print Futures Awards

Funding: Awards of £2,500 each are available to people aged 16-30 who are resident in the UK and want to train for a career in printing or the graphic arts.

Past winners have included students on established print and print management courses, graphic design students, employees of family-owned print businesses, prepress specialists, pressroom managers and operators, PhD students and technicians from the consumables sector and publishing print production staff.

Policy: Applications may also be made by those undergoing company training. Successful applicants in this category will receive an award of £1,250 on condition that their employers will fund an equal sum.

Winners may spend their awards in a variety of ways including course fees, travel costs for study tours, books, computers and software.

Amount: The maximum award is £2,500.

How to apply: An explanatory brochure and application form is available from Terry Ulrick, Print Futures Awards Secretary, at terryulrick@tucommunications.co.uk or T: 01444 831918. Application forms can also be downloaded from www.britishprint.com , www.unitetheunion.org.uk or www.printerscharitablecorporation.co.uk

Closing date: Applications will be launched in January 2011 and the closing date is April 2011. Interviews will be held during May and June and the awards presented in July.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary Benevolent Fund

Funding: This is for members and ex-members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and their dependants. Support is available to schoolchildren, college students and undergraduates towards fees, travel, books and equipment.

Amount: Grants for less than £500 are considered throughout the year, while larger amounts up to £10,000 are assessed monthly.

How to Apply: Applications in writing must be submitted via a regional representative. Contact: Royal Ulster Constabulary Benevolent Fund, Police Federation Northern Ireland (PFNI), T: 028 9076 4215.

University Bursaries

Queen's University Belfast (QUB)

Visit www.qub.ac.uk for information on scholarships and bursaries - type "Scholarship & Awards Handbook" into the search box or contact Academic and Student Affairs on T: 028 9097 3006.

University of Ulster (UU)

Information on UU scholarships and bursaries can be found at <http://prospectus.ulster.ac.uk/geninfo/scholarships.html>. You can also contact the Student finance team:

Linda Martin, Student Funding Adviser (Coleraine Campus), T: 028 7032 4136, E: l.martin@ulster.ac.uk

Ingrid Rendell, Student Services Support Coordinator (Jordanstown and Belfast Campuses), T: 028 9036 6601 or 028 9026 7300, E: i.rendell@ulster.ac.uk

Hardship Funds

These funds are geared to make a quick and supportive response to an unanticipated financial situation. Students must be registered at the UU and an individual interview will be required.

Anderson Hanna Award

Applicants must currently be registered students of the UU and in good academic standing. It is intended primarily for students born in the nine counties comprising the province of Ulster. A confidential statement is required from an academic referee, nominated by the applicant, preferably their adviser of studies.

Applicants are required to attend an interview with the Student Funding Adviser and decisions are subsequently made by the Support Funds Award Committee.

Visa Card Royalty Fund

All UU students are eligible to apply and all applicants are required to attend an interview with the Student Funding Adviser. Awards are generally granted to students who find themselves in unexpected financial difficulties. This fund is raised by the Alumni Office from income generated by holders of the University of Ulster Visa Card.

Open University (OU)

Access to Learning Fund

The Access to Learning Fund is for part time students in financial difficulty. Money from the fund cannot be used on tuition fees, but can assist towards study related costs. This can include: childcare, stationery, set books and travel costs. Any course grant received will be taken into account when assessing an application.

Application forms can be downloaded from www.open.ac.uk or call T: 01908 653411.

OU Student Assistance Fund

The OU has a Student Assistance Fund - money that has been raised by the trustees of The Open University Foundation through charitable donations. It is an emergency fund for all OU students who need immediate financial support. For further information, contact the Belfast office on T: 028 9024 5025.

OU Postgraduate Study

The Crowther Fund receives a significant contribution from The Open University Foundation. It is intended to help OU graduates build on their Open University degrees, either by formal study or research or by generally broadening their experience through a period of voluntary work. The fund doesn't take account of financial circumstances.

For information on funding for 2011/12, contact the Crowther Fund Awards Advisory Board on T: 01908 652930, E: OU-Crowther-Fund@open.ac.uk.

Charity and Trust Funding

Some self-financing students may be able to obtain funding from external charities and trusts. Awards tend to be small and highly competitive. Further information about charity and trust funding can be obtained from the following:

Educational Grants Advisory Service

T: 020 254 6251

www.familyaction.org.uk.

www.grantsforindividuals.org.uk

Enter your details into a database which will try to match your criteria to suitable grants. It contains details of over 3,500 trusts.

Turn to Us

www.turn2us.org.uk/grants_search.aspx

The website has been designed to help you find appropriate sources of financial support, based on your individual circumstances.

Trade Unions

If you are a member of a trade union, check to see if they can offer any assistance.

Students with disabilities

Students with disabilities can find further information on educational trusts on the Skill website at www.skill.org.uk or contact Skill NI on T: 028 9028 7000.

Postgraduate students

Postgraduate students can consult the Prospects Postgraduate Funding Guide. Copies are available from the Careers Library in QUB and UU. Alternatively visit the Prospects website for an up-to-date list of trusts at www.prospects.ac.uk (click on “Postgrad Study”, then “Funding my further study”).

Every effort is made by EGSA to ensure that information is as accurate and comprehensive as possible at the time of going to print. However students should be aware that regulations can change at short notice and are therefore advised to check the current situation with DEL or their course provider.