

## Summer Student Scholarships (SS) 2021

### Frequently Asked Questions

Please read the SS 2021 Guidance Notes where further information is available.

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#### Q1: Am I eligible?

You are eligible if:

- You are an undergraduate student.
  - You are currently studying **full-time or part-time** in a health/social care-related discipline at a university/third level institute in the Republic of Ireland. This may include but is not limited to health sciences, social sciences, informatics, mathematics, statistics, and management sciences.
  - If you are a part-time student you must be able undertake the scholarship on a **full-time basis for a maximum of eight weeks** during the summer of 2020.
  - You are **not in the first or final year** of your NFQ Level 8 degree course.
  - You are not in the final year of the undergraduate component of a degree course which includes an optional or additional year or more for further level 9 or 10 qualification such as **MSc MPharm or PhD**.
  - You have not previously conducted a **PhD** and/or **MSc** by research.
  - You have not worked as a **research assistant, research technician or in any role with experience of 8 weeks or more active research;**
  - You have **not undertaken** any research project longer than 8 weeks consecutively, in a full-time capacity including HRB or other summer student scholarships.
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#### Q2: What do I have to do to apply?

- Download and read the Guidance Notes for the scheme.
- Secure the support of an appropriate, suitably qualified Supervisor (typically a minimum of four years active research experience) who is currently employed in a Higher Education Institute in the Republic of Ireland. Career breaks, flexible working arrangements, change of disciplines or sector, etc. will be taken into consideration.

- Identify the Host institution to administer the award. This must be the University/third level institution in which you are currently studying for the degree or the Higher Education Institute of the Academic Sponsor.
- Plan to undertake a research project in one of the following research areas: patient-oriented research, health services research, or population health research.
- You may access GEMS via the following link: <https://grants.hrb.ie>. Register or login on GEMS and complete the online application form, making sure that you complete all relevant sections and upload all the required documentation.

Please bear in mind that the Host Institution nominated by you (i.e. your Sponsor's University/ Institute) must review and submit your application to the HRB through GEMS. It is essential that you take their internal deadlines into consideration when preparing your application. The HRB will **not** accept paper-based applications in this round.

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### **Q3: How do I determine if my project requires Research Ethics Approval?**

Research Ethics approval (REC) is required for all research work funded by the HRB that involves human participants, human material (including tissue) or animals.

Please note that if you require ethical approval for any part of your project you should take into account the time required apply for new ethical approval from the relevant Research Ethics Committee. Ethical approval must be in place prior to starting the summer project, if awarded.

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### **Q4: Whom do I contact if I have a question regarding the GEMS system?**

The online tutorial should help you in starting to use GEMS but if you need further assistance please contact the GEMS helpdesk [gemshelp@hrb.ie](mailto:gemshelp@hrb.ie)

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### **Q5: My application has been submitted but I realise I have amendments to make/a document to upload – is it possible to amend the application?**

In fairness to all other applicants, once the HI has submitted your application and associated documents it cannot be edited or un-submitted. Please make sure to review your application carefully before you send it to the HI for submission.

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### **Q6: Is there a payment for the duration of the Scholarship?**

Yes - the scholarship will fund you €300 per week for a maximum of eight weeks. This payment is made by the nominated Host Institution directly to you. If you are successful you will need to contact the Research/ Finance office of your HI to arrange payment. In order to receive any payment you must complete a Revenue Student Scholarship Declaration Form

and submit it to your HI. This form is available for download on the HRB website  
<http://www.hrb.ie/grants/>

If you are successful in your application, you should complete the form and submit it to the Research/ Finance office in your HI before you start work on your project.

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**Q7: What is the earliest start date for the scholarship?**

The earliest date you may begin your research project is **Monday, 7 June 2021**.

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**Q8: If I start the week of Monday the 7th June, do I have to start my project on the bank holiday Monday?**

No; you will be paid for the full week including the bank holiday Monday however the actual project work would not start until the next working day (Tuesday the 8th).

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**Q9: What is the latest completion date for the scholarship?**

Your research project must be completed by **Friday, 17 September 2021** to enable you to complete and submit your report to the HRB by mid-October.

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**Q10: When do I have to submit the required reports to the HRB?**

The date of submission of completed Scholar and Sponsor Reports to the HRB will be **Friday, 15 October 2021**.

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**Q11: When is the DEADLINE for applications?**

The deadline is Thursday, **21 January 2021** at **13:00**.

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**If you need further information, please contact:**

Dr Emma McGrath

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