

Summer Student Scholarships 2023

Frequently Asked Questions

Call launch 10 January 2023 and closes on 09 March 2023

Please read the SS 2023 Guidance Notes for further information.

1 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 island 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 2023.
- 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 eight consecutive weeks or more of active research;
- You have not undertaken any research project longer than eight weeks consecutively, in a full-time capacity including HRB or other summer student scholarships.

2 What do I have to do to apply?

- Download and read carefully the Guidance Notes for the scheme.
- Secure the support of an appropriate, suitably qualified Supervisor who possess a PhD degree or demonstrate equivalent research experience as defined in the 'Towards a European Framework for Research Careers'¹. Please see PhD equivalency form in Appendix IV of the Guidance Notes and the equivalency must be approved by the HRB prior to the closing date for applications (09 March 2023) who is currently employed in a Higher Education Institute in the island of Ireland. Career breaks, flexible working arrangements, change of disciplines or sector, etc. will be taken into consideration.
- Identify the HRB approved Host institution to administer the award in the island of Ireland. This must be the University/third level institution in the island of Ireland in which you are currently studying for the degree or where the Academic Supervisor is based.
- Plan to undertake a research project in one of the following research areas: patient-oriented research, health services research, or population health research (full descriptions of each area can be found in the guidance notes appendix II).

¹https://cdn5.euraxess.org/sites/default/files/policy_library/towards_a_european_framework_for_research_careers_final.pdf

- 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 HRB approved Host Institution nominated by you (i.e. your Supervisors 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.

3 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. You will be requested to fill out and submit a **HRB approvals declaration form** to confirm the required ethical approval is in place prior to starting the scholarship.

4 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

5 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.

6 Is there a payment for the duration of the Scholarship?

Yes - the scholarship will fund you €300 per week for a minimum of six and 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 working on your project.

7 What is the earliest start date for the scholarship?

The earliest date you may begin your research project is 6 June 2023.

8 What is the latest completion date for the scholarship?

Your research project must be completed by Friday, 15 September 2022.

9 When is the deadline for applications?

The deadline is Thursday, **09 March 2023** at 13:00.

If you need further information, please contact:

summerstudents@hrb.ie

10 Can I apply for SS 2023 funding if I am a graduate-entry medical student?

Yes, if you fulfil all eligibility requirements listed in the guidance notes. Please note that if you are in your first or final year of study you **cannot** apply.