



Thomas Gilson Education Support Fund

Bursary Criteria 2022

Why does the Task Force have this grant?

- The purpose of this Grant is to support service users based on the goals of Access, retention & progression in education.
- This grant framework is developed based on these goals and the learning over the past years on educational needs, challenges, and outcomes individuals' experience.
- This annual education support fund operates in memory of the contribution of Thomas Gilson to the work and development of TDAF, and community drugs work more broadly, 1997 – 2020 (RIP). Tommy was a strong advocate for community education and knew the difference it could make, particularly to people in recovery

What is it for?

- This funding is available to people who are currently residing and or accessing drug specific services in the Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force area. This area comprises of Tallaght Dublin 24 and Whitechurch Dublin 14.
- The fund is available from February 2022 and will be open until the grant allocation is expended/November 2022.

Who is it for?

- Funding is available for people in recovery from alcohol and substance misuse who wish to explore or progress their education and or career prospects.
- Depending on interest, a percentage of this fund may be available to family members who have been affected by addiction.

How do you access it?

- An Expression of Interest Form must be completed and returned to Fiona Murphy
- On receipt, Fiona will arrange a meeting for the applicant with the Lifelong Learning Office with South Dublin County Partnership



- Applicant will meet with the Lifelong Learning Officer to discuss their education/training pathway and be given an application to the Education Bursary. The application must then be completed with their key worker and returned to Fiona Murphy
- All applications must be completed in full.
- Consent forms must be signed for progressing the application. Your name and contact details are taken to contact you and follow up with you in relation to your application. Your details for funding will be recorded in a file (hard copy and online for allocation of funding). Your name will be coded as client 1, client 2 etc to discuss applications. Financial records are presented to South Dublin County Partnership Board of Management and Task Force Advisory Committee.
- Applicants must have a rehabilitation care plan including their education goals
- Funding is not guaranteed. The maximum amount available per application is €1,000. The Education Bursary funds only up to degree level 8
- Candidates who are funded this year or have been funded in previous years are not guaranteed funding for each year of their course. Candidates who have received funding in previous years may be required to present proof of completion
- Funding is only issued directly to education bodies based upon the appropriate documentation received for financial governance (receipts/invoices relative to the academic year 2022/2023)
- An invoice from the relevant college must be submitted to access funding and will be paid directly to the college/course provider
- Successful applicants must provide evidence-based feedback/information at the end of the academic year, confirming that the course for which funding was provided was completed.
- There is no time limit on an individual's rehabilitation recovery.
- We will also require you to complete an evaluation of your experience with the Education Bursary procedure.