



## North West Scholarship 2021

Optum Ireland aims to support the enhancement of the healthcare system in the region and invest in a 21st century health workforce that meets the needs of tomorrow. Optum has a diverse work-force and wishes to promote diversity in higher education by supporting young people from less advantaged and non-traditional backgrounds. The Scholarship Program will be delivered in partnership with Letterkenny Institute of Technology.

- The North West Scholarship Program provides two scholarships of a value of €2,500 for each year of the undergraduate course.
- Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria and have applied for an undergraduate program on the designated course list set out below.
- The fund is administered by Letterkenny IT to the Scholar each year subject to the scholar being in good academic standing.
- The scanned copy or photo of the completed and signed application form and reference must be completed and sent to [nodlaig.brolly@optum.com](mailto:nodlaig.brolly@optum.com) before: **5pm on Friday, 28 May, 2021**
- The reference is confidential and should be sent directly from the Principal to [nodlaig.brolly@optum.com](mailto:nodlaig.brolly@optum.com) before the 28 May.

## Criteria

### North West Scholarship 2021

To be considered for the Optum Healthcare Scholarship Applicants must:

- have made a formal application through CAO for a place at Letterkenny IT on the first year of one of the full-time undergraduate programs on the designated course list for 2021/22
- have a home address in County Donegal;
- have studied in a secondary school in County Donegal for at least 2 years preceding the Leaving Certificate examinations in 2021;
- be sitting the Leaving Cert for the first time in 2021;
- be involved in community life and demonstrate a willingness to contribute to their community; and
- be recognised as being from a socio-economically less advantaged background, and provide evidence that they:-
  - qualify for exemption from payment of the Leaving Certificate Examination Fee as a result of medical card eligibility;

#### **And,**

- Provide a letter from SUSI verifying that they are eligible for State support (Maintenance Grant- Special/Full/75%/25% and/or Tuition Fee Grant (full or part) under the Student Finance Scheme.
- Applicants may provide details of other obstacles that hinder access to third-level education (emotional, physical, cultural or social).
- The School Principal must review the application and then complete the reference template provided in the Application Pack. The reference is confidential and should be sent directly from the Principal to [nodlaig.brolly@optum.com](mailto:nodlaig.brolly@optum.com) before the 28 May.
- As part of the Selection Process, Applicants will be invited to attend an informal group interview session in August 2021 or, asked to provide a video clip in response to certain questions as part of the final assessment of applications.
- Applicants must read and comply with the Terms and Conditions.

**Applicants are strongly advised to make an application to Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) as soon as possible.**

## Designated Course List 2021/22

### North West Scholarship 2021

#### SCIENCE

- LY818** Science — Common Entry with Degree Award options:  
Bioanalytical Science or Food Science & Nutrition or  
Pharmaceutical & Medicinal Science
- LY817** Bioscience
- LY837** Food Science and Nutrition
- LY867** Pharmaceutical & Medicinal Science
- LY806** Pharmacy Technician
- LY816** Dental Nursing
- LY826** Health Science with Physiotherapy Studies
- LY836** Health Science with Occupational Therapy
- LY846** Health Science with Dietetics Studies

#### NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES

- LY908** General Nursing
- LY918** Psychiatric Nursing
- LY928** Intellectual Disability Nursing
- LY978** Health & Social Care — Common Entry with Degree Award  
options: Ageing & Care or Disability Studies or Health &  
Social Care (General)

#### BUSINESS, COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING

- LY618** Electronics & Embedded Systems
- LY607** Computer Engineering
- LY628** Biomedical Engineering
- LY738** Data Science and Artificial intelligence
- LY748** Computer Science
- LY717** Computing
- LY737** Computer Security and Digital Forensics
- LY708** Applied Computing

*Where a scholar is on a level 6 or 7 program which has an add-on program leading to a level 7 or 8 in the Institution the scholarship will be extended to cover the add-on program.*

## Terms and Conditions

- The Scholarship Panel will consider the application form, reference and supporting documentation to determine who will be awarded a Scholarship. Evaluation of applications will be on the basis of academic achievement, demonstration of impact on studies, future career potential and personal and family circumstances. Applicants who demonstrate greater financial need will be prioritised in the case of multiple applications of the same standard. The Scholarship Panel's decision is final. Successful Applicants will be notified as soon as possible in September.
- Successful Applicants will not be permitted to hold or receive any other Scholarship such as the All-Ireland/ Naughton/Ernst Walton/ 1916 and may therefore have to elect which scholarship to receive.
- Any offer of a Scholarship is dependent upon information being truthful and accurate and upon the Applicant fulfilling all of the conditions of the Scholarship. The right to withdraw an offer is maintained in the event of any error or omission whatsoever in the information provided by or on behalf of the Applicant. The Applicant will be given 14 days' notice in writing that the offer is being withdrawn.
- Scholarships will only be awarded to Applicants who have been formally offered a place on a designated course by the Institution on the basis of Leaving Cert results.
- Scholarships will not be awarded and funds will not be processed unless evidence of an exemption from paying the Leaving Certificate Examination Fee and/or a letter of formal approval from Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) verifying the Applicant's entitlement to any form of a Maintenance Grant and/or Tuition Fee Grant is submitted to the Selection Panel. Optum reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a Scholarship if supporting evidence is not furnished.
- Detailed feedback is not available in the case of an unsuccessful application.
- Each Scholarship is for the named person on the application only.
- The Scholarship will be processed as per the specified schedule following registration of the recipient with the Institution.
- The Scholar will be notified of the schedule of payments either by Optum and/or the Institution.
- The Scholarship will be renewed each year subject to the scholar being in good academic standing. Scholars will be expected to adhere to the regulations of the Institution and to undergo every term examination or any other examination determined by the authorities of their Institution for their course. Optum reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship where a student is deemed not be of good academic standing by the Institution.
- The Scholar must commence his or her program of study during the academic year of 2021/22. The Scholar must successfully complete their program of study within the standard time-frame. The duration of the Scholarship will be clearly stated upon confirmation of award and will not be extendable to cover any deferred or repeated year, unless the Donor elects in its sole discretion to extend the Scholarship period. Authorised postponements will be considered only in exceptional circumstances, and for a valid reason. In the event that no reasons are provided, it will remain within the discretion of Optum to withdraw the Scholarship.
- Payment of the Scholarship will not be made if the Scholar is out of the Institution on a placement year. Optum may exercise the discretion to fund the placement year depending on all the circumstances.
- Where a Scholar is on an eligible level 6 or level 7 program in LYIT which has an add-on program leading to a level 7 or 8 program, the Scholarship will be extended to include the add-on program. The commitment to a Scholar will not extend beyond four years for this combination of courses.
- The Selection Panel reserves the right to award the Scholarship to an Applicant who fails to provide evidence of an exemption from paying the Leaving Certificate Examination Fee and/or a letter of formal approval from Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) verifying the Applicant's entitlement to any form of a Maintenance Grant and/or Tuition Fee Grant in circumstances where the Selection Panel is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated sufficient hardship (physical/emotional/social/cultural) in accessing or maintaining a third-level course of study. Payment of scholarships will be administered by the Institution on proof of registration with the Institution on a designated course.
- The Scholar will be expected to attend a Scholarship Awards Ceremony organised by Optum (date to be agreed by all parties) to be formally presented with the award. The Scholar may also be required to attend an awards ceremony in the Institution and the Institution will invite a representative from Optum to attend.
- The Scholar will be expected to take part in the promotion of this Scholarship and may be asked for a photograph and personal statement for use in promotional material. The Scholar's contact details (email address, phone number and postal address) will be retained by Optum for the purpose of administering the Scholarship only.
- The Scholar will agree to allow the Institution to share certain data (name, course, student ID number, institution, etc.) with other parties within the Institution as required.
- This Scholarship is not open to friends or family members of Optum senior employees including Senior Director and above.
- Optum reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions on notice to the Institutions and Scholars where necessary.



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Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn  
Letterkenny Institute of Technology