



lyit

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Leitir Ceanainn
Letterkenny Institute of Technology

New Entrant Sports Scholarship 2019/20

Guidelines for Applicants

Introduction

LYIT has established the New Entrant Sports Scholarship to support and facilitate students wishing to commence a full-time undergraduate/postgraduate programme in the academic year 2019/20. These scholarships are targeting students who are competing at a high level in one of the following field sports: Gaelic Football (men/ladies), Hurling and Soccer (men/ladies). The applicant must currently be a member of a GAA Inter-county panel (Minor, U20 or Senior) or League of Ireland Soccer team.

Applicants from other sports are welcome to apply for a scholarship when LYIT's Full Time Sports Scholarship programmes open in January (see <https://www.lyit.ie/Student-Life/Sports-Recreation/Sports-Scholarships-Awards>).

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for the award of a scholarship, applicants must be one of the following:

- A new entrant entering on a full-time programme at LYIT for the first time in 2019/20. This includes:
 - ✓ A person who is entering the first year of a full-time undergraduate programme
 - ✓ Advanced entry on a subsequent year of an undergraduate programme
 - ✓ A full-time postgraduate programme.
- Be a member of a current GAA Inter-county panel (Minor, U20 or Senior) or League of Ireland Soccer team.

Students applying for the 'New Entrant Sports Scholarship' at Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) must meet the following criteria:

- Have met the eligibility criteria set out above and if necessary, successfully complete an interview in April 2019.
- Have reached a high level of performance in their chosen sport.
- Have applied for a full-time undergraduate/postgraduate programme within LYIT for the academic year 2019/20.

Value and Nature of Award

Successful applicants will be initially offered a scholarship of €1,000 with the potential for an additional top-up scholarship of €500 in February of year 1. In subsequent years, successful candidates will be considered for further annual scholarships of €1,500 for the duration of their programme provided they continue to meet the eligibility criteria and performance criteria.

Please note any canvassing by or on behalf of candidates shall result in disqualification and exclusion from the process.

Additional benefits of being a New Entrant Scholarship holder include:

- Free membership of the LYIT gym
- Free GP and chartered physiotherapy upon referral
- Training/sports gear
- Coaching support from qualified coaches
- Maths and Communication Learning Support Services if desired

Condition of Award

If the holder withdraws from the programme for which he/she has registered, he/she will forfeit the Scholarship. The scholarship is only available in the year in which it is offered. It cannot be deferred.

Application Procedure

1. Applicants will be required to send a completed application form to the Sports Officer, LYIT. The applicant should complete the application form and include an official confirmation letter from a County Board or League of Ireland Soccer Club confirming that the applicant is a member of an Inter-county GAA (minor, u20 or senior) or League of Ireland panel. This letter must accompany the application form and must be signed by the team manager, an e-mail will not be accepted.
2. Selection of candidates will be made following the submission of applications by all eligible students. Signed completed application forms with supporting documentation must be posted and received by Paddy Gallagher, Sports Officer, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Port Road, Letterkenny, Co Donegal, no later than **1pm on Friday, 28 June 2019**. Late applications will not be accepted.
3. If necessary, interviews will take place in July to confirm that the applicant meets the required criteria.
4. Conditional offers will be made within two weeks of the closing date. Only those who have accepted a valid offer of a full-time place, and are registered at LYIT, will receive the New Entrant Sports Scholarship award.
5. All decisions made by the Committee are final. Unsuccessful applicants may resubmit an application for LYIT's full-time Sports Scholarships programme in January.

Payment

Payment of all New Entrant Sports Scholarship Awards will be made to the successful applicant, once evidence of registration onto a full-time programme at LYIT is presented by the applicant to the Sports Officer.

Payment of the New Entrant Sports Scholarship will be made to the successful candidate in two instalments. The first €500 will be made to the payee in September, the second €500 amount will be paid at the end of semester 1, subject to the candidate passing examinations. If a Top-Up Scholarship is awarded, a third payment of €500 will be made in February.

Top Up Scholarship

- All New Entrant Sports Scholarships holders will be automatically considered for a Top-Up Scholarship of a further €500 in February, provided they continue to meet eligibility and performance requirements.
- In subsequent years, the New Entrants Scholarship awardees will also be automatically considered for a Full Scholarship if the candidates continue to meet eligibility and performance requirements and fulfil the criteria for Full Time Scholarships. (See <https://www.lyit.ie/Student-Life/Sports-Recreation/Sports-Scholarships-Awards>).

Please note any canvassing by or on behalf of candidates shall result in disqualification and exclusion from the process.