



NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics 2020

Frequently Asked Questions*

**Please note: These FAQs are subject to change and further information in the form of updated FAQs will be made available during the competition period.*

The full regulations governing the NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics are available to download from the NUI website: www.nui.ie/awards.

Further queries can be directed to: awards@nui.ie

1. What is the NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics?

The NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics is intended to encourage and support early career academics to develop their conference/symposium-organisational skills and to expand their international academic connections. The Scheme is specifically targeted at academics who are not full-time permanent members of staff in the NUI constituent universities, other NUI member institutions, or other higher education institutions. While NUI acknowledges that funding for conferences/symposia is not plentiful for any academic colleagues in our universities and colleges, an objective of this scheme is to provide support to colleagues who need to develop their skills and international research connections as an important component of their academic career prospects.

2. Who can apply for the NUI Grant Scheme for Early Career Academics?

Applicants for these Grants must be holders of at least one of the following:

- i) PhD awarded in an NUI constituent university (i.e. UCD, UCC, NUI Galway, Maynooth University) or other NUI member institution no earlier than 7 years previously, i.e. January 2013;
- ii) PhD awarded by another HEI no earlier than 5 years previously, i.e. 2014 and any other degree of the National University of Ireland (e.g. Bachelors, Masters);
- iii) Post-Doctoral Fellowship awarded by NUI or in an NUI constituent university (i.e. UCD, UCC, NUI Galway, Maynooth University) or other NUI member institution and with a start date of no earlier than 3 years previously, i.e. January 2016;
- iv) Current post-doctoral research position at an NUI member institution.

NUI member institutions include:

- NUI constituent universities, i.e. UCD, UCC, NUI Galway, Maynooth University;
- NUI recognised colleges, i.e. RCSI, Institute of Public Administration;
- Other NUI member institution, i.e. Burren College of Art, NCAD, St. Angela's College, Sligo, Shannon College of Hotel Management, Institute of Banking.

A list of current and former NUI institutions is available at: www.nui.ie/elections/docs/institutions.pdf

3. I am a full-time, permanent member of staff in an NUI constituent university/other NUI member institution/other higher education institution. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Full-time, permanent members of staff of the NUI constituent universities, other NUI member institutions, or other higher education institutions are not eligible to apply for these Grants.

4. I am not *currently* a full-time, permanent member of staff, but I am on tenure track / working part-time / in another arrangement. Am I eligible to apply?

If you are not currently a full-time, permanent member of staff, you can apply for these Grants based on your current employment status at the time of application. If your circumstances change during the application process, you can notify NUI accordingly.

5. Can the date restrictions described in the Regulations under *Point 4: Eligibility* be extended to account for periods of parental leave, long-term illness or other extenuating circumstance?

Allowances will be given to the extension of documented time for maternity leave (18 months extension for each child born before or after the PhD award), paternity leave (for each child born before or after the PhD award), long-term illness or national service. Please contact awards@nui.ie for further guidance on the requirements for supporting documentation.

6. I am not currently based or employed in a Higher Education Institution / I am an independent academic, but I meet the eligibility criteria. Can I apply for a Grant?

An applicant is not required to be in current employment in a Higher Education Institution but must be able to demonstrate that they have or can attract experts in their discipline area (including international experts) to take part in the conference/symposium. If the conference/symposium is to be held in a constituent university (or linked college) or recognised college of NUI, then a letter of support is required from the Head of School. If the event is to be held in the NUI building at 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, a letter of reference from the Head of School will suffice.

7. I am currently based or employed in a Higher Education Institution outside the NUI federation, but I meet the eligibility criteria. Can I apply for a Grant?

If the applicant is based in a Higher Education Institution outside the NUI federation, they must be able to demonstrate that they have or can attract experts in their discipline area (including international experts) to take part in the conference/symposium. If the conference/symposium is to be held in a constituent university (or linked college) or recognised college of NUI, then a letter of support is required from the Head of School. If the event is to be held in the NUI building at 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, a letter of reference from the Head of School will suffice.

8. If I am successful in Stream 2, where can I hold my conference/symposium?

Under Stream 2, applicants can apply for Grants to lead the organisation and management of an international conference/symposium in the NUI building at 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, or in a constituent university (or linked college) or recognised college of NUI - a list of these institutions is available at: www.nui.ie/elections/docs/institutions.pdf.

9. I will be moving to a new NUI institution later in 2020. Can I apply to hold the conference/symposium under Stream 2 in this new institution?

You can submit an application for an event in an NUI institution where you are not currently based. However, as per the Regulations for this Grant Scheme, you will need to submit a Letter of Support from the Head/Director of the School/Department/Institute concerned that will host/support the conference/symposium.

10. Can multiple applicants collaborate on one application for a conference/symposium under Stream 2?

Yes, multiple applicants can indeed be listed on one application for one conference/symposium. However, each of the applicants will need to submit their own version of the following documents, as these are specific to each individual applicant rather than related directly to the conference/symposium:

1. Application Form
2. CV
3. Certified Academic Transcripts

One version of the other documents (Proposal, Abstract, Letter of Support) will suffice.

It should be made clear when submitting the application that there are multiple applicants attached to it.