



lmetb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Lú agus na Mí
Louth and Meath Education and Training Board

**Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme for
LMETB Schools and Colleges**

Section 24 Education and Training Boards Act 2013

2023 - 2025

**Approval for Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme for LMETB
Schools and Colleges**

Following a review of the Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme for LMETB Schools and Colleges, the LMETB Board approved a policy for 2023 - 2025.

Overview of funding for Schools under the LMETB Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme

In order to implement a scheme that encourages all students to improve their Irish Language Skills, promotes the Irish Language in all our schools and colleges and provides greater flexibility for schools in the use of funding, the following funding will be allocated to schools on an annual basis for the duration of this policy as follows and for the following suggested activities.

Where a school deems in a particular academic year that there may be less demand for scholarships the school may assign more of the funding to school based co-curricular and/or extra curricular activities e.g. more funding assigned to day trips/overnight trips etc. to encourage all students to improve their Irish Language Skills and promote the Irish Language in all our schools.

Activity	Amount of Funding
Gaeltacht Scholarships*	€3500 Non DEIS Schools €5000 DEIS Schools under 1000 students €7500 DEIS Schools over 1000 students €1000 Aonad within an LMETB Post Primary School
Irish Language co-curricular/extra – curricular educational activity one day/two day outing to the Gaeltacht	€500
Irish Language co-curricular School Based Workshop	€500
School's Seachtain na Gaeilge Week each year to encourage students to engage in a variety of activities	€150
Development of a range of library resources through the medium of Irish for students and pupils in our schools and colleges	€150
Other School Based initiatives not included in those outlined above e.g. Irish debating teams, Gaeilge clubs etc	€200

*It is proposed that schools will have flexibility regarding determining the manner in which the amount allocated for scholarships is divided among students. The minimum amount per scholarship per student is €250 and the maximum amount of scholarship per student is €1000.

A full list of the names of students awarded scholarships and the amount awarded will be forwarded to Finance Section with the invoice from the chosen Gaeltacht College as per panel established by procurement section, LMETB. Please contact Procurement Section, LMETB for further details on the panel.

Total Funding for LMETB Schools/Colleges

School	Funding	Scholarships	Total Cost
Beaufort College	1500	5000	6500
Bush PP	1500	5000	6500
Dunshaughlin CC	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste Chú Chulainn	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste na hInse	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste na Mí	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste Pobail Ráth Chairn	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste de Lacy	1500	3500	5000
Coláiste Ríoga, Dunshaughlin	1500	3500	5000
Enfield Community College	1500	3500	5000
O' Carolan College	1500	5000	6500
O' Fiaich College PP	1500	5000	6500
Ratoath College	1500	3500	5000
Scoil Uí Mhuirí	1500	5000	6500
Coláiste Clavin	1500	5000	6500
St. Oliver PP	1500	3500	5000
St. Oliver's CC	1500	7500	9000
St. Peter's College	1500	3500	5000
Aonad at Colaiste Chu Chulainn	1500	1000	2500
Projected Total Cost	28500	77000	105500

Proposals for Inter Schools Projects/Other Initiatives

Schools should note that proposals for inter schools projects and/or initiatives outside the remit of this policy should be forwarded by email to the Director of Schools for discussion and review with the Chief Executive.

Funding, Expenditure & Reporting of same

Once approved by the LMETB Board the funding will be transferred to each school and will appear under the heading ONP Gaeltacht Scholarship Grant M1000. When schools are processing invoices for activities and/or scholarships to encourage all students to improve their Irish Language Skills and promote the Irish Language in all our schools, they will code related invoices to this code.

Each month the School Principal will receive a Finance Report from Finance Section LMETB which will outline the funding, expenditure of same and the balance remaining. The Principal who is also the Secretary to the Board of Management can then update the Board of Management members on the scheme at their meeting.

Establishment of a Panel of Gaeltacht Scholarships/Activities Service Providers

As there can be great differences in the effectiveness of Gaeltacht colleges, it is important that LMETB schools/colleges endeavour to select a college with a proven track record.

To assist schools in this process and to ensure compliance from a procurement perspective, LMETB Procurement Section has undertaken a tender process for the establishment of a panel which includes service providers for the provision of suitable sites for Gaeltacht Scholarships/Activities whether day trips, one over night or two over nights including weekends, two week or three week residential or as required by the school/ centre.

Schools are required to liaise with the LMETB procurement section regarding any queries pertaining to the selection of a Gaeltacht College from the panel.

The school will contact the chosen college directly to confirm they will accept the student(s) and raise a Purchase Order (PO) for same. After attendance at the two week/three week course, the College should invoice the school for the relevant amount per student to be paid by the school. Please note no refunds can be made to parents/guardians for monies paid by them.

Awarding of Gaeltacht Scholarships (2/3 week residential courses)

The arrangement for the awarding of the scholarships can take **either** of two formats

- (a) The Principal, in consultation with the teachers of Irish, through whichever internal assessment procedure they decide should compile the list of scholarship winners including two names more than the number of scholarships awarded to the school. These names should be documented on the Scholarships Awarded Form provided by the Schools Directorate/Finance Department. This form will also indicate the amount of each scholarship awarded

or

- (b) A visiting teacher from another school will assess the students in your school and submit the results of his/her assessment on the Scholarships Awarded Form provided by the Schools Directorate/Finance Department. This form will also indicate the amount of each scholarship awarded

Please liaise with another Principal to arrange a facilitator to examine the students should you decide to opt for (b) above.

LMETB Schools Directorate Annual Report

In late August of each Academic Year, the school will provide a report on the Implementation of the Scheme at school/college level. The report will be provided on a standard template form as provided by the Schools Directorate. Each school and college will be asked to provide 5-10 photos along with their report. The Director of Schools will present an overall report to the LMETB Board at their November meeting each year.

School Websites & promotion of the Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme

Each school will include a section on their website pertaining to the scheme, the standard text of which will be provided by the Director of Schools. Schools can add additional information regarding activities etc. to this section of the school website.

Review of the Scheme

The long term plan would be to review the Scheme every three years subject to Department of Education and Skills approval of same.

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