



Tuath Housing New Horizons Education Bursary

Social Value and Impact report 2024



Introduction

The New Horizons Education Bursary, introduced in 2023, is Tuath Housing's initiative to support residents in accessing education and training opportunities. By providing funding support, this program helps residents pursue accredited and non-accredited courses to achieve their personal and professional goals.

Social Value of the bursary

In 2024, the bursary helped more people than ever before, providing **€28,573.83** in funding to **35 recipients**. This marked a **68% increase** in successful applications from the previous year. The bursary funded a variety of courses, from university degrees to professional training and skill-based programs.

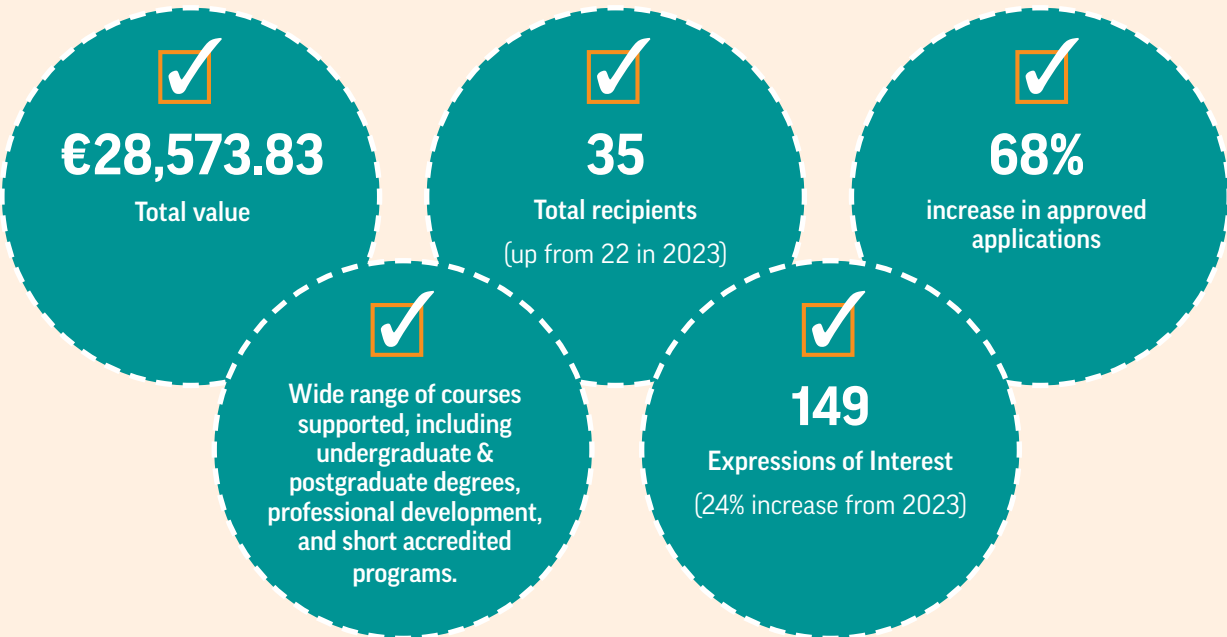
With an expanded budget planned for 2025, Tuath Housing continues to support residents in their educational and career ambitions.

Social Impact of the bursary

The New Horizons Education Bursary has played a transformative role in the lives of residents, providing essential financial support that enables them to access education, develop new skills, and advance their careers. By removing financial barriers, the bursary has allowed recipients to fully commit to their studies, reducing stress and increasing their ability to succeed.

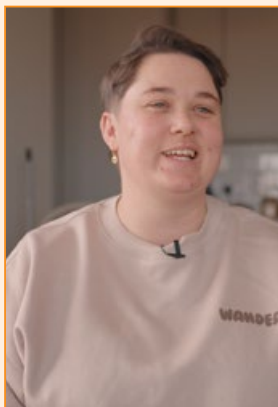
For many, this funding has opened doors to opportunities that once seemed out of reach—whether pursuing a degree, gaining professional qualifications, or switching to a new career path. Testimonials from recipients illustrate the profound difference the bursary has made, from single parents balancing education with family life to individuals upskilling in specialised fields.

Social Value Bursary Highlights for 2024





“If another resident was considering the New Horizons Education Bursary, I’d definitely recommend it. For someone like me, who grew up in a working-class area and couldn’t afford college, it’s been life-changing. Pursuing a Master’s degree had been a dream of mine for 10 years, and this support made it possible. Whether you want to change industries, upskill, or simply better yourself, this bursary can open doors and create new opportunities. It’s an invaluable resource for tenants looking to improve their lives.” Nathan, Dublin. MSc Digital Media and Marketing



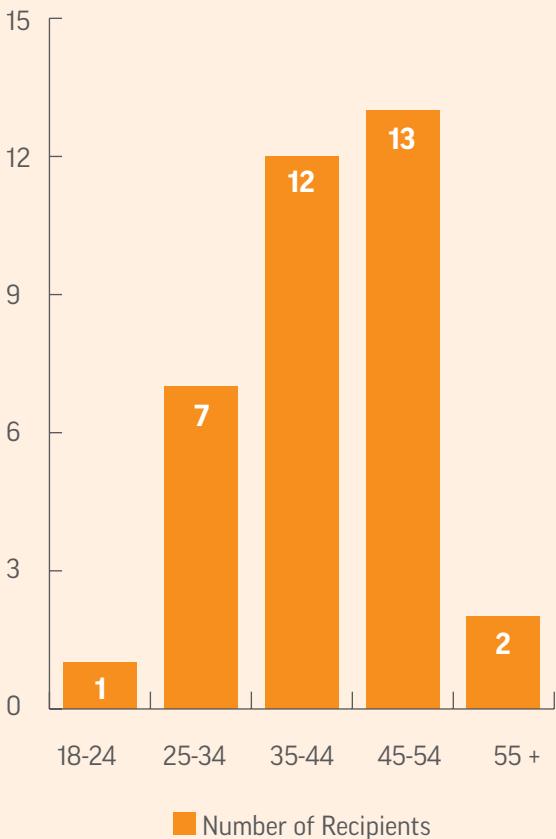
“The New Horizons Education Bursary has completely taken away the anxiety of worrying about next year’s fees. As a single parent, support like this doesn’t come easy, and it’s been a game-changer for my studies. In my first year, I struggled to figure out how I would afford supervision sessions. Knowing this support is there has lifted a huge weight off my shoulders. It’s shown me that support is available if you reach out and have access to the right information.” Naomi, Wicklow. BA (Hons) in Counselling & Psychotherapy

Key Statistics and Achievements

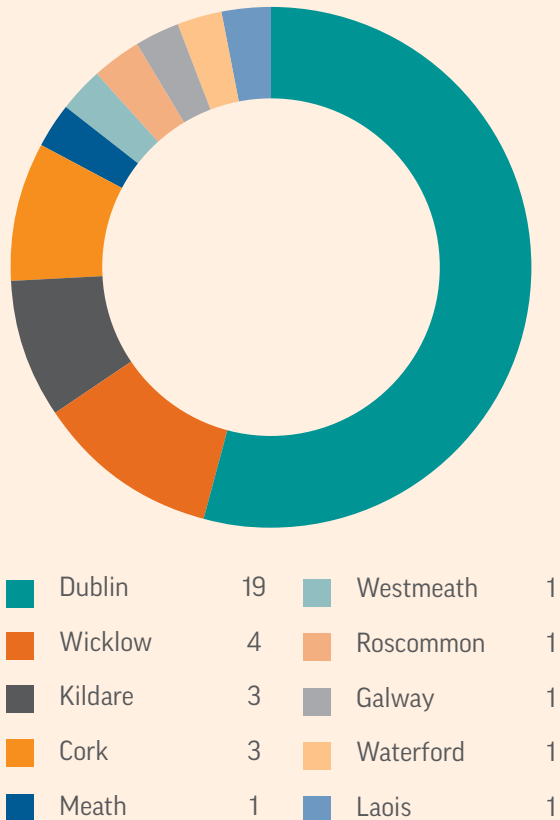
The bursary data reveals that the majority of recipients (71%) are aged 35–54, with 25 individuals in this category. The 25–34 age group accounts for 7 recipients (20%), while the 18–24 and 55+ groups are underrepresented, with just 1 (3%) and 2 (6%) recipients, respectively. Women made up the majority of applicants, with 25 female recipients compared to 10 male recipients.

Bursary recipients are predominantly from Dublin and its neighbouring counties, with Dublin alone accounting for 19 recipients (54%). Wicklow (4 recipients, 11%), Kildare (3, 9%), and Meath (1, 3%) bring the Greater Dublin Area total to 27 (77%). Outside this region, engagement is lower: Cork has 3 recipients, while Westmeath, Roscommon, Galway, Waterford, and Laois each have 1, collectively making up 23% of the total.

Grant Recipient Age Range



Grant Recipient Location

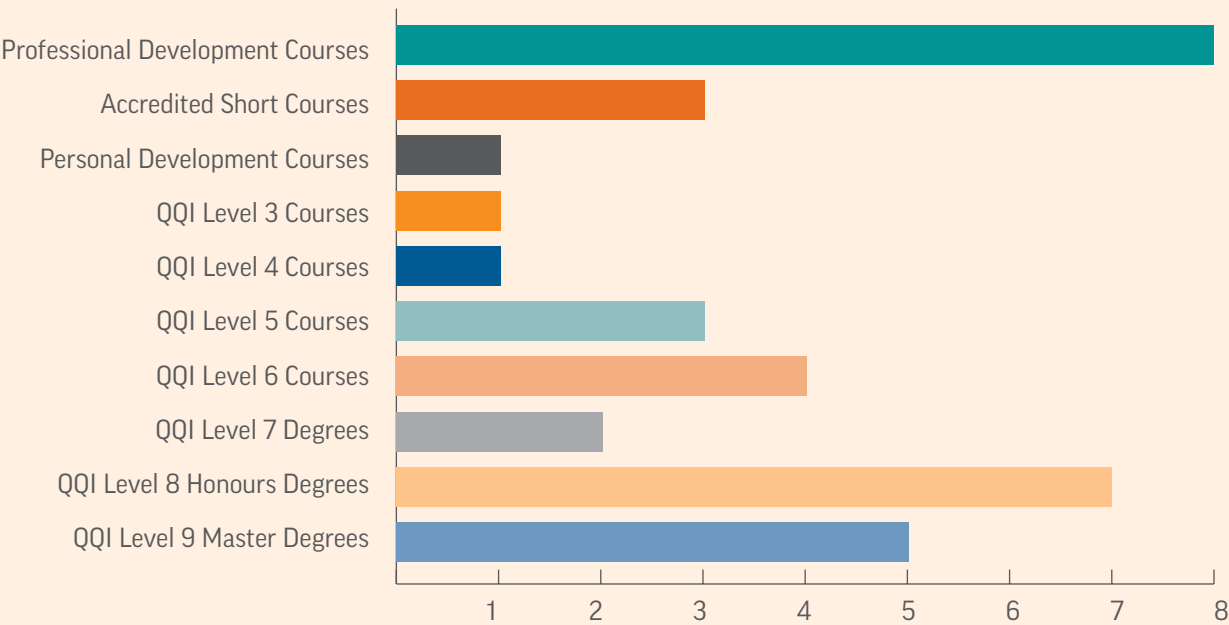


Popular Fields of Study

In the past year, bursary recipients have pursued a wide range of educational programs, primarily in higher education, professional development, and accredited short courses. The most popular fields of study include social sciences, health and wellness, and career-focused training. Some examples include:

- QQI Level 9 Master's Degrees and QQI Level 8 Honours Degrees in areas such as Social Work, Psychological Sciences, Business Administration, and Nursing.
- Courses in Leadership & Management, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training, Menopause CBT Training, Special Needs Assistance, Early Childhood Care and Education, Nutrition and Health Coaching, Therapeutic Play Skills and Nail Technician training.
- Job-specific certifications such as General English Language and Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) licensing.

Course Type Funded Through the Bursary



Funding Distribution

- Total Number of Grants Awarded: 35
- Average Grant Size: €816.40
- Median Grant Size: €1000.00 (awarded to 18 recipients)

Key Outcomes

- In 2023, the bursary supported 22 residents with €20,000 in funding.
- In 2024, the budget increased to €30,000, allowing 35 residents to benefit.

Challenges & Lessons Learned

While 2024 was a successful year, some challenges remain:

- **Low participation outside Dublin and nearby counties.** More effort is needed to promote the bursary in other regions.
- **Fewer applications from younger residents and men.** Targeted outreach could improve diversity among applicants.
- **Course withdrawals.** Some recipients were unable to complete their courses due to unforeseen circumstances. Future flexibility in funding may help address this.

Looking Ahead: What's New for 2025?

In 2025, the New Horizons Education Bursary will expand to better support residents in pursuing education and training opportunities. Key enhancements include:

Increased Financial Support

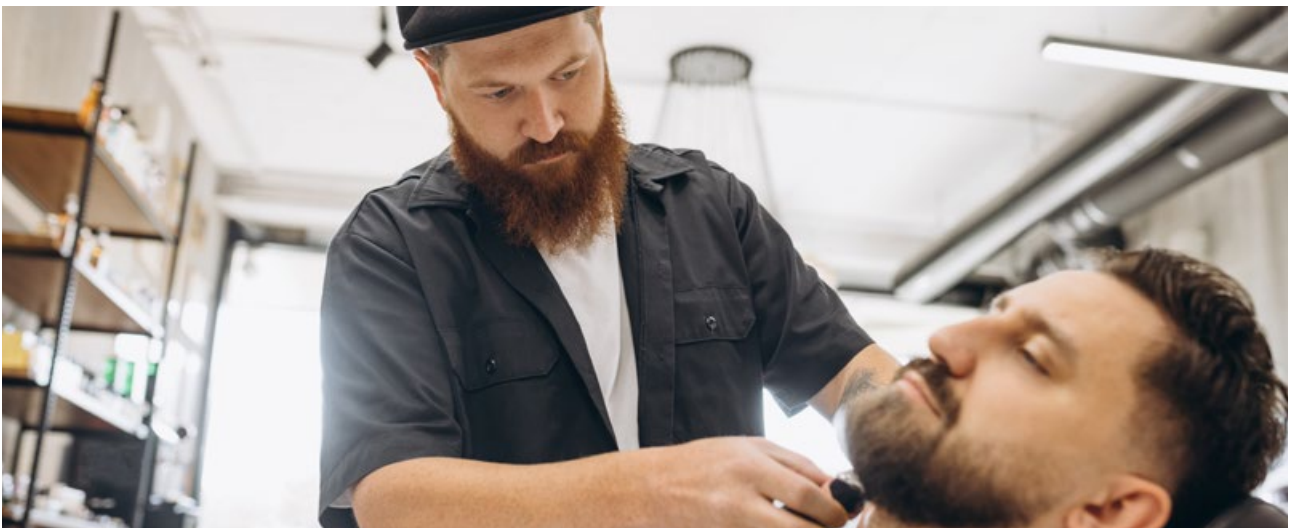
- **Maximum bursary amount doubled from €1,000 to €2,000, allowing for greater investment in education.**

- Removal of the €250 minimum funding requirement, making the bursary more accessible for those pursuing short courses.
- Overall bursary budget expanded to €40,000, following steady growth from €20,000 in 2023 and €30,000 in 2024.

Boosting Awareness & Engagement

- **A new promotional video will launch as part of the 2025 campaign to reach more residents and inspire applications.**
- Targeted outreach efforts will focus on engaging specific eligible groups, including residents in Cost Rental properties and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection, ensuring they are aware of and encouraged to apply for the bursary.

These enhancements reflect Tuath's ongoing commitment to supporting residents in unlocking new opportunities through education. As a leading Approved Housing Body in Tenant Engagement, Tuath is dedicated to empowering residents with meaningful educational supports. For more information on the New Horizons Education Bursary and how to apply, visit Tuath Housing's website www.tuathhousing.ie





The font size in this publication has been increased as part of Tuath Housings commitment under the Age Friendly Ireland Business Recognition Programme.

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