MSc Scholarship Opportunities
Petroleum Related Courses

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment is currently offering scholarships under the Petroleum Scholarship Scheme for students undertaking one year taught MSc degree courses commencing in the academic year 2018/2019 on topics of direct relevance to the development of Ireland’s petroleum resources.

Eligibility

Applications under the Petroleum Scholarship Scheme are invited from persons who have been accepted on a one year taught MSc degree course, commencing in the academic year 2018/2019, in geoscience, petroleum engineering or environmental science topics of direct relevance to the development of Ireland’s petroleum resources. Applicants must have either successfully completed a relevant honours primary degree course or will complete a relevant honours primary degree course in the academic year 2017/2018.

Scholarships under the Petroleum Scholarship Scheme are open to both EU and non-EU citizens and studies may be undertaken in universities outside of Ireland. However, applicants must clearly demonstrate in their application the direct relevance of their chosen taught MSc degree course to the development of Ireland’s petroleum resources.

Funding for the Petroleum Scholarship Scheme is being made available from the Petroleum Infrastructure Programme - Expanded Offshore Support Group Fund which is managed by the Department.
**Funding level**

The level of support offered per scholarship will be up to a maximum of €12,000 of necessary course related costs e.g. university tuition fees, fieldwork, travel and consumables. Please note that support will not be available for accommodation costs or other living expenses.

**Applications**

Applications should be submitted in PDF format by email to: [EOSGscholarship@dccae.gov.ie](mailto:EOSGscholarship@dccae.gov.ie) by no later than **5pm on Wednesday 9th May 2018**, and should include the following information:

a) The applicant’s contact details (email address and phone number);

b) A copy of the applicant’s Curriculum Vitae including the name and contact details of an academic referee;

c) The following details relating to the applicant’s proposed MSc degree course:-
   - name of MSc degree course; college/university where the course will be undertaken;
   - start and end dates of the course;
   - description of course modules;
   - an itemisation of course costs including associated expenses for which the scholarship is sought; and
   - A copy of the letter from the college/university confirming the applicant’s acceptance to the MSc. degree course;

d) A one page statement in the applicant’s own words as to why the chosen taught MSc. degree course is directly relevant to the development of Ireland’s petroleum resources (please note selection criteria outlined below).

e) Whether the applicant is interested in availing of a work experience opportunity placement with the Department.
**Selection Criteria**

In selecting the successful applicants, consideration will be given to:

- the direct relevance of the course to the development of Ireland’s petroleum resources; and
- the applicant’s academic achievements and relevant experience.

In evaluating applications the Department may shortlist and/or seek to interview applicants.

It is anticipated that scholarship offers will be made in early June, 2018.

**Post Award Requirements**

Applicants offered a scholarship will be required to supply the Department with:

- A copy of the transcript of the applicant’s final results for their undergraduate degree (the transcript should contain the applicant’s student number and contain, or be accompanied by the contact details of the person in that college/university who is authorised to issue results);

- A statement as to whether or not the applicant is in receipt of any additional scholarship, fee waiver or other direct or indirect financial assistance programme in respect of the MSc. degree course, and if so to provide details of same.

A scholarship under the EOSG Petroleum Scholarship Scheme may be used in conjunction with any additional scholarship, fee waiver or other direct or indirect financial assistance programme to the extent that the combined scholarships, fee waiver or other direct or indirect financial assistance programme do not exceed the cost of participation in the course. Therefore, if subsequent to the award of a scholarship a scholarship student receives any additional scholarship, fee waiver or other direct or indirect financial assistance programme in respect of the taught MSc degree course, the scholarship student must notify the Department and provide details of the additional scholarship, fee waiver or other direct or indirect financial assistance.
On award of a scholarship the scholarship student will be required to supply the Department with:

- Their Personal Public Service Number (required for scholarship payments);

- Details of vouched costs incurred in relation to University tuition fees, fieldwork, travel and consumables for the MSc. degree course. Funding under the EOSG Petroleum Scholarship Scheme is made available on a vouched cost basis (i.e. on the provision of receipts) in arrears (i.e. the cost must have been incurred and paid for before a claim for recoupment is made to the Department);

- A brief report from the College/University (e.g. course tutor/supervisor) on their progress after 6 months; and

- A copy of their final research project thesis. Payment of the final €500 of the scholarship award (i.e. the final €500 of vouched costs) will be withheld until the final MSc degree course research project thesis is furnished to the Department.

A scholarship student may be requested to make a presentation on their coursework and final dissertation to the Department.

Claims for recoupment will be processed by the Department in November, 2018, March 2019 and September 2019. Claims received after 30 September 2019 will not be entertained.

**Research Project Data**

The Department acts as custodian of the National Archive of petroleum exploration and production technical data, and subject to conditions, may be in a position to facilitate access for a scholarship student undertaking the research project thesis of their taught MSc degree course to the datasets contained in the National Archive.
**Work Experience Opportunity**

On completion of their course, and at the discretion of the Department, scholarship students may be offered the opportunity of engaging in practical work experience in the Technical Section, Petroleum Affairs Division of the Department. This experience would provide a unique opportunity to gain a working knowledge of the Department’s role as the licensing and lead regulatory body for the oil and gas sector in Ireland and would be a significant addition to any curriculum vitae.

It is strongly recommended that scholarship students avail of this opportunity should it be offered. The Department would of course be flexible with respect to release from this work experience programme should a career prospect materialise during the period of the programme.

**Further Information**

Further information on the Petroleum Scholarship Scheme may be obtained by emailing:

Michael Purcell,
Petroleum Affairs Division,
Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment,
Email: EOSGschiolrship@dccae.gov.ie

For information on petroleum exploration and production in Ireland please see www.pad.ie

**Published: 27th March, 2018**