

## 9. Interview

The TUI may, at its sole discretion, require applicants for a bursary to attend for interview. If an interview is required, the Union will meet the legitimate expenses necessarily incurred by the applicant (including travel).

## 10. Indicative Timeline

- By end June 2026 - receipt of applications will be acknowledged by email.
- Early October – following issue/acceptance of CAO offers; applicants will receive an email from the TUI requesting that they provide official written confirmation that they have registered for and are attending a Level 8 programme of study (required for qualification as a post-primary teacher) in a publicly funded Higher Education Institution within the Republic of Ireland.  
  
A closing date for receipt of this confirmation will be indicated.
- Late October/early November – receipt of the confirmation will be acknowledged by email.
- Mid-November – the Judging Panel will consider the applications of those applicants who have provided the requisite written confirmation and will decide to whom to award the 2026 Bursary. The successful applicant will be contacted, by phone in the first instance, and will be offered the bursary. The post-primary school of the successful applicant will also be contacted.
- Late November – all other applicants will be advised of the outcome by email.



## *Bursary Award - 2026*

Applications for award of the Bursary are invited from final year Leaving Certificate students who will sit the Leaving Certificate in June 2026.

A completed application form and Personal Statement should be sent by email to  
**bursarybr@tui.ie**

or  
by post to

**TUI Bursary Scheme,  
Teachers' Union of Ireland,  
73 Orwell Road,  
Dublin 6,  
D06 YP89**

to arrive no later than  
**Friday, 29th May 2026**

[www.tui.ie](http://www.tui.ie)



## **The Bernie Ruane, TUI Bursary/ Scholarship 2026**



*Invitation to students  
planning to pursue a  
career in post primary  
teaching*

## 1. Introduction:

The TUI Bursary/Scholarship, established in 2021 and now in its fifth year, honours the memory of Bernie Ruane, a valued member of the Teachers' Union of Ireland (TUI) who held many positions within the Union, most notably serving as President and, subsequently, as Assistant General Secretary up to her retirement in April 2020. Bernie was, first and foremost, a committed and gifted teacher who championed equality and inclusion and stood up for those in difficulty.

## 2. Purpose:

This bursary, funded by the TUI, provides financial assistance to students whose intention it is to pursue a career in post-primary teaching and who, to that end, are undertaking level 8 programmes of study in publicly funded Higher Education Institutions within the Republic of Ireland.

To be awarded a bursary, a student must be accepted on to, must have registered for and must be attending an undergraduate course (consecutive or concurrent) required for qualification as a post-primary teacher.

## 3. Value of Bursary:

A student who is awarded a bursary will receive €1,500 per annum for each year of the course (exclusive of an Erasmus year) up to a maximum of four years and subject to the conditions attaching to bursary offers.

## 4. One new Bursary awarded annually:

It is important to note that, in addition to bursaries already in payment, only one new bursary will be awarded each year. It will be a matter solely for the Teachers' Union of Ireland to determine to whom to award a bursary and that determination shall be final.

The criteria and conditions for award and renewal of a bursary under this scheme shall be determined by the TUI, at its sole discretion.

## 5. Truthful and accurate information:

Any offer of a bursary is dependent upon the

information provided by or on behalf of the applicant student being truthful and accurate and upon the student fulfilling the conditions of the scheme. In this regard, it is the responsibility of the applicant student to ensure that all information provided is truthful and accurate. If information provided does not meet these standards, the TUI reserves the right to withdraw an offer of a bursary or to terminate payment of a bursary.

## 6. Other conditions:

The bursary shall be awarded

- only in respect of attendance at an approved course (consecutive or concurrent) in an approved, publicly funded higher education institution within the Republic of Ireland
- for the normal duration of one approved undergraduate course, up to a maximum of four years of study (subject to progression annually). If the approved undergraduate course is of three years' duration, the bursary may be continued into the first year of the Professional Master of Education (PME) course where the student has registered for and is attending that course.

Bursary holders will be expected to satisfy the regulations of their college/institution and to undergo every term examination or other examination/assessment prescribed by the authorities of the college/institution for their course.

## 7. Payment of bursary

The bursary will be paid annually, in the month of November, as a single payment. Payment will be made into the student's Irish bank account, provided that confirmation has been received by the Union that the student is registered, is attending an approved course (and, where applicable, has successfully completed the required assessments and has progressed to the next year of the course).

A bursary will be renewed when appropriate, formal, written confirmation is received that the bursary holder has progressed to the next year of the course, subject to the normal duration of the course.

The bursary may be terminated where an unfavourable report on the bursary holder is received from the authorities of the relevant college/institution.

A bursary shall not be paid in respect of a second period of attendance at the same level of a course – i.e. for a repeat year.

## 8. Application Requirements – Bursary Award 2026

Applications for award of the 2026 Bursary are invited from final year Leaving Certificate students who will sit the Leaving Certificate in June 2026.

Any person wishing to apply for a bursary must

- complete the application form "TUI - Bernie Ruane Bursary" which can be downloaded from the TUI website.
- submit a signed and dated Personal Statement of no more than 500 words in support of her/his application
- return the completed application form and Personal Statement by email to **bursarybr@tui.ie** or by post to:

**TUI Bursary Scheme,  
Teachers' Union of Ireland,  
73 Orwell Road,  
Dublin 6, D06 YP89**  
to arrive no later than  
**Friday, 29th May 2026.**



Please note that only fully signed application forms will be considered and that the completed form and/or any email attachments must be in word or pdf format (no jpeg or image files).

Late applications will not be considered.