

BTEA

Back to Education Allowance

DUN LAOGHAIRE VEC
ADULT GUIDANCE SERVICE



Dun Laoghaire
VEC

BTEA: Back to Education Allowance

The BTEA provides financial support if you want to take up a place on an approved full-time second or third level course. It is also possible to obtain the BTEA to do an Access or Foundation course for third level

Eligibility

If you are **21 years or older** (24 for postgraduate teacher training), and in receipt of:

- Unemployment Assistance or Benefit
- One Parent Family Payment; Deserted Wife's Allowance or Benefit
- Widow's/Widower's Pension
- Carer's Allowance
- Farm Assist
- Prisoner's Wife's Allowance

If you are **18 years or older**, and in receipt of:

- Blind Pension
- Disability Allowance
- Invalidity Pension
- Incapacity Supplement

Qualifying Periods

In general, a period of at least **3 months** for Second Level options (including Fetac Level 5) and at least **12 months** (or 9 months if approved by a Facilitator or FAS placement officer) for Third Level options.

(Periods spent on FAS training, VTOS, CE Schemes, Back to Work Allowance, Supplementary Welfare or in Direct provision count)

You may also qualify if:

- you are on **Disability Benefit** for **3 years** or more
- you are **between 18-20** and **out of formal education for two years** and in receipt of Unemployment Assistance / Benefit or One Parent Family Payment

Advantages

1. You can retain your secondary benefits
2. You are allowed other income, such as from part-time work, but it will affect Rent Allowance
3. You may also get an annual Cost of Education Grant

Note

If you are not entitled to BTEA or VTOS, you may be eligible for a maintenance grant

To apply

You will need to complete a Back to Education Allowance form (BTEI). These are available from your local Social Welfare office or on the web

Back to Education Programme
Department of Social and Family Affairs
Gandon House
Amiens Street
Dublin 1

Tel: 01-704-3000
Website: www.welfare.ie

DUN LAOGHAIRE VEC
ADULT GUIDANCE
SERVICE

61 Mulgrave Street
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

Phone: 01 236 5316
Email: cduggan@ess.dlvec.ie
Website: www.dlvec.ie

