

2022
Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Programme
Frequently Asked Questions

FAQs will be published every Thursday until the 14th October 2021.
New questions will be marked ****New****
Updated questions will be marked ****Updated****

Questions are grouped under the following headings:

1. Eligibility Quiz
2. Eligibility
3. Applying to the programme
4. Conditions of award

1. Eligibility Quiz

2. Eligibility

I am Irish citizen but lived in Australia from January 2018 to August 2020. Whilst in Australia I was working full time, primarily as an occupational therapist. As per clause [7.7.8 of the Call Document](#), does this exclude me from being assessed as a category one applicant? If I apply will my application be reviewed under category 2?

As per the Call Document, footnote 8 (page 7), '*Ordinarily resident refers to the applicant's place of legal and permanent residence. This will not be deemed as having been interrupted if an absence from the country of ordinary residency has been caused by the training, education or employment of the applicant or the applicant's spouse or parents.*'

As the potential applicant in question was absent from Ireland for reason of employment, this is not deemed as an interruption of their ordinary residence in Ireland. Therefore, the applicant will be assessed as a category 1 applicant.

A potential applicant has earned a 2.2 bachelor's degree from a university in the past; however, they have since been awarded a first-class (1.1) Higher Diploma from an Irish institution. According to Irish NFQ standards, a Higher Diploma and an Honours bachelor's degree are both listed as level 8. As such, is this student eligible thanks to their 1.1 Higher Diploma?

As per [the Call Document](#), *'All applicants must have a first class or upper second-class honours bachelor's, or the equivalent, degree', and 'Host institutions are expected to be guided by QQI and the NFQ in terms of the recognition and equivalence of a degree.'*

According to Irish NFQ standards, a Higher Diploma and an Honours Bachelor's Degree are both listed as level 8. As such, the application in question is eligible thanks to their first-class Higher Diploma.

3. Applying to the programme

4. Conditions of award