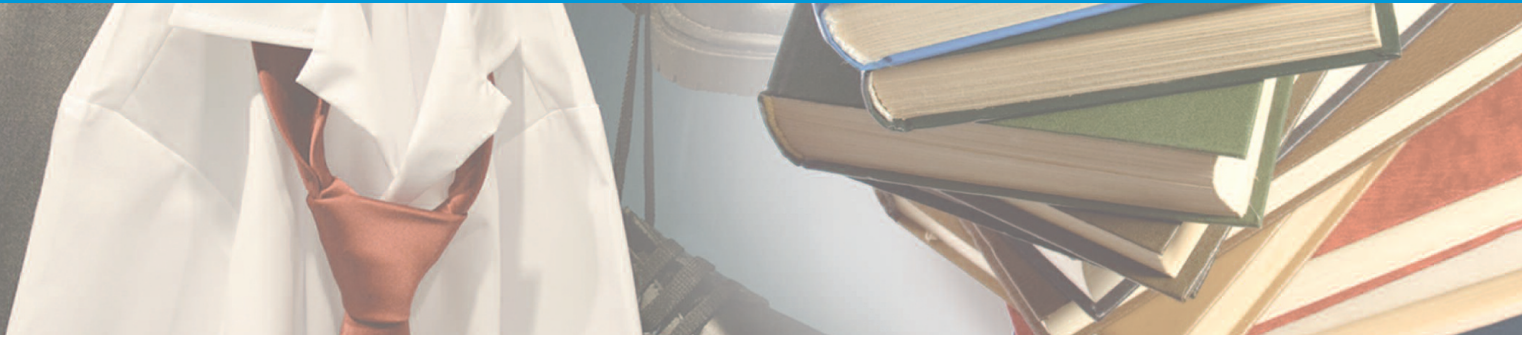


# Back To School: Helping To Meet The Costs



## BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR ALLOWANCE

If you are in receipt of:

- A social welfare payment (including Family Income Supplement) or a Health Service Executive payment, or
- You are taking part in an approved employment scheme, or
- You are taking part in a recognised education or training course

You may be eligible to apply for assistance with Back to School costs.

Your child must be aged between 4-22 on or before 30 September. If they are aged between 18-22 they must be in full-time education in a recognised school or college.

The rates of payment are €150.00 for children between the age of 4 and 11 years and €250.00 for children between 12 and 22 years.

We would encourage parents who may be entitled to the allowance to **APPLY NOW** to ensure that you receive the payment before the new term starts.

Application forms are available:

- by download from [welfare.ie](http://welfare.ie)
- by texting FORM BSCFA followed by your name and address to **51909**
- by collection from your [Social Welfare Local Office](#)

### Did you know a grant scheme is available for students in primary and post-primary schools to help with the cost of school books?

Three-quarters of all primary schools and over half of all second level schools operate book rental schemes to help reduce the cost of books for parents. Other schools use the grant to help low-income families purchase books. Minister for Education & Skills Ruairi Quinn has ring-fenced the €15 million budget for school book grants for the coming 2012/13 school year. We are also publishing guidelines on how school communities can set up and run school book rental schemes, to help reduce the costs for parents. Speak to your Principal to see how the grant is administered in your children's school.

