



Terms, Conditions and Regulations

1. The purpose of this Research Programme is to promote research in the area of Industrial Relations in Ireland. The IRRT will provide funding to pursue a masters degree by research at a recognised third-level institution in the Republic of Ireland. Applications to pursue one-year taught degrees, or degrees where a thesis constitutes the minor part of the programme, are not eligible.
2. A recognised third-level institution must be within the meaning of Section One of the Higher Education Act, 1971 and / or be in receipt of public funding and be approved by the Minister for Education and Science for the purposes of the Free Fees Initiative.
3. Candidates from any country may apply. However, successful applicants must maintain their principal residence in the Republic of Ireland during the term of the scholarship.
4. Candidates must have the qualifications to register for, and complete, a post-graduate degree by major thesis.
5. Applicants must be eligible to register for a Master's degree by research or if they are not registered, must have been provisionally accepted by a Head of Department / School. The award of the scholarship will be contingent on the applicant being formally accepted by the relevant department/school.
6. These scholarships will be called the '**IRRT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS**'.
7. Applicants should complete and return the **Application Form** and include the supporting materials.
8. Applicants should submit the following supporting material with their Application Form:
 - Proof of academic record: a non-returnable transcript of academic record, appropriately stamped or endorsed by the relevant third-level institution
 - Choice of research theme for which the scholarship is being sought to include:
 - (a) a literature review on the *theme (approximately 800 words)*;
 - (b) a statement of methodology, to include aims and objectives, suggested methodological approach, data analysis (*approximately 200 words*),
 - (c) Significance of the contribution, which the research will *make (maximum 400 words)*;
 - Sealed and signed references from **two referees**. (The potential research supervisor should act as a referee); and

- A letter of provisional acceptance to the degree from the Head of Research / Department at the relevant third-level institution;
9. The applications will be assessed and the scholarships awarded by the Trustees of IRRT. The applications will be evaluated based on an assessment under the following headings:
- a) The academic development / professional distinction of the applicant to date
 - b) Literature review on the selected theme / area;
 - c) Proposed methodological approach and data analysis,
 - d) Significance of the contribution which the project will make.

THE IRRT DECISION ON THE AWARD OF THESE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE FINAL.

10. The scholarship is valued at up to **€10,000 per annum**, which will cover maintenance and support for fieldwork/archival research. The payments will be made through the third-level institution to the scholar in two equal installments in November and March.
11. Scholarships may not be held or continued at an institution other than that specified in the application form.
12. Scholarships will only be awarded to full-time students who will engage full-time in research during the period of the scholarship. Scholars may be allowed to engage in a limited number of teaching hours per week in the institution where the degree is being pursued, subject to the agreement of the scholar's supervisor.
13. Scholarships at Master's level will be awarded for a maximum of two years. IRRT scholars, pursuing masters' degrees by research, may be funded (depending on the date of their first registration for such degrees) for one or two years, provided that they have been registered for such a degree for no longer than one year prior to application to the IRRT.
14. Scholars will maintain regular contact with their supervisors and an actual presence within their respective departments/schools during the academic year. Scholars may be permitted with the prior approval of their supervisor to spend some period away from the institution to pursue a course relevant to their research or to engage in fieldwork/archival research.
15. 2006 Scholars will be required to submit three written progress Reports to the IRRT, six months after commencement, and two further Reports at six monthly intervals. These Reports should be accompanied by an evaluation from the scholar's supervisor on the progress of the research. The submission of these Reports by the scholar and the supervisor are a condition of holding and renewing the scholarship. If an unsatisfactory report on the scholar's progress is received, the scholarship will be terminated and the scholar may be asked to refund monies that have been paid to him/her.

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16. If the scholar ceases the approved research before the expiry of the award, the IRRT must be informed immediately. In this situation, the IRRT reserves the right to revoke or suspend the scholarship and demand the refund of any money paid to the scholar for a period subsequent to the termination date.
17. Scholarships may not be deferred.
18. A hard bound copy of the Master's thesis must be submitted to the IRRT at the end of the scholarship period.
19. As a term and condition of the IRRT Scholarship, the scholar will be required to write an article for publication by the IRRT based on her/his research at the end of the scholarship period.
20. Any publications, which arise from the research work carried out during the period of the scholarship, should contain an acknowledgement of the IRRT support.
21. IRRT Scholarships are held subject to these listed 'Terms, Conditions and Regulations'. In order to receive the scholarship, research scholars will be required to sign a CONTRACT in accordance with the 'Terms, Conditions and Regulations' of this Programme. If any of these terms, conditions or regulations are breached, the IRRT may require the scholar to fully reimburse the IRRT for payments already made.
22. The final assessment of applications will not be concluded until the end of June in any year in which an applicant plans to commence during the month of October that year. Interviews may be held.
23. Completed Applications should be returned to reach the Secretary and be sent to:

**The Secretary
Industrial Relations Research Trust
School of Business
Aras an Phairsaigh
University of Dublin
Trinity College
Dublin 2**

