



An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is now open for new applications

Note for Editors

People wishing to apply for the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance can apply online via www.mywelfare.ie. To apply online, customers must have a Public Services Card and a verified MyGovID account.

Customers who do not have a verified MyGovID account, should contact the Department's Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance section and our officials there can verify their account. Customers who do not have a Public Services Card or who cannot apply online have the option to submit a paper application form. Application forms are only available by contacting the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance section by phone on **071 9193318** or **0818 11 11 13**, or by email at bscfa@welfare.ie.

To qualify for the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance, a person must be in receipt of certain social protection payments or taking part in training, employment or adult education schemes and the total household income must be within the thresholds set out in the table below. All dependent children are taken into account for the income limits (including children who do not qualify for the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance, because they are under the age of 4).

Income Thresholds for 2021 are:-

Couple with:	Income Threshold:	Lone Parent with:	Income Threshold
1 child	€608.70	1 child	€443.30
2 children	€653.70	2 children	€488.30
3 children	€698.70	3 children	€533.30

4 children	€743.70*	4 children	€578.30*
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*Income Threshold is increased by €45 for each additional child.

The total household income includes a person's main social protection or Health Service Executive payment and any other income they may have including wages (before tax, but excluding employee PRSI and a standard travel allowance of up to €20 per week), maintenance, savings and investments.

Savings and investments (including property, but not the family home) are assessed as follows:

Capital	Weekly means assessed
First €5,000	not taken into account
Next €10,000	€1 per €1,000
Next €25,000	€2 per €1,000
Balance	€4 per €1,000

Any income a family gets from Child Benefit, [Rent Supplement](#) or [Mortgage Interest Supplement](#), [Working Family Payment](#), [Guardian's Payments](#), [Blind Welfare Allowance](#), [Rehabilitation Training Allowance](#), rehabilitative employment (up to €120 per week), [Domiciliary Care Allowance](#), [Mobility Allowance](#) is not assessed.

Full information on the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is available at www.gov.ie/bscfa.