

JP MCMANUS ANNOUNCES A FURTHER €32 MILLION INVESTMENT IN THIRD LEVEL EDUCATION



JP McManus today, Friday 5th May, announced a further €32 million investment in Third Level Education Scholarships for eligible students throughout Ireland, North and South. He was joined by the Minister for Education & Skills, Richard Bruton T.D. and former All Ireland Scholarship recipients to make the announcement in Adare, Co Limerick.

2017 marks the tenth anniversary of the All Ireland Scholarships Programme, which was established in 2008 to provide 125 Third Level Education Scholarships annually throughout the 32 counties of Ireland. The initiative is the first of its kind and over the past ten years, 1,246 students will have benefitted since its inception. The All Ireland Scholarships are administered by the Department of Education & Skills and the Department for the Economy with support from the Department of Education in Northern Ireland.

JP McManus originally contributed €32 million in 2008 to the All Ireland Scholarships. The additional investment announced today will extend the scheme for a further 10 years, benefiting in total over 2,400 students. Ultimately, he will have contributed €66.5 million to Third Level Education, the largest amount by an individual in the state; consisting of €64 million to the All Ireland Scholarships and €2.5 million to the CBS Sexton Street Scholarships.

The scholarships are set at €6,750 per annum in Ireland and stg£5,500 in Northern Ireland and will continue for the duration of the undergraduate programmes chosen by the scholarship winners. They are awarded to top performing Leaving Certificate students attending non-fee paying schools and who are exempted from paying the Leaving Cert Examination Fee and in NI who attend grant aided post primary schools or Further Education Colleges and are in receipt of the Educational Maintenance Allowance.

In announcing the continuation of the Programme for a further ten years JP Mc Manus said: "Barriers to participation in higher education for students can be complex and varied. Such barriers rob high achieving Leaving Certificate students the opportunity to access third level education. I hope that the decision of my wife Noreen and our family to fund a further ten year extension of the "All Ireland Scholarships" programme will help many students over the coming ten years to overcome those obstacles and build a better Ireland throughout the entire island."

He added; "We greatly appreciate the support we receive from the Department of Education & Skills and Department of Education in Northern Ireland, both of which, invest considerable time and effort into administering these awards."

Minister for Education & Skills, Richard Bruton T.D. said; (Quote to come from DES Press Office)

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May 8, 2017