Higher Education Grants Schemes

Verification of Income Details for SUSI Grant Applications

Part 37-00-13

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The information in this document is provided as a guide only and is not professional advice, including legal advice. It should not be assumed that the guidance is comprehensive or that it provides a definitive answer in every case.

1. Introduction

This manual explains the circumstances in which verification of income details may be requested for student grant applications by Student Union Support Ireland (SUSI), and how the documentation can be supplied. See also Tax and Duty Manual <u>Part 37-00-11</u>.

2. Student Grant Applications

Since 2013, Revenue has provided income details to SUSI to assist in the processing of student grant applications. This data sharing is provided under relevant legislation and is fully covered by Data Exchange Agreements.

The majority of student grant applicants are not required to submit income related documentation (e.g. End of Year Statement, Acknowledgement of Self-Assessment*, etc.) as part of the SUSI application process. The data exchange reduces the number of contacts to Revenue from customers seeking such documentation. Therefore, there is no need for staff to issue income verification documentation, and customers that request it can be advised of the above arrangements.

3. Request for Further Clarification

In some exceptional circumstances, SUSI may request further clarification of income from applicants, such as Revenue documentation (e.g. End of Year Statement, Acknowledgement of Self-Assessment*, etc.). In these circumstances, where callers satisfy you that SUSI has specifically requested such documentation, the documentation should be supplied to the customer. Wherever possible the customer should be encouraged to use Revenue's online services.

Business taxpayers should use ROS when making their return and self-assessment; and PAYE taxpayers should request the End of Year Statement in myAccount (see PAYE Services: Review your tax).

Caseworkers may continue to be asked for additional documentation (in the form of certificates or letters, etc.) other than that being supplied in the normal way. Since under self-assessment rules, income returned is accepted without a determination being made, Revenue officials are **not in a position to certify** a person's income for any external purpose and should not do so.

*Caseworkers should be aware that, depending on the circumstances of the case, Revenue may issue an acknowledgement of a customer's Self-Assessment, a Notice of Self-Assessment raised by Revenue on the customer's behalf or a Revenue assessment. See also Tax and Duty Manual <u>Part</u> <u>37-00-11</u>.