

A €500,000 fund for graduate startups

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Enterprise Ireland's competitive start fund (CSF) for recent graduates will open for [applications](#) on Tuesday 10th April 2018.

The €500,000 fund will provide up to €50,000 in equity funding for up to ten successful applicants. The fund closes to applications at 3 pm on Tuesday, 24th April 2018.

The graduate entrepreneurship fund is to encourage entrepreneurship among graduates who run startups that can succeed in global markets.

Applications from final year students and graduates with a third-level qualification within the last three years are invited to apply.

Crucial funding

"We have a pool of talented and ambitious entrepreneurs in this country, who are still in university or recently graduated and are making valuable contributions to the economy through their startups. For these entrepreneurs, supports like Enterprise Ireland's competitive start fund are vital. Together with crucial funding, the initiative provides valuable business support and networking opportunities to innovative entrepreneurs and companies at the start of their journey, and provides a platform from which they can progress their business," says Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys TD.

"Graduate entrepreneurs can sometimes be overlooked; however, we understand the value of their ideas and their businesses to the startup ecosystem," says Sarita Johnston, department manager, HPSU Start, Enterprise Ireland.

As well as written online applications, startups will be asked to prepare an online video pitch.

Full details of, and the application for, this graduate competitive start fund can be found [here](#).

Help is at hand

In partnership with Enterprise Ireland, Dublin BIC will host a free-to-attend CSF application support day on 17th April. Book your place [here](#).

The best colleges for student entrepreneurs.