

Title of Scheme

Free Internet for Students' Voucher Scheme

General Information on the Scheme

The Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation will once again be assisting stipend-eligible students who opt to continue their studies immediately after finishing Year 11, thus completing their compulsory secondary education, by giving them free internet access for a whole year.

Along with other initiatives, this measure is being adopted to help and encourage more young people to continue their studies after their compulsory education.

Eligible students who filled the form communicated to them by 31st October 2023 shall receive a Free Internet Voucher amounting to €300 that can be redeemed at the Internet Service provider already chosen by the student to purchase 12 months' worth of internet.

The Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation has renewed the agreement with all three internet service providers so that they are all part of this initiative and offer the best possible internet on the go package to students, however students can opt for any internet scheme that the service provider offers.

Frequently Asked Questions

- a. What is this scheme?

This Government scheme provides 12 months' free internet access to students that are stipend eligible and who have continued their studies immediately after finishing Year 11, thus after completing their compulsory secondary Education in 2022.

- b. How will I receive the Free Internet Voucher?

The Free Internet Voucher will be sent by electronic mail.

- c. When will the Free Internet Vouchers be sent?

The Free internet Vouchers will be sent to the eligible students as of November 2023.

- d. What is the value of the Free Internet Voucher?

The value of the Free Internet Voucher is €300.

- e. Can the Free Internet Voucher be redeemed for cash?

No, the Free Internet Voucher cannot be redeemed for cash but can be redeemed for internet services at the service providers indicated in the submitted form.

- f. From where can I redeem the Free Internet Vouchers?

The Free Internet Vouchers can be redeemed at any shop of the internet service provider indicated in the form you filled in October 2023.

- g. What do I need to present to redeem the Free Internet Voucher?

Both the electronic Free Internet Voucher and the Identification Card (ID Card) need to be presented when redeeming the Free Internet Voucher.

- h. What can be bought with the Free Internet Voucher?

The Free Internet Voucher can be redeemed for an internet package at any outlet of internet service provider that you already choose for 12 months of internet service.

- i. Can I buy an internet service that is longer than 12 months?

It is possible to buy service for a longer period than 12 months however the Free Internet Voucher is redeemable against one internet service and covers the cost for 12 months of service up to a maximum of €300.

Should the contract or commitment entered into with the service provider be terminated before the expiry of the twelve (12) months period, any remaining balance from the Free Internet Voucher will be lost.

- j. What if the internet service I choose costs more than €300?

If the internet service costs more than €300 then the Free Internet Voucher can be redeemed for €300 and the student tops up the difference in cost.

- k. What if the internet service I choose costs less than €300?

If the internet service the student chooses costs less than €300, then the Free Internet Voucher can be redeemed for the actual sale amount.

- l. Can I redeem the Free Internet Voucher for more than one internet service?

The Free Internet Voucher can only be redeemed for one internet service and the remaining funds are not transferable to another service.

- m. What is the validity period of the Free Internet Vouchers?

The Free Internet Vouchers shall be redeemed up till Wednesday, 31st January 2024.

- n. I have not redeemed the Free internet Voucher within the validity period, what can I do?

Unfortunately, the Free Internet Vouchers cannot be redeemed outside the validity period.

- o. Who is eligible to receive the Free Internet Vouchers?

Full-time students who are stipend-eligible and that have continued their studies immediately after finishing Year 11, thus completing their compulsory secondary Education by April 2022, shall be receiving the Free Internet Vouchers.

- p. I am a stipend-eligible student but did not receive the Free Internet Voucher.

The eligibility criteria to receive the Free Internet Voucher is not only to be stipend-eligible but also to have continued your studies immediately after finishing Year 11 of compulsory education (Year 11/ Form 5) during academic year 2022 – 2023.

Thus, all students that were in their last year of compulsory education (Year 11/Form 5), during scholastic year 2021 - 2022 and who continued their studies in Post-Secondary or Vocational institutions during last academic year (2022 - 2023), and who are also stipend eligible, are to receive the Free Internet voucher.

q. I met all the eligibility criteria but did not receive the Free Internet Voucher, what shall I do?

If you meet all eligibility criteria for this scheme:

- Have completed compulsory education during scholastic year 2021 - 2022.
- Have completed your first year of studies in a post-secondary institution during academic year 2022 - 2023.
- Are stipend eligible, satisfy the criteria above mentioned and you still have not received the Free Internet Voucher please contact us on line 153 or internetvouchers.meyr@gov.mt