

CFA@IADT Scholarships 2025 – 2026:

1. What is a CFA Scholarship?

A CFA scholarship is a fee waiver that encourages the participation of learners from sections of society that are significantly under-represented in higher education. IADT offers one free place on the following postgraduate certificate courses on offer in 2025/2026:

- Production Management (TV & Non-fiction) – DL142
- Spatial Data Visualisation

On completion of your course, you will be required to write a 300-word essay/personal statement that outlines your course of study and the scholarship's impact.

2. What is the criteria?

To be deemed eligible for a CFA Scholarship at IADT, you must meet indicator 1, any 1 other indicator, and residency criteria:

Indicator 1 (Essential): You have a household income of less than €27,400
(If you are under 23 years old, it will be the income of the household/parents or guardians)

Other indicators:

- You are from a target group underrepresented in higher education – as defined in the National Access Plan (NAP)* see below.
- You are in receipt of a medical card/GP visit card.
- You are in receipt of a means tested payment from the Department of Social Protection.

NAP Target Groups:

- Learners who are lone parents or teen parents
- Learners who are migrants or refugees or who have experience of the international protection process, or learners from ethnic minorities
- Learners who have experience of the care system
- Learners who are survivors of domestic violence
- Learners who are carers
- Learners who have experienced homelessness
- Learners who have experience of the criminal justice system
- Learners with disabilities including intellectual disabilities

Residency criteria:

- You are an Irish citizen or an EU/EEA, UK or Swiss national living full-time in Ireland, or have specific leave to remain in the State. If you have EU nationality or official refugee status, then you may also apply.
- You have been a resident in Ireland, an EU/EEA member state, the UK, or Switzerland for 3 of the last 5 years.

If there is competition for a scholarship, an IADT committee will review the applications and base the outcome on proof of eligibility.

3. How do I apply?

Before applying for a CFA Scholarship, you must have an offer for a course place from the IADT Admissions Office that you have accepted.

Please check individual course webpages on the IADT or CFA websites for a link to the application form.

List of documents that you must submit in your Scholarship Application:

1. Proof of Income for the year 2025 – only Revenue documents are accepted (e.g., Statement of Liability or Self-Declaration Letter)

Applications will not be processed if these documents are not submitted.

2. If you are in receipt of a payment from the Department of Social Protection, please submit correspondence from the Department confirming the payment.

3. Personal Statement:

Your personal statement is an opportunity for you to provide further information that you believe will help your application (500 words max).

Please detail any personal/financial circumstances that would be considered relevant for a financial scholarship.

Aim to include some information on the following:

- A brief description of the barriers/difficulties you may have encountered in the past with regard to higher education (e.g., did you engage with the Support Services of the university/institute?, did you access undergraduate studies through the HEAR/DARE route?, were you eligible for a SUSI grant?, etc.).
- Any additional support and/or assistance that you think you may need during your time at CFA / IADT.

Personal statements on why you are applying to a particular course are not relevant.

4. What is the Application deadline?

Application deadline: 15th January 2026.

5. Contact IADT:

For any queries on the CFA Scholarships, please contact Elena Somoza, IADT Creative Futures Academy Coordinator at IADT, at elena.somoza@iadt.ie