Financial Update & School Budget 2026/27 Webinar

MARCH 2026

FSSU Financial Support Services Unit ©

Webinar

Technical Support: info@fssu.ie

Recording

Email

Materials & Slides

Website:

www.fssu.ie

Support

(01) 269 0677

Q&A

Agenda

1. Financial Update
2. Budget 2026/27 preparation
3. Q&A

Financial Update

1. Government Budget Update
2. Auto Enrolment
3. New Grants 2025/26

Government Budget 2026

Payroll Taxes

- **USC** 2% band increased from €27,382 to €28,700
- **National Minimum Wage increase** to **€14.15** from **01.01.26**
- **Employer Class A PRSI rate** will increase by 0.15% to **9.15%** and **11.40%** from 01.10.26

Government Budget 2026: Other

Capitation Grant

€18 increase from Sept 2026

€358 per pupil

Solar Panels

VAT rate to remain at 0%

State Exams

Fee will apply for 2026

€116 Leaving Cert/LCA

€109 Junior Cycle

Exemption for full medical card holder or covered on parent/guardian medical card

FSSU Guideline 19-2025/2026

Auto-Enrolment (AE)

‘My Future Fund’

- **What is auto-enrolment?**
  - New retirement saving scheme for employees
  - Commenced 01 January 2026
  - Help save for retirement

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Auto-Enrolment (AE)

'My Future Fund'

How it works?

- Administered by National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority (NAERSA)
  - Determine who is eligible for AE
  - Collect and invest the pension contributions
  - Operate a portal for employees and employers

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Auto-Enrolment (AE)

'My Future Fund'

Eligible Employees

Are aged between 23 and 60

Earn €20,000 or more per year across all employments, or more than €5,000 over a 13-week period

Do not pay into a pension through payroll for that employment

Auto-Enrolment (AE) 'My Future Fund'

"The conditions for enrolment for any pay reference period are that on the **last day of the pay reference period** the person is aged at least 23 years and under 60 years"

Are aged between 23 and 60

Employee turning 23

- Weekly payroll: pay period Monday 4 May to Sunday 10 May
- The employee turns 23 on Saturday 9 May
- On Sunday 10 May (the last day of the pay period) the employee is 23
- Employee meets the age condition and therefore is auto enrolled

Auto-Enrolment (AE) ‘My Future Fund’

Earning’s Threshold
€20,000 or more

- Employees **total earnings from all jobs** are used to check if they reach the **€20,000 threshold**.
- The employee may still qualify even if **each job pays less than €20,000**, as long as the **combined income is €20,000 or more**.
- If the employee reach's this threshold, **Auto-Enrolment applies to any job where there is no existing pension scheme**.
- Each employer will **only contribute based on the salary they pay the employee**.

Auto-Enrolment (AE)

Example
Cleaner

'My Future Fund'

School A: Wages	€18,000
School B: Wages	€9,000
Combined Income > €20,000	Yes
School A	Contribute based on the salary they pay the employee of €18,000
School B	Contribution based on salary they pay the employee of €9,000

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Auto-Enrolment (AE)

'My Future Fund'

"Pension through payroll for that employment"

For every job an employee is paid for, a pension should be attached to that payroll

E.G teacher paid by Department and is part of the pension scheme

Same teacher is paid by the school – payment currently not pensionable

Auto-Enrolment (AE) 'My Future Fund'

Example
Teacher

DEY: Wages	€38,637 – Public Service Pension Scheme
School C : Wages	€1,200 payable at Easter
Combined Income > €20,000	Yes
School C	Enrolled & contribution based on payment the school pay directly to the employee of €1,200

Auto-Enrolment (AE) 'My Future Fund'

Opt-out

After 6 months

2 month window to opt out

In the previous example the teacher that has been auto enrolled at Easter can opt out Nov & Dec

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Auto-Enrolment (AE) ‘My Future Fund’

myfuturefund.ie

MyFuture Fund

Home | Participants | Employer | Agent

English / Gaeilge | Login to portal

About MyFutureFund

MyFutureFund is a new State-sponsored retirement saving scheme. It will be administered by the National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority (NAERSA), with the aim of increasing pension coverage in Ireland.

Employees will be automatically enrolled into the scheme if they earn more than €20,000 per year, are aged between 23 and 60, and are not paying into a pension through payroll.

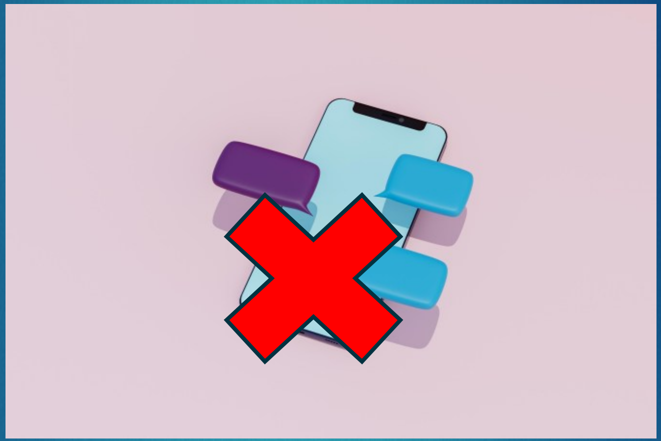
Some employees may choose to opt-in to MyFutureFund if they wish. This includes people who earn less than €20,000 a year, or who are aged 18-22 or 60-66.

Read on to find out how ‘auto-enrolment’ works, and who is eligible for MyFutureFund.

Department of Education & Youth New Grants 2025/26

- Funding Scheme for secure mobile phone storage solutions
- Physical Activity in Teaching and Learning Grant
- Drama, Film and Theatre Studies Grant
- Climate Action and Sustainable Development Grant
- Science Implementation Grant

Support for smartphone free areas



Circular 0046/2025

Supports to introduce no phone policy

For purchase of storage solutions

phonestorage funding@edu cation.gov.ie

Grant receipt Code 3920 and expense 1421

Physical Activity in Teaching and Learning Grant

- ➢ Pilot programme introduced in April 2025
- ➢ Support integration of physical activity into teaching and learning

- ➢ Grant used for non-capital purpose
  - Grant received – 3290 Other non-capital DE grant income
  - Expenditure – 4914 Other non-capital DE grant expense

- ➢ Grant used for capital purpose
  - Grant received –3920 DE Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment Grant
  - Expenditure – 1421 Capital: Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment Additions

Drama, Film and Theatre Studies Grant

- Phase One schools in the free education scheme
- €50 per student to support engagement with the new subject in the 2025/26 school year
- Grant received – 3170 Other subject grant
- Expenditure – 4490 Other subject expense

Circular 0064/2025

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Climate Action and Sustainable Development Grant

- Phase one schools in the free education scheme
- Grant provided to support engagement with the new subject in the 2025/26 school year
- Grant used for non-capital purpose
  - Grant received – 3245 Science Subjects Grant
  - Expenditure – 4390 Science Subjects Expenses
  - Other Ringfenced Grants Unspent Grant 2171

Circular 0063/2025

Science Implementation grant

- Aimed at supporting the roll out of revised leaving certificate science subjects in the 2025/26 school year

- Grant used for non-capital purpose
  - Grant received – 3245 Science Subject grant
  - Expenditure – 4390 Science Subject expense

- Grant used for capital purpose
  - Grant received –3920 DE Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment Grant
  - Expenditure – 1421 Capital: Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment Additions

Physics & Chemistry Grant now called Science Support Grant – Increased to €25 per pupil

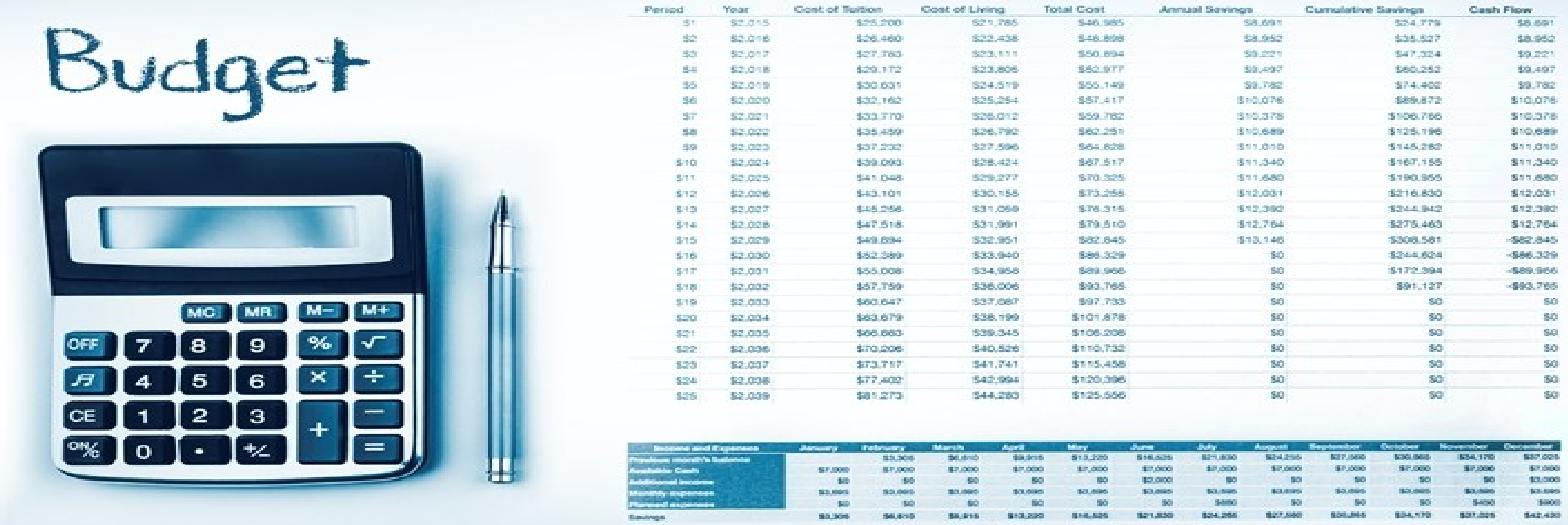
School Budget

School Budget

Objectives

- Meet statutory requirements
- Ensure expenditure does not exceed income
- Assist in effective decision making
- Help the school to achieve its education and administrative objectives
- Maximum use of financial resources
- Manage resources day-to-day

School Budget



Q&A

Thank you for attending our webinar

If you have any other questions, please call or email us:

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