

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY EDUCATION TRUST
PIET Undergraduate International Travel Award 2021/22

- The award facilitates travel to undertake a sandwich placement in the poultry industry abroad. Where the course studied does not have a sandwich placement element then the PIET trustees will consider an application to undertake an equivalent placement immediately upon graduating and before permanent employment is agreed.
- The scholarship is open to students who are resident in the island of Ireland for at least the last three years prior to application for the award.
- The scholarship will finance travel to any country or countries other than GB or Ireland.
- The placement will be in the poultry industry of the country visited normally for a minimum period of six months of paid employment where the student will gain knowledge and practical experience of poultry husbandry. The Trustees may approve a shorter period abroad where it is an integral part of a placement programme agreed with a UK company and where travel costs are not reimbursed by the company. The employment will be on a placement that satisfies the academic requirements of the course studied
- Where the scholar plans a placement in more than one country **and** plans to return to the UK or Ireland between placements, or on any other occasion, then the costs associated with only one placement and one return flight will form the basis for the award.
- **The terms of the award are 50% of one return economy airfare by the lowest cost route to the airport nearest to the location of the placement and returning at the end of the placement. Also included are 50% of costs associated with obtaining a work visa, insurance, vaccination costs and any other incidental *prior approved* costs directly associated with air travel and entry into the country. Excess baggage costs beyond one piece of hold luggage within the airline weight limit, administration costs, currency exchange costs, the costs of obtaining an international driving licence and other non-travel related costs associated with setting up the placement are excluded. Within country, travel costs other than transfer flights to and from the placement on the outward and return journey at the end of the placement will not be approved. Should the applicant wish to travel by an alternative route or at a time involving higher cost e.g. Christmas, the value of the scholarship will be based on a quotation as though he/she had travelled by the lowest cost direct route and travel time. The maximum amount to be paid is £1,000.**
- The student will be encouraged to source additional external finance to add educational value to travel e.g. by financing stopovers on the outward or return journeys, travel within the country visited or introductory language courses. Where

additional funding has been obtained, or is being applied for, then this must be declared at the time of application. The total cost on which the award is calculated may be reduced if the additional support obtained is shown not to add value. Where additional external finance is obtained to support elements of costs supported by this award then the value of the PIET award may be adjusted at the discretion of the trustees.

- The scholarship will be payable against receipted prior approved costs and payment may be phased when the placement is with two or more employers or at two or more locations.
- The student will co-operate with the University Press office in preparing at least one press item or a report on his/her experiences from which a press item can be prepared, and provide associated photographs. The press item, which will be in lieu of a formal report to the PIET Trustees, will highlight and promote PIET as the source of the scholarship. The University will prepare and issue the final press release. A copy of all material issued will be provided to the PIET trustees by the press office.
- The University will distribute all press material to the national, regional and local press in Ireland, to technical press and to social other media with a copy to the Poultry Industry Education Trust with a list detailing press circulated.
- The student must be prepared to deliver a PowerPoint presentation to the PIET trustees and fellow students upon return.
- If the student fails to take up a placement after payment of all or part of the award, then the amount paid will be repayable in full. If he/she fails to complete the placement as agreed, for reasons other than ill health, an appropriate proportion of the award is repayable.
- PIET and the University will use their international contacts to generate placement opportunities. The University and the students are encouraged to source an overseas placement independently of PIET.
- The University will promote international placements in the poultry industry and the associated award to pre-sandwich students, including Foundation Degree students in their first year. Applicants must demonstrate a firm offer of employment. The University will determine the application and selection procedure and the winner.
- PIET will have the opportunity to have a representative on any interview panel.

- An applicant will have preference when he/she plans placement in a country in which they are immersed in a foreign language for at least 6 months or when the chosen country is one in which a student from the University has not previously undertaken a placement.
- The successful student would be entirely responsible for all aspects of the organisation of employment, travel, insurance, work visas and other travel documents, vaccination, international driving licence, proof of means of support and other requirements. The University will overview arrangements provide advice, guidance and other support and monitor the progress of arrangements, paying particular attention to the adequacy of insurance arranged.
- PIET will review annually the terms of the award and its administration. The PIET Trustees have absolute discretion and their decision is final.