



Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement (SATLE) Impact Award

Call for Applications – 2025

Call for Applications

Staff in eligible Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) who have been in receipt of Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement (SATLE) funding are invited to submit applications for the SATLE Impact Award, in line with the requirements set out in this document. A list of eligible institutions is included in Appendix 1.

This Call is managed by the Higher Education Authority (HEA). Following a competitive process based on this call for applications, the HEA will make up to four awards with a value of €25,000 each. Conditions of funding are included in Appendix 2.

Call Timeline

Call launch	2 nd July 2025
Expression of Interest (Eoi) Deadline	12 th September 2025, 5pm
Full application Deadline	31 st October 2025, 5pm
Announcement of outcome	November/December 2025
Reporting on funding	December 2026

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible HEIs	Eligible higher education institutions under this Initiative are those listed in Appendix 1. Staff members in these institutions may submit applications, as individuals or as part of a team.
Eligible projects/initiatives	Applications must be based on completed projects or initiatives previously funded through the SATLE fund.

Background

SATLE – the Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement Funding in Higher Education – is administered by the HEA. It was launched in June 2022, and since then four grant allocations have been made to the higher education sector: SATLE 2022 funding of €7.7m (a share of €5m base funding and additional one-off 2022 allocation of €2.7m), SATLE 2023 funding of €6.1m (a share of €5m base funding

and an additional one-off 2023 allocation of €1.1m), SATLE 2024 funding of €5m and SATLE 2025 funding of €5m.

SATLE funding is designed to drive teaching and learning innovation across the higher education sector, with a focus on:

- The *Second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development to 2030* (DFHERIS/DoE) aligned with the pillars of the UNESCO ESD Framework to 2030
- Digital transformation in the tertiary sector
- Best practice in upholding and cultivating academic integrity

Prior to 2022, investments in the sector were made through the SATLE fund 2019 (€5.57m) and SATLE fund 2020 (€5m).

The SATLE Impact Award recognises impact and excellence in relation to projects addressing the fund's current foci: digital transformation, academic integrity, and education for sustainable development. The award aims to highlight institutional and sectoral efforts to promote, learn from, and extend the reach of excellent practices in teaching and learning across Irish higher education. Each awardee will receive €25,000 in funding to support a project to further develop their work or to focus on a new avenue of research. A maximum of four awards totalling €100,000 will be supported as part of this call.

Award Categories

Awards may be made to individuals or teams. Awards will be made for impact in the following areas:

- 1. Education for Sustainable Development (€25,000)**
- 2. Digital Transformation (€25,000)**
- 3. Academic Integrity (€25,000)**
- 4. Interdisciplinary collaboration (under any of the 3 themes) (€25,000)**

Cross-institutional applications are welcome. In such instances, a lead applicant must be nominated for administrative and financial purposes.

Application Procedure

In submitting an application, applicants and HEIs will be deemed to have accepted the conditions outlined in this and any subsequent clarifications from the HEA regarding this initiative and to have agreed to be bound by them. Furthermore, applications must be endorsed by the institutional head of teaching and learning (Registrar or Vice President Teaching and Learning or equivalent).

Expression of Interest (Eoi) – Eoi should be submitted [online](#) by **5pm, 12th September 2025**. Only applications that meet the eligibility criteria highlighted above will be invited to submit a full application. Invitations to submit the full application will be issued by 19th September 2025.

Full application – Full applications should be submitted [online](#) by **5pm, 31st October 2025**.

Templates for both the Expression of Interest and the full application can be downloaded from the [SATLE Impact Award page](#)

All queries related to the SATLE Impact Award should be sent to SATLE@hea.ie

Assessment Panel

The HEA will establish an Assessment Panel to evaluate the applications received. The Assessment Panel will comprise members with expertise in the area of teaching and learning in higher education. In establishing the Assessment Panel, due regard shall be given to gender balance.

The Assessment Panel will consider the extent to which the applications meet the criteria of the 2025 Call as outlined in this document and make a recommendation to the HEA.

All applications will be assessed solely on the basis of the material provided to the HEA at the time of submission.

The HEA’s decision on the award of funding under this Call is final.

Assessment Criteria

In accordance with the objective of this initiative as outlined above, the following criteria will be used to assess applications. A minimum threshold will apply in respect of each of the assessment criteria. Only applications which score 70 marks or over (70%) will be considered eligible to receive an award. Meeting the minimum threshold is no guarantee of funding.

Assessment Criterion	Score	Threshold
Strategic alignment with national policies and relevant SATLE priority area (Educational for Sustainable Development or Digital Transformation or Academic Integrity)	10 marks	5 marks
Innovation in specified SATLE priority area of funding (Educational for Sustainable Development or Digital Transformation or Academic Integrity)	20 marks	10 marks
Impact (to include benefit to HEI Stakeholders locally and nationally)	40 marks	20 marks
Overall quality of the application	30 marks	15 marks

Reporting and monitoring

Successful applicants must subsequently submit a project proposal for use of funding awarded as part of this initiative. The project must align with SATLE priority themes and be approved by the HEA before

release of funding. Awardees will be required to report to the HEA on progress and the outcomes of funded projects within 12 months of the awarding of funding.

Appendix 1

Eligible HEIs

Atlantic Technological University

Dublin City University

Dundalk Institute of Technology

Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology

Mary Immaculate College

Maynooth University

Munster Technological University

National College of Art and Design

South East Technological University

Trinity College Dublin

Technological University Dublin

Technological University Shannon: Midlands Midwest

University College Cork

University College Dublin

University of Limerick

University of Galway

Appendix 2

The following funding conditions shall apply to all funding received by a HEI listed in Appendix 1, or an individual associated or affiliated with such a HEI, from the Higher Education Authority (the “**HEA**”) under the terms of the Higher Education Authority Act, 2022 (“**HEAA 2022**”). The HEI listed in Appendix 1, or an individual associated or affiliated with such a HEI, receiving funding under this initiative shall:

1. Provide financial and other information to the Chief Executive Officer of the HEA (the “**HEA CEO**”).
2. Use the funding in a cost effective and beneficial manner.
3. Operate according to standards of good governance.

4. Comply with any guidelines, codes and policies which may be issued by the HEA under section 143 of the HEAA 2022.
5. Comply on a continuous basis with the funding framework.
6. Comply with financial requirements.
7. Comply with the HEAA 2022 and any regulations made thereunder.
8. Comply with such other conditions as may be determined, with the approval of the HEA Board, by HEA CEO.
9. Comply with the Oversight Agreement.
10. In the case of funds from the core grant, ensure that funds from the core grant are used for teaching, research and supporting activities only.