



Circular: 0048/2015

To: Principals of Secondary, Community and Comprehensive and ETB Schools and the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards.

Revised guidelines on access to PLC for certain participants in the asylum process for the 2015/2016 academic year.

Access to PLC on the same basis as EU applicants is being extended on a pilot basis for the 2015/2016 academic year to the following three particular groups i.e. asylum applicants, subsidiary protection applicants and those at the leave to remain stage (but in respect of whom a deportation order has not issued);

- Applicants in these three groups must
 - meet the definition of protection applicant or person at leave to remain stage as defined in the Pilot Support Scheme 2015;
 - have a combined period of 5 years or more in the protection process or leave to remain stage on the 31st of August 2015;
 - have attended five academic years in the Irish school system; and
 - have obtained the Leaving Certificate in the State.
- Applicants may be eligible for the special pilot support scheme, details of which are on the Department's website (<http://www.education.ie/en/The-Department/Announcements/Pilot-Support-Scheme-2015-Now-accepting-applications.html>)

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