

EDUCATE — ENABLE — EMPOWER

COMPLIANCE

LEVEL **9**

MSc in

# Compliance

A programme of IOB  
for members of ACOI

2021—2022



# Who we are

## IOB

IOB is a professional community of 33,600 members who work in banking, investment funds and international financial services on the island of Ireland. Professional development of our members through education is at the heart of what we do. IOB provides university level programmes to enable our members achieve and sustain their professional qualifications and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) – essential in meeting customer and regulatory expectations. More than 9,800 individuals studied with us last year and over 23,800 members are registered for CPD schemes administered by IOB.

## Excellence in education – a recognised college of UCD

As a recognised college of UCD and the standout banking industry educator, we offer qualifications of the highest standard. We currently offer more than 40 programmes ranging from Professional Certificates (level 7) on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) to Masters Degrees (level 9). We design our programmes to be practical and relevant, but grounded in academic rigour.

## The Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland (ACOI)

The Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland (ACOI) is the professional body for compliance professionals. With over 3,000 members, it is the premier provider of education and professional development in compliance, providing an authoritative voice on matters relating to regulatory compliance and business ethics in industry in Ireland.

The purpose of the ACOI is to equip Compliance Professionals and those who deal with compliance and regulation with the necessary competence and skills to undertake their roles in a professional manner. The ACOI provides our members with accredited graduate and post graduate education in the various fields of compliance and business ethics, through their academic education partners. Participants who complete the MSc in Compliance are invited to apply for the designation ‘Fellow of the Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland’ and use the designatory letters FCOI. FCOI is the highest-level designation the ACOI offers its members and is considered the benchmark designation to demonstrate competence to work in Compliance in financial services.

ACOI has an extensive Continued Professional Development (CPD) offering – indeed members holding ACOI designations must complete annual CPD to maintain that designation. ACOI offers members a wide range of benefits that enhance their professional knowledge and provides opportunities to share their experiences with fellow members.

## IFS Skillnet

The IFS Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and member companies. The IFS Skillnet programme is dedicated to providing training and networking opportunities for the international financial services sector.

The Network aims to support the sector in maintaining Ireland’s position as a top international financial services centre through investment in the specialist skills and expertise of its workforce. The Network is led by a steering group which includes member companies and the leading financial services industry associations.

## Network activity

The IFS Skillnet was established in mid-2009. Since then we have delivered over 2,000 courses to 15,000 plus participants from 430 companies operating in the international financial services sector in Ireland. Courses available include, Digital Financial Services, Regulatory Reporting, International Funds, Business Analysis, Project Management and a wide range of management and leadership skills.

## Why get involved

- Avail of a comprehensive range of specialist courses designed for the international financial services sector
- Opportunity to significantly reduce training costs through the availability of grant funding
- Provides the opportunity to work with education and training providers to update and amend course content in line with market developments
- Ensure your employees acquire the latest skills to maintain your organisation’s competitiveness
- Opportunity to network and collaborate with other member companies.

## How to get involved:

- Sign up for free at:  
[www.ifsskillnet.ie](http://www.ifsskillnet.ie)
- Email:  
[info@ifsskillnet.ie](mailto:info@ifsskillnet.ie)
- Tweet us:  
[@ifsskillnet](https://twitter.com/ifsskillnet)
- LinkedIn:  
[@ifsskillnet](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ifsskillnet)

# A new era

In 2021 IOB launched 3 innovations that set a new benchmark.

## IOB Learn

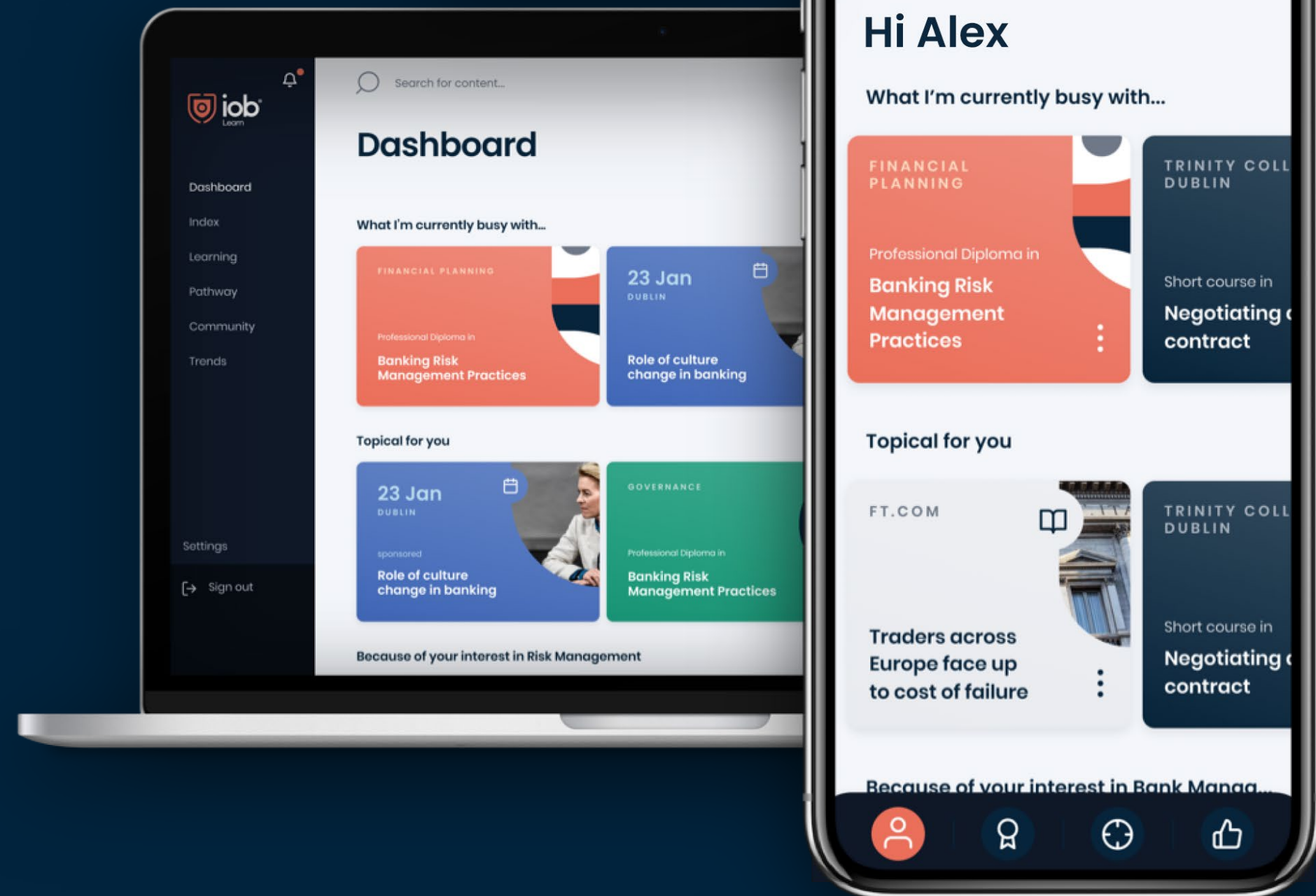
Our new learning experience platform, IOB Learn, is a digitally enabled, intuitive, personalised, lifelong learning and career ecosystem. For everyone working in financial services, including investment funds and international financial services.

## The IOB App

From discovering curated content, following your learning pathways, to logging CPD on-the-go, IOB App opens a new world of possibility in staying connected and up to date with IOB.

## EdQ by IOB

A new dynamic education credentialling ecosystem that tracks and certifies qualifications, continuing professional development and lifelong learning, supporting career profile recognition across a wide reach of financial services.



# Welcome

The MSc in Compliance programme is offered to ACOI members by IOB, ACOI’s academic education partner. IOB is a recognised college of University College Dublin and those who successfully complete the programme will be awarded their Master’s degree by the university. They will also be invited to become fellows of ACOI and be entitled to use its highest designation, FCOI.

The MSc has been in place for a number of years and is proving its worth among graduates in equipping them to take senior leadership roles in the Compliance profession in Ireland. This year, the programme will be delivered online with some face to face optional interaction, when we return to normal, if appropriate. This is also a great opportunity for anyone taking up the programme who lives outside Dublin.

Participating in this programme will provide opportunities to work alongside like-minded professionals and to broaden your network of industry peers and will equip you with the body of knowledge required for decision making in a modern compliance function. Your qualification and knowledge will be sustained and future-proofed through Continued Professional Development ensuring it stays relevant and valuable.

Once you have completed this programme you will have the skills to excel in a leadership role in compliance and regulatory risk management, and you will have a valuable network to call upon as you progress in your compliance career.

We wish you every success with your studies and for the future.

**Kathy Jacobs**  
President, Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland



### Who is this programme for?

The MSc in Compliance is aimed at those who work in a control function within an organisation and will be of particular interest to Compliance managers and senior managers together with those aspiring to these roles.

The programme is designed to give Compliance and other control professionals the knowledge and skills they need to implement effective compliance structures and enhance the overall internal governance structures of organisations. It will provide participants with the multi-disciplinary skills to participate more effectively in compliance management and to understand a practical application of compliance best practice.

### How you will benefit

On successful completion of the MSc in Compliance, graduates will be able to;

- Develop comprehensive knowledge and expertise across a broad curriculum in Compliance and regulatory risk;
- Understand the requirements and responsibilities of ensuring robust compliance within organisations, while maintaining the trust of customers and wider stakeholders;
- Expand their thinking on key business challenges and ethical dilemmas faced by management when striving to improve business performance in regulated environment and
- Blend theory and practice in complex and specific situations to improve business performance.

### Professional designation

Participants who complete the MSc in Compliance are entitled to apply for the designation ‘Fellow of the Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland’ and use the designatory letters FCOI. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting ACOI’s CPD requirements.

On successful completion of the module Financial/White-Collar Crime Prevention, you will be awarded the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention and are entitled to apply for the designation ‘Certified Financial Crime Prevention Practitioner’ and use the designatory letters CFCPP. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting ACOI’s CPD requirements.

On successful completion of the module Data Protection Policies and Procedures you will be awarded the Professional Certificate in Data Protection and are entitled to apply for the designation ‘Certified Data Protection Officer’ and use the designatory letters CDPO. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting ACOI’s CPD requirements.

# Curriculum

The programme comprises of eight modules as follows:

- 1. Ethics and Corporate Governance
- 2. Managing for Compliance
- 3. Financial / White-Collar Crime Prevention
- 4. Data Protection Policies and Procedures
- 5. International Financial Services Regulation
- 6. Designing an Internal Governance Framework
- 7. Research Methods and Methodology
- 8. Applied Project

1. **Ethics and Corporate Governance**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

This module looks at the corporate governance best practice principles and their application in both a financial services and a general organisational setting. It also aims to provide students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the ethical dimension of corporate governance and, in doing so, stresses the importance of corporate culture to the longevity of organisations. In considering the behaviours and decision-making processes of individuals, groups, and specifically those charged with governing organisations, the module offers approaches for dealing with common ethical dilemmas and ethical crises.

2. **Managing for Compliance**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

Compliance is a core function in financial services firms and is recognised by regulators as an essential part of the control infrastructure. Indeed the role of compliance and indeed the compliance manager/officer as a trusted adviser to the business has become a key differentiator for many firms. This module examines the development of compliance as an assurance function and evaluates its strategic role in an organisation in aligning with the business and delivering value. It also focuses on specific issues relevant to managing a compliance function to ensure it fulfils its assurance role within an organisation.

3. **Financial / White-Collar Crime Prevention**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

The module considers the offence of financial/white collar crime which is committed by or against an individual or corporation and results in a financial loss. The various forms this crime can take are examined and best practice techniques to manage and control such risks are discussed. The module will introduce a number of topics and suggested methodologies but also requires input from your professional experience to develop a best-practice approach in order to counteract, hinder and ultimately safeguard individuals and corporations from fraud in the financial system.

4. **Data Protection Policies and Procedures**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

Irish and EU data protection law changed when the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force in 2018. This imposed heavier compliance burdens on data controllers and grant subjects enhanced rights. Controllers will be held accountable and have to keep records, conduct impact assessments and certain organisations must appoint a Data Protection Officer. Supervision and enforcement will be enhanced. This module will provide students with the tools to understand and navigate an increasingly complex and challenging environment for the controllers and processors of personal data.

5. **International Financial Services Regulation**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

This module discusses the rationale for financial services regulation. It also provides a framework of the regulatory landscape from a local, European and global perspective. You will be able to critically analyse and evaluate the regulatory response in the wake of the global financial crisis. The topic of balance between prudential and customer driven regulation is investigated.

6. **Designing an Internal Governance Framework**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

The module seeks to establish a best practice approach in the design of internal governance frameworks for financial service providers. This applied module considers all aspects of the three lines of defence model and the board director’s interaction with this framework. This module will build on the Ethics and Corporate Governance module in exploring how good governance should be embedded in the organisation. These considerations are placed in the context of the organisation implementing strategy devised by the board of directors within the risk culture and risk appetite.

7. **Research Methods and Methodology**

(NFQ level 9, 10 ECTS)

The purpose of this module is to prepare students to be able to plan and execute an action based research project. It begins by developing students’ ability to synthesise a literature review. It then develops their ability to understand, critique and select an appropriate methodology, and generate data with the aim of evaluating findings from an academic and professional perspective.

8. **Applied Project**

(NFQ level 9, 20 ECTS)

The applied project provides an opportunity to integrate your learning from previous modules. It is a comprehensive project with a strong focus on practical application. By assimilating all the skills and knowledge you have acquired from the programme, the project’s aim is to enable you to critically evaluate an existing compliance framework. It will also enable you to design and make recommendations on how to develop an optimal compliance model and integrate it effectively within the internal governance framework of the organisation.

Note: The Applied Project is double-weighted (20 ECTS rather than 10 ECTS) and accordingly, the workload is double that of a standard module.

“The MSc in Compliance provides a strong, structured, and supportive environment to develop a comprehensive knowledge across key topics in compliance and regulatory risk. Skilled lecturers and industry experts facilitate in-depth knowledge, enhance business judgement, and critical analysis. The knowledge and skills gained are directly applicable to working in the financial services industry”.

Angela Santry

AIB  
Regulatory, Operational and Conduct Risk Assurance  
Group Risk Assurance



# Further Information

### Award

The MSc in Compliance is accredited and awarded by UCD (at postgraduate level 9).

### Entry requirements

- Students admitted to the MSc in Compliance must have:
- Completed an undergraduate degree programme in a relevant area in a business, legal or cognate discipline with a minimum Honours 2.2 and at least 3 years’ relevant work experience.
  - or
  - Applicants who do not hold a primary degree but have relevant work experience at a middle or senior management level are eligible to apply and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland, or become a member, to register for this programme.

### Delivery

This programme is delivered online.

### Duration

24 months (part-time).

### Assessment

Assessment is a combination of project work, continuous assessment and written exams.

### Fees

The fees are €5,100 for the first academic year (€12,200 for the programme in total).

IFS Skillnet price is €3,600 for the first academic year (€8,550 for the programme in total)\*/\*\*

We encourage candidates to register for the full academic year, but if you choose to register on a per module basis, fees are broken down as follows:

Module	Fee	IFS Skillnet Price
Autumn Trimester Sep 2021 – Dec 2021		
Ethics and Corporate Governance	€1,100	€800*
Managing for Compliance	€1,100	€800*
Spring Trimester Feb 2022 – May 2022		
Financial / White Collar Crime Prevention	€1,450	€1,000**
Data Protection Policy and Procedures	€1,450	€1,000**
Autumn Trimester Sep 2022 – Dec 2022		
International Financial Services Regulation	€1,450	€1,000**
Designing an Internal Governance Framework	€1,450	€1,000**
Spring Trimester Feb 2023 – May 2023		
Research Methods and Methodology	€1,300	€950**
Applied Project	€2,900	€2,000**

Fees will be reviewed annually.

- \* 2021 modules are eligible for IFS Skillnet funding for a limited number of places on a first come first served basis.
- \*\* The availability of funding for modules in future trimesters will be confirmed in advance of their commencement.

Tax relief may be available to candidates who are paying fees in a personal capacity. Further information is available from [www.revenue.ie](http://www.revenue.ie)

### How to apply

For further information and to apply online, visit [iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc](http://iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc)

If demand from applicants exceeds the number of available places, a waiting list will apply.

### Programme commencement

The programme commences in September 2021

**Adam Burns**  
Programme Manager  
IOB  
E: [education@iob.ie](mailto:education@iob.ie)

**Membership Services**  
The Association of Compliance Officers in Ireland  
E: [info@acoi.ie](mailto:info@acoi.ie)

**Claire Madigan**  
IFS Skillnet  
E: [claire.madigan@ibec.ie](mailto:claire.madigan@ibec.ie)



# Key Dates 2021–2022

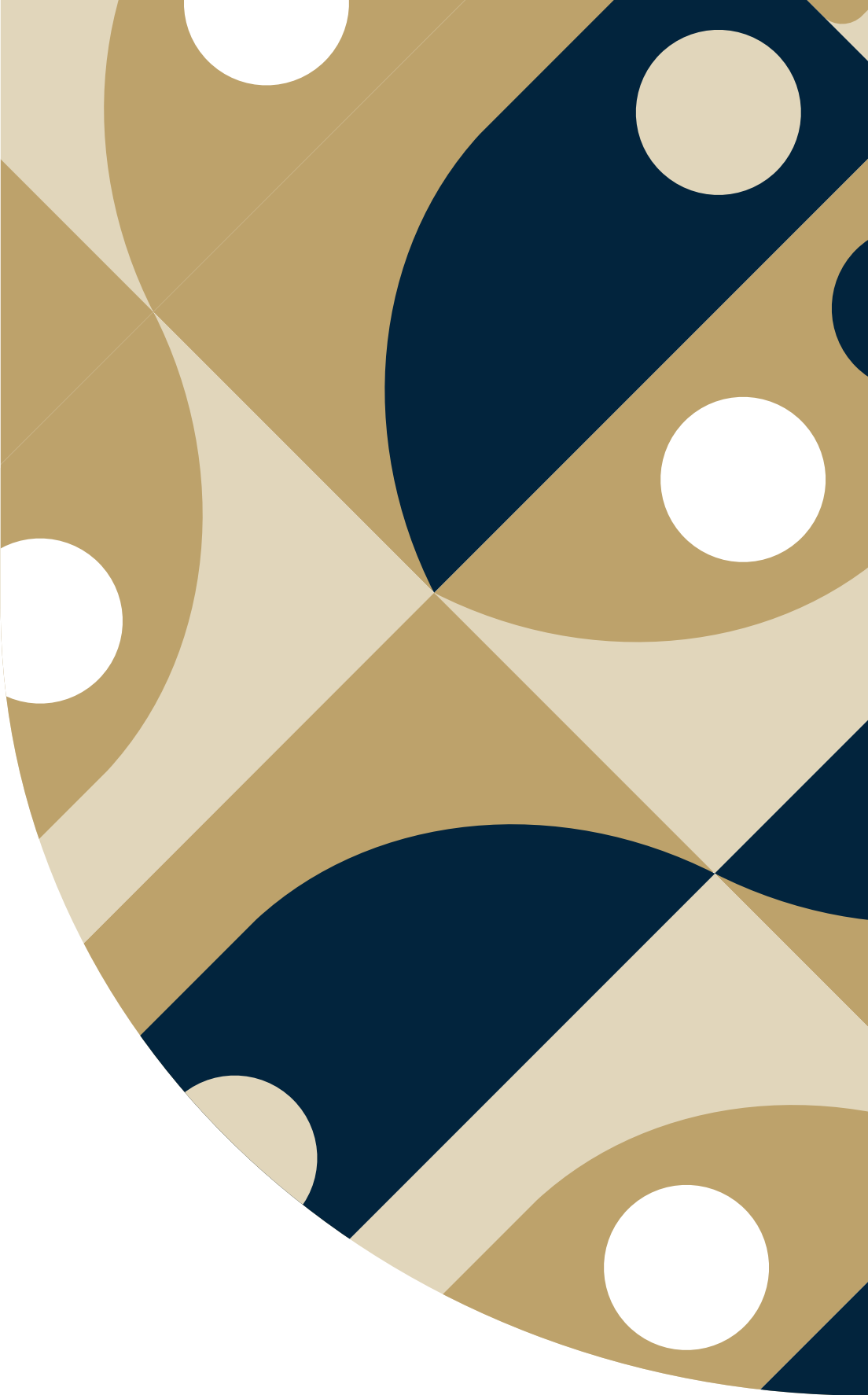
Autumn Trimester September 2021 – January 2022	Level 9 September Start†	Level 9 October Start†
Closing date for applications*	29/08/2021	13/09/2021
Closing date for module registrations	03/09/2021	01/10/2021
Trimester start date**	13/09/2021 (Year 1) 06/09/2021 (Year 2)	04/10/2021
Re-registration closing date	05/11/2021 for Dec exams 12/11/2021 for Jan exams	12/11/2021
Module withdrawal date	05/11/2021 for Dec exams 12/11/2021 for Jan exams	12/11/2021
Exam period	04/12/2021 – 12/12/2021 OR 03/01/2022 – 23/01/2022	03/01/2022 – 23/01/2022
Exam results release date	04/03/2022	04/03/2022

Spring Trimester January 2022 – May 2022	Level 9
Closing date for applications*	28/01/2022
Closing date for module registrations	04/02/2022
Trimester start date**	07/02/2022
Re-registration closing date	18/03/2022
Module withdrawal date	18/03/2022
Exam period	02/05/2022 – 21/05/2022
Exam results release date	01/07/2022

Summer Trimester June 2022 – September 2022	Level 9
Closing date for applications*	27/05/2022
Closing date for module registrations	03/06/2022
Trimester start date**	06/06/2022
Re-registration closing date	15/07/2022
Module withdrawal date	15/07/2022
Exam period	15/09/2022 – 25/09/2022
Exam results release date	28/10/2022

\* Places may be available after this date depending on availability  
\*\* Member Resources in IOB Learn

† Check individual programme pages on iob.ie for start dates  
Dates may change – check IOB Learn and [iob.ie](#) for up-to-date information



# IOB membership

Learn more about the value and benefits of becoming a member of IOB.



**Your standout educator**

IOB is a recognised college of UCD, which is Ireland’s largest university and ranked within the top 1% of higher education institutions in the world. A leading provider of applied education in financial services, we offer more than 40 university accredited qualifications, taught by academics and leading industry experts.

- Access to IOB’s full suite of accredited learning, taught by academics and leading industry experts.
- Access via IOB to Government Funding for education programmes, e.g. Springboard, IFS Skillnet.
- Graduation Ceremony for level 8 and 9 graduands.



**We get you qualified**

We offer 14 professional designations, including all the essential regulatory required designations to qualify you for roles in financial services. Free accreditation of your training for CPD hours on IOB CPD schemes.



**We keep you qualified**

Lifelong learning is essential to sustain a career and your professional designation(s). As Ireland’s largest provider of continuing professional development (CPD), we keep you qualified. Included in your membership subscription at no additional cost is access to a minimum of four continuing professional development events in addition to our suite of eCPD modules.



**IOB Learn**

An exciting new learning experience platform, and an IOB app personalised to your professional development needs. IOB Learn will give you access to a new suite of micro learning and curated learning content across a number of channels.



**Your essential career partner**

Through IOB Learn we empower you to explore your talent and potential. We fuel your personal growth and career trajectory.



**Your professional community**

Membership of your industry’s professional body, the largest professional membership community in Ireland, brings you into a community of like-minded people. Professionals from across financial services working in a similar specialism as you, dealing with similar challenges to those that you face. Through in-person events, digital events and forums you can hear key note speakers and share experiences, exchange knowledge, network, expanding your contacts and personal profile.

- Invitations to in-person and virtual events and networking opportunities.
- Access to breakfast briefings / lunch and learns.
- Access to the latest insights, thought leadership, emerging issues and trends.



# Corporate membership

Learn more about the value and benefits of becoming a corporate member of IOB.



### Strategy and Governance

IOB Council (board of directors) and Council committees are responsible for the effective, prudent and ethical oversight of IOB, setting its strategic aims and direction. Corporate members are entitled to either appoint or elect persons to Council.

Active engagement, participation and leadership in IOB Council and Council Committees is a commitment to setting and maintaining high professional and ethical standards, and enhancing the technical expertise of the financial services industry.



### Talent development

An organisation’s greatest resource is its people. IOB’s wide range of applied education and lifelong learning programmes develop your talented staff.



### Future skills

Financial services continues to change rapidly. IOB helps build transferable skills for the individual and a more flexible workforce for your organisation.



### Regulatory compliance

Where relevant, our education qualifications, professional designations and CPD schemes meet the Central Bank of Ireland’s Minimum Competency Code and Fitness and Probity requirements. Our new EdQ credentialing platform supports you in meeting your regulatory responsibilities.



### Professional standing

IOB offers a range of professional designations which are a recognition of educational achievement and professional standing. They are a badge of excellence and an endorsement of academic qualifications, professional knowledge and experience. Several of the designations are recognised worldwide.



### Independent assurance

IOB is an independent stamp of assurance that supports organisations in engaging, motivating and empowering their employees to learn and perform.



### Corporate community

Build your network with a community of peers – learn from other leading organisations, share your knowledge and expertise.



**IOB**  
1 North Wall Quay, Dublin 1,  
D01 T8Y1, Ireland  
  
**Phone:** +353 (0)1 611 6500  
**Email:** info@iob.ie  
  
**iob.ie**

**IFS Skillnet**  
84-86 Lower Baggot Street,  
Dublin 2,  
Ireland  
  
**Phone:** +353 (0)1 605 1546  
**Email:** info@ifsskillnet.ie  
  
**ifsskillnet.ie**

**ACOI**  
Lower Ground Floor, 5 Fitzwilliam Square,  
Dublin 2, Ireland  
  
**Phone:** +353 (0)1 779 0200  
**Email:** info@acoi.ie  
  
**acoi.ie**



A recognised  
college of UCD

IFS Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and network companies. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science.



An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,  
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta  
Department of Further and Higher Education,  
Research, Innovation and Science

