EDUCATE. ENABLE. EMPOWER.

2025—2026

IOB Prospectus

iob

A recognised college of UCD

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Welcome



Welcome to IOB, your education partner for the financial services industry.

At IOB, we support financial services professionals to reach their full potential and deliver financial services to the highest standards.

Here you will find industry and academic experts at the forefront of change in financial services. Our programmes move beyond the boundaries of the classroom to offer dynamic online learning experiences tailored for you and your busy schedule.

We are excited to introduce a suite of new AI programmes developed to enable our members to unlock the full potential of AI. We are also delighted to launch new programmes in key areas of opportunity and demand in the industry, including ESG, data protection, governance and reputational risk.

As this dynamic sector continues to evolve, education needs to keep pace with change. This year we are launching an exciting new project to support your future skills development – a world class Irish Financial Services Skills Framework. We are working closely with industry partners to develop and deliver this groundbreaking resource, which we believe will have a transformative impact on skills and talent development in the industry.

As you begin this exciting next phase of your learning journey, remember that the IOB team is here to support you. We look forward to welcoming you to this great community, where you will gain the knowledge and skills to make an immediate and lasting impact in your career.

Good luck with your studies!

Mary O'Dea
Chief Executive, IOB

About us

Your lifelong learning partner, helping you to advance your career and realise your potential.



IOB was founded in 1898.



There are over 32,100 members of IOB.



We have a portfolio of more than 40 UCD accredited programmes.

When graduating from an accredited programme, you will receive your academic award from University College Dublin (UCD).



Our esteemed faculty include academics and industry experts.



Our students are drawn from around the globe. Connect and collaborate with an international community.



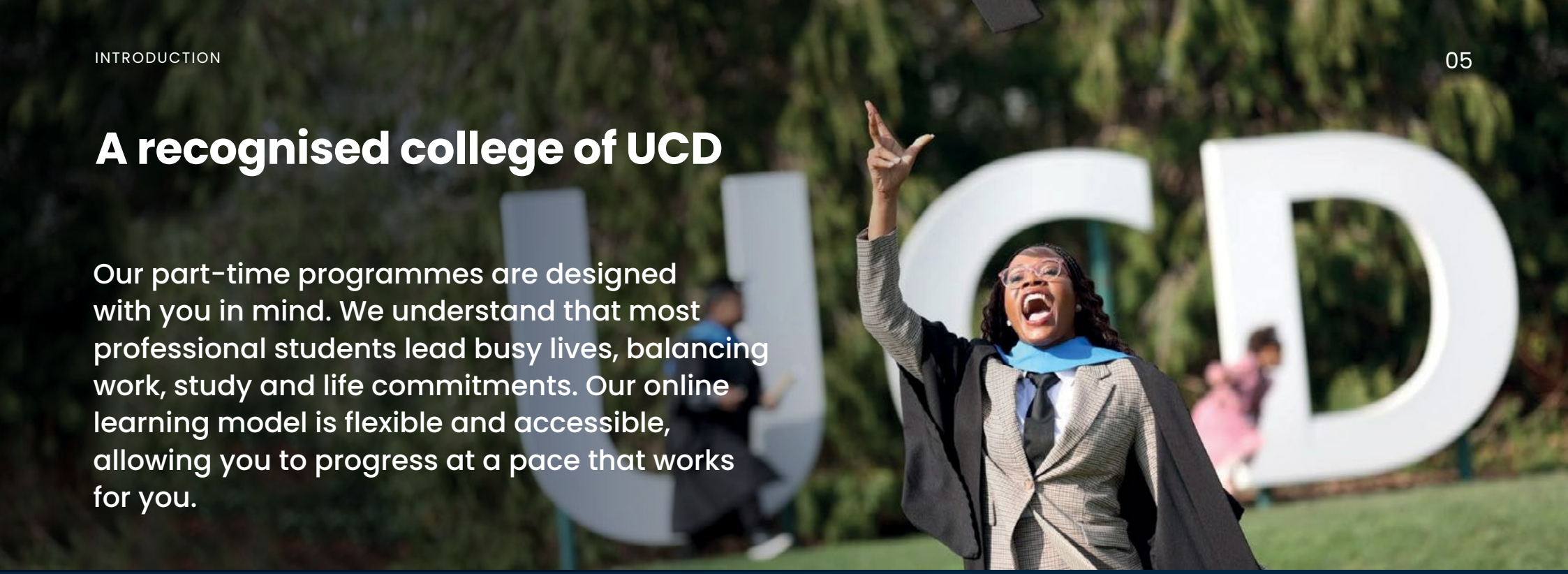
Over 25,000 members are professional designates and committed to lifelong learning.



We host a huge range of online and in-person quality events and conferences featuring respected industry thought leaders.

A recognised college of UCD

Our part-time programmes are designed with you in mind. We understand that most professional students lead busy lives, balancing work, study and life commitments. Our online learning model is flexible and accessible, allowing you to progress at a pace that works for you.



UCD accredited programmes

- AI, Digital and Innovation
- ESG
- Wealth and Financial Advice
- Governance, Risk and Compliance
- Culture
- Funds and Asset Management
- Credit and Lending
- Retail Banking

What our graduates say



"Everything was online and the lectures were very good with examples from real world scenarios. The programme enhanced my knowledge about Irish Funds regulations, and has given me more confidence to perform my role."

Sweta Jain

Watch video



"It's lovely to have the affiliation with UCD connected to IOB. Everyone needs to keep learning to move with the times, especially with the digital age that we live in, and IOB has really moved with the times."

Caoimhe McKernan

Watch video



"I've always wanted to do an MSc in Financial Services, you can achieve your Masters through completing a number of professional level 9 programmes and IOB gave me the pathway to achieve that."

Joanne Duffy

Watch video

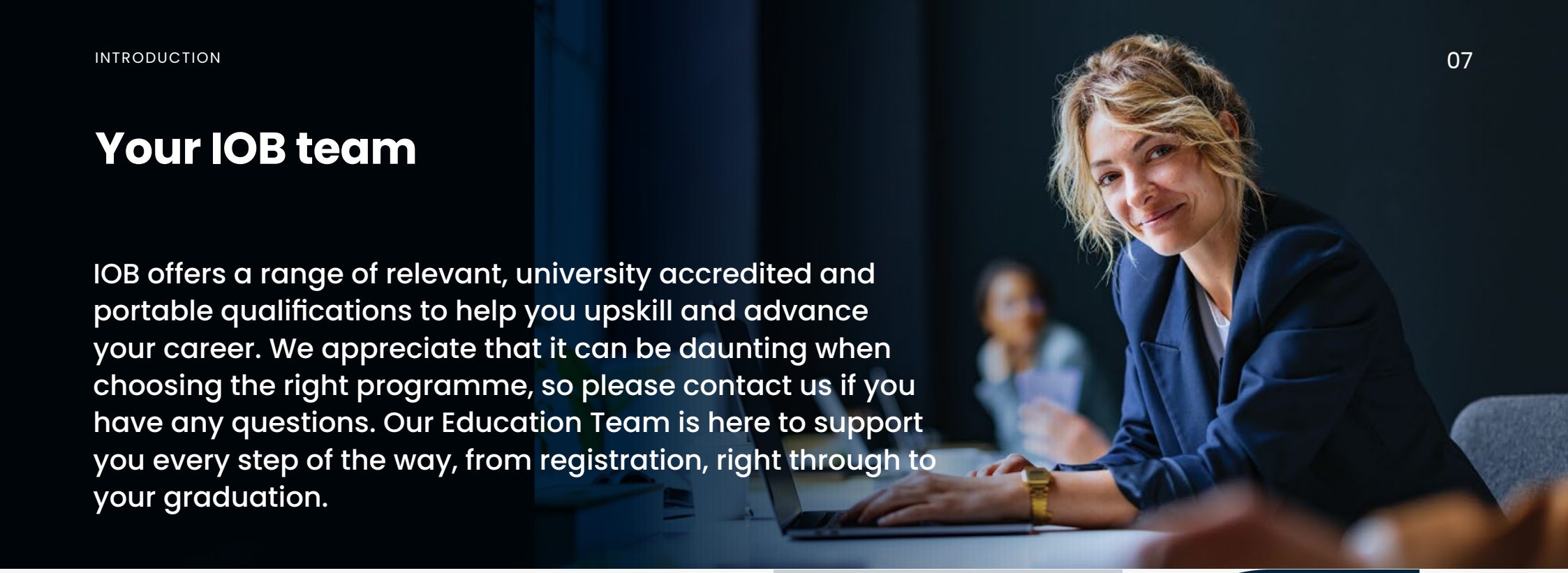


"There's a broad range of educational opportunities, and opportunities for further professional development and networking. It's that collection of benefits that attracted me to IOB."

Sean O'hAnnrachain

Watch video

Your IOB team



IOB offers a range of relevant, university accredited and portable qualifications to help you upskill and advance your career. We appreciate that it can be daunting when choosing the right programme, so please contact us if you have any questions. Our Education Team is here to support you every step of the way, from registration, right through to your graduation.

Learner Relationship Advisors

Our dedicated team of Learner Relationship Advisors are always on hand to respond quickly and answer your queries. Helping you with challenges and ensuring that you have an engaging and positive experience.

Chat with us at iob.ie or email info@iob.ie

Ask on webchat.

"It was a pleasure contacting the team, excellent service and very helpful."

"Helpful, informative, and quick to reply - couldn't ask for more"

Lifelong learning

IOB has over 25,000 professional designates, committed to lifelong learning.

Your badge of excellence

An endorsement of your academic qualifications, knowledge and experience.

Stay up to date with industry change

Our dedicated events and content for designates helps you keep updated.

Regulatory compliance

Meet the expectations of customers and regulatory requirements.

International recognition

Several of our designations are leading international designations with worldwide reputation.

Irish Financial Services Skills Framework

In collaboration with educators, industry partners and the Government, IOB has led the development of the first phase of the Irish Financial Services Skills Framework – a world first standards-based model designed to equip Ireland's retail banking workforce with critical knowledge about the skills needed for the future of the sector.

Benefits

- Ensure consistency of training, education, qualifications and skills standards.
- Empower financial services professionals at all levels to assess and progress their career journey.
- Inform your decisions on education, training and qualifications.
- Enable mobility across different functions and sub-sectors in financial services.
- Highlights in-demand, emerging and future skills needs.

Find out more about the Irish Financial Services Skills Framework at - Skillsframework.ie

Find out more and watch video

Detailed programme information

AI, Digital and Innovation

15 | Digital Banking Revolution
16 | Certificate in Intro to Responsible AI for Financial Services NEW
17 | Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services NEW
18 | Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics
19 | Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention
20 | Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech
21 | Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services
22 | Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services NEW
23 | Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services NEW
24 | Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services
25 | Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services
26 | Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services

ESG

28 | Certificate in ESG for Financial Advisers
29 | Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services NEW
30 | Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership
31 | Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services
32 | Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures

Wealth and Financial Advice

34 | Certificate in Customer Service for APAs and QFAs
35 | Professional Diploma in Financial Advice (QFA)
36 | Professional Certificate in Financial Advice (APA)
37 | Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit (APA)
38 | Professional Certificate in Stockbroking (APA)
39 | Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship (APPT) NEW
40 | Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning (CFP)
41 | Professional Diploma in Financial Planning
42 | Professional Certificate in Asset Management (AMP)
43 | Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning

Governance, Risk and Compliance

45 | Certificate in Financial Services Compliance Essentials
46 | Professional Certificate in Compliance
47 | Professional Diploma in Compliance (LCI)
48 | Professional Certificate in Governance NEW
49 | Professional Certificate for Reputational Risk in Financial Services NEW
50 | Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services NEW
51 | Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals (CSFCP)
52 | MSc in Compliance (FCI)
53 | Professional Certificate in Data Protection (CDPO)
54 | Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention (CFCP)

Retail Banking

56 | Bachelor of Financial Services (Professional Banker)
58 | Professional Diploma in Financial Services (Professional Banker)
59 | Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services
60 | Pathway to MSc in Financial Services
62 | Professional Diploma in Banking (Chartered Banker)

Funds and Asset Management

64 | Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services (AFP)

65 | Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services

66 | Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company (AFP)

67 | Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments (AFP)

68 | Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds

69 | Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management

Risk Management

71 | Regulatory Reporting in ROI (Regulatory Reporting Professional)

72 | Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management

73 | Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management

74 | Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services

Credit and Lending

76 | Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency (APA)

77 | Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit

78 | Professional Diploma in SME Credit

Culture

80 | Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services

81 | Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services (CECA)

Executive Education

83 | Certified Bank Director (CBD)

84 | Certified Investment Fund Director (CIFD)

85 | Inside out Leadership: A next generation programme for women leaders

Short Courses – an overview

The IOB suite of short courses introduce a range of emerging topic areas in Banking, Financial Services and Funds. They are open to all regardless of previous education, and delivered online, therefore they can be accessed from anywhere and taken at your own pace.

These courses cover the full spectrum of emerging opportunity across the industry, including; Digital, Funds, Leadership, Retail and Risk. Each course will provide you with a grounding in a specific topic area. In doing so, it will allow you explore your interest and enable a realistic evaluation of possible career opportunities.

Each course will provide the opportunity to connect with faculty and network with peers. It will enable you to develop transferrable skills and advance your career. On completion, you will have the confidence to progress to the next level via the IOB full suite of UCD accredited programmes, should you wish to do so.

If you have an interest in an emerging topic, an IOB short course is the ideal 'taster' to get started!

Accredited Programmes – an overview

IOB is a recognised college of University College Dublin (UCD). All IOB educational programmes at Levels 7, 8 and 9 are accredited by UCD and result in a Professional Certificate, Diploma, Degree, Postgraduate Diploma or Master's qualification awarded by UCD. All programmes, via UCD, are on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) and so are nationally and internationally recognised.

Programmes on the NFQ are classified by level. The level gives the standard of the programme learnings: Level 7 - Ordinary Degree; Level 8 - Honours Degree and Level 9 - Master's Degree standard. Moving up the levels requires more advanced learning from the student – from knowledge acquisition at Level 7; through analysis at Level 8; to critical evaluation at Level 9.

At each level awards can also vary, depending on the amount of study and student input required. Student input is measured by European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits – standard units of student learning. Awards are classified by the total number of ECTS credits into award types as follows:

- Professional Certificate programmes comprise from 5 ECTS credits up to 20 ECTS credits
- Professional Diploma programmes comprise from 20 ECTS credits to 30 ECTS credits
- Postgraduate Diploma programmes comprise 60 ECTS credits
- Master's Degree programmes comprise 90 ECTS credits

The following programme pages of the prospectus give both the award level and award type for each programme. This information will allow you to access the degree of challenge and the amount of input required of each programme.

AI, Digital and Innovation

- Digital Banking Revolution
- NEW — Certificate in Intro to Responsible AI for Financial Services
- NEW — Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services
- Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics
- Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention
- Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech
- Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services
- NEW — Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services
- NEW — Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services
- Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services

Digital Banking Revolution

Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB

About the course

Responding to rapidly changing customer expectations, new digital technologies, new competition and the need to achieve greater efficiencies, banks and financial services firms are transforming to digital organisations of the future.

This engaging online course has been created to allow you to navigate the complex digital landscape and is designed for everyone who works in banking and financial services.

The purpose of this course is to describe the digital transformation that is underway and provide an appreciation of banking in this new reality. The course outlines what customers expect and explains key digital technologies and the powerful new digital tools. It sets out the conduct of business obligations in the provision of products and services in the digital environment and the importance of ensuring security and customer trust. It provides insights on how the nature of work in a customer centric digital organisation is changing and what future developments are coming down the track.

How you will benefit

On completion of this course you will:

- Understand digital business and its transformational impact on banking and financial services
- Describe the main elements of the digital financial services ecosystem, identify the competitive opportunities and threats
- Appreciate changing customer expectations and the implications for products and services and the customer experience
- Understand the conduct of business obligations to customers in digital financial services
- Understand the cyber threats and the responsibilities of digitally enabled financial services organisations and employees in ensuring security and customer trust
- Appreciate emerging developments and trends
- Be equipped to hold conversations confidently with colleagues and customers about banking and financial services in a new digitally evolved reality.

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. The New Reality
2. What Customers expect in the Digital Age
3. Conduct of Business Obligations in Digital Financial Services
4. Security and Trust
5. The Digital Financial Services Ecosystem
6. What's Next - Future Developments

Award

When you successfully complete this course, you will be awarded a digital certificate from IOB.

Delivery and Assessment

This course is delivered online and assessed by end of module MCQ's.

Duration

Minimum three hours.

You can enrol for and complete the course any time that suits you.

Entry requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for this course.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this course.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

One CPD hour will be awarded to holders of the QFA, Professional Banker and Chartered Banker designations on completion of the following modules:

- Conduct of Business Obligations in Digital Financial Services (30 minutes)
- Security and Trust (30 minutes)

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-banking-revolution

NEW

Certificate in Introduction to Responsible AI for Financial Services

Duration: 20-25 hours
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB

To find out more about this new short course watch video



"This is an excellent course which can benefit learners at all levels and empower learners with an understanding of different types of AI, how the power of AI can be leveraged, and how we can ensure that AI is used responsibly."

Carol Lawton

About the course

The Certificate in Introduction to Responsible AI for Financial Services introduces you to the essential skills and knowledge needed to leverage AI effectively within financial services. It covers fundamental AI concepts, including its history and practical applications, and explores topics like Generative AI and Discriminative AI. You will learn how AI can drive digital transformation, enhance customer experience, and improve operational efficiency.

The course emphasises responsible AI decision-making, governance, and security, preparing you to manage AI projects ethically and strategically in a rapidly evolving financial landscape.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of the Certificate in Introduction to Responsible AI for Financial Services you will be able to:

- Understand the significance of AI in transforming financial services
- Explain the key concepts of AI, including its history and evolution, and practical applications for the FSI
- Apply AI techniques like discriminative AI for operational efficiency and generative AI for enhancing productivity and innovation in the FSI
- Develop strategies for managing AI risks and enhancing regulatory compliance in the FSI
- Identify opportunities and engagement models for productively leveraging AI.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

4 hours	MCC (All categories) - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
4 hours	CFRCP / CFSCP / LCI / FCI - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
3 hours	WMP, RPP - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
1.5 hours	CECA / FCI Ethics / PB / CB / CBD / CIFD - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
1 hour	CDPO / CFCP - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
0.5 hours	Ethics for RRP / PIP

Assessment

- The assessment is a multiple choice question (MCQ) exam with 45 questions.
- Students also complete a short quiz to reinforce learning after each topic.

Duration and Delivery

This course is self-paced. The duration is between 20-25 hours to complete. Delivery is online.

How to register

Please visit iob.ie/programme/skills-cert-intro-to-responsible-ai-for-financial-services

Contact us

Lorraine Duane
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

NEW

Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 15 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

The programme is designed to equip financial services professionals with the knowledge and skills to navigate and lead in today's financial markets, where AI tools and technologies are transforming the landscape. You'll learn how to optimise workflows, stay ahead of regulatory changes, and drive real, impactful innovation within your organisation.

In particular, the programme will be of interest to:

- Professionals who are engaged, or aspire to be engaged, in AI-related tasks, aiming to enhance operational efficiency and support team objectives through foundational AI-driven solutions
- Professionals seeking to broaden their understanding and skills to support the safe, secure, and effective implementation of AI across business operations
- Professionals who want to future-proof their career by building foundational skills in AI techniques shaping the industry now.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services you will be able to:

- Identify and explain clearly, the key concepts, terms, definitions, theory and practice underpinning Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the financial services sector
- Select pertinent AI driven technologies and techniques and demonstrate how they can be used to improve productivity and resolve strategic issues in financial services firms
- Assess the effectiveness of AI strategies and data analysis techniques in financial services firms
- Communicate clearly (using appropriate media) to key stakeholders, colleagues, or peers the essentials of AI and the AI advantage in financial services firms
- Uncover and pursue learning opportunities (academic and non-academic) which enhance your professional career ambitions and individual and team-based capabilities.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Working effectively and responsibly with AI
2. Enhancing productivity with AI
3. Using AI in the FSI

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics

or

- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics

- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme..

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/ai-fundamentals

Contact us

Lorraine Duane
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 15 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet



"The modules in this programme covered a wide range of topics and each module was well-structured and provided practical insights. The experienced lecturers were great and I found it very interesting to hear from professionals about the application of data in the real world."

Esther Ikpe

About the programme

This programme is relevant to professionals working in any area of financial services, be it fintech, banking, credit union, pensions, insurance etc. It provides a comprehensive understanding of key technologies such as AI, blockchain, and digital money, equipping participants to navigate and lead in an increasingly digitized financial landscape. It is relevant regardless of specialism, career stage, or organisational level from boardroom to operations level.

Data fluency is essential so that you can identify, source, filter, manage and interrogate data to obtain meaningful, real-time insight. This will support decision-making, improve team efficiency and help you ensure your organisation remains at the forefront of the rapidly changing, information rich, and disruptive environment for financial services.

By exploring modern Digital Financial Services ideas, you will gain insights into innovative approaches that enhance efficiency, improve customer experiences, and drive competitive advantage. You will learn to critically reflect on the impact and relations between process, technology and data.

Graduates of this programme may progress to more specialised programmes within the suite offered by IOB.

How you will benefit

At the end of the programme you will be able to:

- Outline the theory and practice underpinning Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics in Financial Services
- Critically assess and analyse the evolving dynamics of the financial services ecosystem, including traditional players, FinTechs, and TechFins
- Explain the interdependency between Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics focussing on Financial Services firms' operations and activities
- Understand and leverage key transformational technologies such as AI, blockchain, and digital money, while effectively mitigating associated risks including ethical considerations to ensure responsible and fair use
- Select and apply appropriate procedures, processes, tools, and programmes to facilitate the identification of key opportunities and managing various challenges associated with Digital Financial Services and Applied Data Analytics in Financial Services
- Apply financial data analysis to crucial areas such as compliance, customer analytics, fraud detection, contact centre efficiency, web usage, and reputational analysis of social media
- Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) with colleagues and key stakeholders regarding the principles and practices of Data Analytics in Financial Services
- Plan and progress your career ambitions in the areas of Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics.

Curriculum

You study three modules in the following order:

1. Digital Financial Services
2. Introduction to Data Analytics for Financial Services
3. Applied Data Analytics in Digital Financial Services

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-services-data-analytics

Contact us

Lorraine Duane
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"I currently work in complaints and found the digital risk aspect massively relevant to my role, as we are consistently seeing an increase in sophisticated fraud schemes that usually involve digital channels or AI bots. Completing this programme has affirmed for me my interest in AML and I am hoping it will open doors for me in the future."

Rebecca Kirby

About the programme

Digital technologies are dominating the operating model of financial services organisations worldwide, including how they conduct their business and distribute products and services. Customer experience has been at the heart of this transformation with financial services organisations seeking to enhance the communication channels they have with their customers, the products and services they offer and the loyalty they create with their customer base as new entrants continue to enter the market.

As companies embrace the latest digital technology to become increasingly competitive, digital risk is becoming the biggest facet of business risk. Industry research suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic has dramatically increased the scale and speed that firms have shifted to digital channels in both the customer facing area of the organisation and the operations element of the business. This rapid evolution of digital investment and operations has also increased the digital risk that exists. Money laundering and financial crime is an escalating worldwide problem, unrestricted by jurisdictions and physical boundaries. Preventative measures including educating staff to be aware of the ever evolving financial crime changes and detection of the same being the key defences of a firm.

The Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention addresses the main types of digital risk and financial crime as well as the policies, procedures and internal controls intended to prevent it.

This programme is relevant to:

- All regulated firms in financial services sector
- All firms established as a Trust company
- All firms who through their day to day operation must meet AML requirements as set out by the 4th EU AML Directive
- All Fintech firms.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of the programme you will be able to:

- Understand the different types of financial crime and money laundering activities perpetrated against financial services providers
- Analyse and assess the threats facing financial services organisations using appropriate models and frameworks
- Select and apply appropriate tools to diagnose the environmental opportunities and threats faced by a financial services organisation and evaluate the strategic alternatives available to deliver customer and client value
- Understand how to develop a successful risk framework to manage digital risk
- Analyse the risks of financial crime to financial services providers and the resulting impact on internal controls, policies and procedures
- Communicate the nature of money laundering and financial crime and describe its manifestations in financial services
- Pursue appropriate learning opportunities (academic and non-academic) to enhance their decision-making capabilities.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. AML, Cyber Security and Financial Crime
2. Digital Risk Management

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information on this programme, including learning outcomes, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-risk-aml-crime

Contact us

Leigh Casey
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"I started a new role in the area of innovation and finance, and I wanted to develop my knowledge in this realm. The programme is very comprehensive and gives a great overview of digital financial services. I feel more confident in this field now."

Johanna Zelenak

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech is for professionals currently, or striving to be, at management level in banks or financial institutions. Aspiring to play a leadership role, they wish to deepen their knowledge and enhance their skills and capabilities so that they can support digital management and transformation in financial services.

This programme addresses industry needs, focussing on customer experience, product management, and digital strategy. The integration of technology into financial services, known as Fintech, is crucial for banks and Fintech organisations. Digitalisation allows 24/7 access to financial services through various channels, meeting customer expectations for personalised products.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the key features of Digital Financial Services (DFS), DFS Management and Fintech, and the pertinent theory and practice underpinning DFS, DFSM, Fintech development and evolution in the marketplace / space
- Use and apply your knowledge and understanding in the context of Digital Financial Services / Management / Fintech
- Identify and analyse relevant data to formulate responses to well-defined concrete and abstract problems within the domain of digital financial services / Fintech, and to judge the validity of their conclusions bearing in mind the business context, setting and the data available
- Communicate effectively orally or in writing using appropriate media (reports, video, presentations) on key issues pertaining to DFSM to professionals and practitioners in the field.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Customer Experience Management in Financial Services
2. Financial Services and Fintech in a Digital Age
3. Intelligent Digital Financial Services Transformation Essentials

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of the programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech are as follows:

- 3 years' experience (full time) in a relevant financial services role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS Level 7 programme,

or

- An honours degree (min. H2.2, L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals employed in a credit role with responsibility for credit decisions in financial services.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-financial-services-management-fintech

Contact us

Lorraine Duane
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services is designed to deepen your knowledge and understanding of the role of the customer experience (CX) and how it can be managed to address deficiencies in the firm's business system or internal business operations before it really begins to impact on its competitiveness and strategy.

While the theory and practice of CXM is primarily relevant to all service firms, large and small, it is particularly pertinent for personnel employed in banks and financial services firm's. You will be introduced to the key concepts underpinning CXM, and consider the role of other supporting services (CX data & feedback, digital technology, big data analytics (BDA) etc.) in enhancing a firms CXM system.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services you will be able to:

- Outline and explain the key concepts associated with Customer Experience Management (CXM) and the underpinning theory and practice
- Select and apply appropriate tools and techniques to review a customer experience and advise on how to promote a customer centric approach
- Evaluate customer diversity and expectations and advise management how to engage them and add value to the customer experience
- Appraise an experience of a given customer or customer group in an assigned situation, detail recommendations for the experience enhancement and present your findings orally to your peers and colleagues, using appropriate media.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Customer Experience Management in Financial Services

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of the programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services are as follows:

- An honours degree (Second class honours grade 2 award or higher)
- At least 3 years' experience (full time) in a relevant banking role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS level 7 programme
- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals in a relevant banking role with responsibility for decision-making.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including closing dates, fees and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/customer-experience-management

Contact us

Jennifer Fearon
Programme Manager

E: education@iob.ie

NEW

Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services is a level 9 UCD accredited programme designed for non-technical financial services professionals responsible for developing and implementing AI strategies who want to deepen their knowledge of AI models and the code which drives them. Unlock the full potential of AI and invest in skills that drive innovation, keep you ahead of the competition, and meet the ever-changing demands of your industry.

In particular, the programme will be of interest to:

- Professionals who lead AI-driven projects that enhance your team's efficiency and strategic value.
- Professionals wanting to build confidence to leverage AI technology and ensure that its integration supports both business and strategic outcomes.
- Professionals exploring AI models in financial services for fraud detection, risk management, and credit loss prediction while learning how to consider responsible, ethical and effective deployment of AI initiatives within your operations.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the terminology and core concepts and terms underpinning AI Models and Programming in Financial Services
- Select and use an appropriate programming language (Python, SQL) to design and build models for financial services applications
- Evaluate the theoretical foundations, practical applications, and ethical consideration of mathematical and statistical models in financial services, assessing their performance, effectiveness and limitations
- Communicate clearly and effectively model design development and its application to technical and non-technical stakeholders
- Identify and pursue appropriate learning opportunities (academic and non-academic) which enhance professional career ambitions and individual competencies and capabilities.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. AI and Analytics Models in Financial Services
2. SQL Programming
3. Python Programming

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Models and Programming in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (second class grade 2 award or higher) in business or cognate discipline (e.g. economics, accounting, information technology)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e., they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme..

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/ai-models

Contact us

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NEW

Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

The programme is designed to meet the needs of individuals aiming to deepen their knowledge and insights on AI in general and AI management in financial services. It focuses on AI developments within financial services and FinTech firms, providing insights on issues which are key to AI management, such as ethical and privacy concerns, how these are managed along with considering appropriate AI governance frameworks needed to ensure that the firm's AI is operating in a responsible and safe manner.

In particular, the programme will be of interest to:

- Managers interested in developing or deepening their knowledge in the area of AI
- Managers interested in understanding the potential of AI to enhance business operations
- Managers who want to be able to apply AI to their corporate strategy and business transformation.

It would also be of interest to individuals currently holding a non-Artificial Intelligence (AI) managerial position, seeking to enhance their AI managerial career ambition and acquiring the pertinent AI management theory and practice, along with the required competencies and capabilities.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the theory, practice and ethical considerations underpinning AI Management within a Financial Services firm or institution
- Advise on and oversee the selection and implementation of new AI-driven business and services products and processes in a Financial Services Industry (FSI) provider
- Formulate an AI Management strategy for a FSI firm bearing in mind recent sectoral developments and provide a brief on how recent sectoral and internal challenges and opportunities can be managed strategically
- Ascertain and communicate clearly (using appropriate media) either orally or in writing, the AI advantage for a FSI firm or institution
- Draw on your programme learning, select and pursue academic or non-academic learning activities to progress your professional and personal career ambitions.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Managing Responsibly with AI
2. Managing for Results with AI
3. Formulating and Delivering an AI Management Strategy

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Artificial Intelligence Management in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (second class grade 2 award or higher) in business or cognate discipline (e.g. economics, accounting, information technology)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e., they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/ai-management

Contact us

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Programme Manager
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Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

To find out more about this programme watch video



"The flexibility of the programme appealed to me as it was delivered 100% online, allowing me to balance study with my full-time role. I also value the UCD accreditation as it adds real credibility to the CV."

Gillian Skehill

About the programme

This programme is for leaders, and aspiring leaders in financial services who would like to leverage data to enhance market insights, client relationships and inform strategic decision making. Leaders who effectively and efficiently identify the business intelligence afforded by the data and analytics are most likely to succeed through strategic foresight underpinned by data and analytics.

Rather than focussing on just data science this programme is for those with internal or client facing reporting functions who are interested in building a data and analytics strategy and mindset across a unit, function, or enterprise. Best practice in data and analytics will be covered, supported by data architecture and risk management considerations. On completing this programme, you will be equipped to drive strategic business outcomes and take advantage of future developments in data and analytics.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the challenges and opportunities provided by integrating data and advanced analytics in the provision and management of financial services
- Analyse the impact of a data driven culture and the business drivers in facilitating effective use of data and analytics tools and processes in financial services
- Identify the key features of an organisation which assists and empowers its personnel/ business units as they learn to use data and analytics in their everyday work and evaluate the procedures/new technologies within it
- Examine current practice pertaining to data and analytics in a financial services enterprise or unit to ensure a competitive service
- Communicate clearly to pertinent stakeholders the impact of data and analytics on financial services and products design and delivery
- Critically reflect on your professional role and contribution to financial organisations in the context of the application of data and analytics technologies and systems in financial services (and related sectors) and the implications arising from such developments.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Strategy and Culture in a Data and Analytics Environment
2. Talent and Asset Management
3. AI Strategy for Financial Services

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Students that enrol to the Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services, can continue and complete the remaining modules in the Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services, and in doing so will receive the higher award only.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. where they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/data-analytics

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

Contact us

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Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 60 ECTS
Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"The lecturers were seasoned professionals and had a lot of interesting experience. After I completed the programme I changed jobs and moved to a new sector. The programme gave me the extra knowledge necessary for my new role and the confidence in my own abilities."

Saoirse Murray

About the programme

Navigating the changing nature of financial services requires first-hand knowledge of digital and data strategy, culture and operations. This programme gives leaders, and aspiring leaders in financial services, the tools and mindset to successfully lead in a digital and data era.

Advancing technologies have already changed the face of financial services as we know it. This programme gives you the skills to research and understand the technologies currently disrupting financial services, and the expertise that will help you navigate a successful Digital Transformation within your organisation. It also teaches you to harness the vast power of data and analytics, giving you the understanding and frameworks you need to develop better products and experiences for your clients, and produce better outcomes for your organisation, and your career.

How you will benefit

The programme aims to give you a solid grounding in the theories and practice pertaining to devising and managing / transforming the organisation's digital and data strategy.

On completing the Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services, you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the essence of data and digital strategy (theory and practice) and how outcomes shape digital transformation in an organisation
- Analyse the impact of a data driven culture and design, implement and evaluate a digital strategy for a radical simplification programme in a financial services organisation
- Communicate the current financial services ecosystem to stakeholders and illustrate how digital strategy (or lack of it) impacts on financial services firms' corporate strategy
- Evaluate the procedures / new technologies within an organisation which assist and empower its personnel / business units as they learn to use data and analytics in their everyday work
- Ascertain and respond to strategic challenges and opportunities of digital transformation for financial services organisations
- Assess your role within an organisation and your personal competencies and capabilities in advancing and progressing the role.

Curriculum

This programme runs over one academic year, and you will complete two modules per trimester:

Autumn Trimester (October – January)
Strategy and Culture in a Digital Transformation Environment

and

Strategy and Culture in a Data and Analytics Environment

Spring Trimester (February – May)
Digital Assets and Operating Model

and

Talent and Asset Management

Summer Trimester (June – September)
Designing and Delivering Digital Transformation

and

AI Strategy for Financial Services

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits)

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ).
- 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 IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-data-strategy

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet



"The lectures were delivered online and each module had two projects to be completed and uploaded online. While the programme content and commitment was demanding, I found the programme structure and delivery to be excellent. I have used the skills gained to help develop an AI/Digital strategy for the organisation I work for."

Seán Dunne

About the programme

As financial services organisations journey through digital transformation, there are significant variances in the success of execution. Legacy systems, processes, and crucially, thought leadership, have significant impacts on the success of transformation initiatives. Client expectations and business efficiencies are the two big drivers that are dominating the digital transformation agenda.

The programme is designed for business leaders and aspiring leaders to empower you with the skills to anticipate and respond to the changing market and to conceptualise, define and execute digital transformation. You will be equipped to build a transformation strategy including opportunity mapping and engaging internal and external stakeholders. You will understand the ecosystem and operating model of a digital organisation and develop the skills to help your organisation to optimally leverage present and future opportunities.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- Explain the theory and practice underpinning Digital Transformation and the reasons why digital technology is changing business strategy
- Outline how the application of advanced analytics and cognitive technologies can drive operating efficiencies and enhance an organisation's value proposition
- Design a strategy for a radical simplification programme in a financial services organisation
- Ascertain and evaluate the strategic challenges and opportunities of Digital Transformation for financial services organisations (traditional and Fintechs)
- Communicate the current financial services ecosystem to specialist and non-specialists, along with illustrating how emerging technologies can impact and improve financial services organisations
- Critically reflect on your professional role and contribution to financial organisations in the context of Digital Transformation (DT) in financial services (and related sectors).

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Strategy and Culture in a Digital Transformation Environment
2. Digital Assets and Operating Model
3. Designing and Delivering Digital Transformation

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Students that enrol to the Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services, can continue and complete the remaining modules in the Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services or the Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership, and in doing so will receive the higher award only.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. where they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/digital-transformation

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

Contact us

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ESG

- Certificate in ESG for Financial Advisers
- Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services **NEW**
- Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership
- Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures



Certificate in ESG for Financial Advisers

Duration: 20-25 hours
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB

About the course

The Certificate in ESG for Financial Advisers will help learners to develop new skills, or improve their knowledge in the subject area of ESG and Sustainability. It offers insight into ESG and Sustainability, European regulations, and an introduction to ESG financial products and services.

The aim of this course is to develop competency and confidence in the areas of ESG and Sustainability by delving into the background of the topics, explaining the current regulations and assisting with explaining the types of sustainable products currently available.

This course is suitable for anyone, but especially those who hold the APA / QFA designation, who would like to increase their competency in ESG and Sustainability.

How you will benefit

On competing the Certificate in ESG for Financial Advisers, you will be expected to be able to:

- Outline the concepts, theory and regulation associated with providing advice to clients on ESG related products
- Understand the key issues associated with Sustainability and ESG, and identify the responses put in place to address these issues
- Describe current developments and changes with respect to ESG regulation, updates and challenges
- Identify and advise on the most appropriate ESG related products available to best meet clients' needs
- Identify the main entities responsible for legislating on and reporting on ESG regulation and frameworks
- Identify and pursue appropriate learning to advance their personal and professional career ambitions.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

4 hours	APA / QFA categories
4 hours	LCI
4 hours	FCI (Compliance)
3 hours	AFP, CIFD, CBD, WMP, RPP, PB, CB, CSFCP
2 hours	MCI, CECA, FCI (Ethics)

Assessment

The assessment is a 45 multiple choice question (MCQ) exam.

Students also complete a short quiz to reinforce learning after each topic.

Duration and Delivery

The course is self-paced and should take between 20-25 hours to complete. Delivery is online.

How to register

Please visit iob.ie/programme/certificate-in-esg-for-financial-advisers

NEW

Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

MiCreS Co-funded by the European Union

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services has been developed as part of an Erasmus+ project called MiCreS. The European micro-credentials and professional qualifications certification system in the banking and financial services sector MiCreS project's ambition is to develop the first sector driven ecosystem for micro-credentials (blockchain-based) in financial services in Europe.

Funded by the Erasmus+ Forward Looking Programme, MiCreS aims to develop Europe's first blockchain-based ecosystem for microcredentials, revolutionizing professional qualifications in financial services. It aligns with the European Commission's goals for forward-looking education initiatives, aiming to foster a more skilled and adaptable workforce for the future of finance.

Amid fluctuating geo-political focus, ESG remains a key priority, not only as a moral imperative but also as a financial one. The reality is that the planet is facing catastrophic changes unless the commitments of various governments and blocs are adhered to and every actor in the global economic system makes efforts to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, reduce waste and create a sustainable future whilst ensuring a just transition for the global south. Individuals and firms that embrace this shift are not only managing risks and impacts effectively but also positioning themselves to seize new opportunities in a rapidly evolving marketplace.

The programme introduces the key concepts in ESG and then focuses on the three core areas which interact with ESG in financial services – credit, risk and investment. The programme therefore will be of critical interest to individuals currently employed in a credit, risk or investment role, including relationship managers, credit underwriters, financial advisers and risk and compliance roles.

The programme seeks to reinvigorate the drive for a sustainable future by providing graduates with crucial insights and skills for positive changes.

The support of the EU and the criticality of developing ESG skills has enabled IOB to offer the programme at a discounted fee.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services, you will benefit in the following ways:

- Graduates will receive a University College Dublin qualification as well as a European-wide professional designation in ESG. The designation (EBTN Accredited) is recognised across a number of countries (including UK, Germany, Spain, Malta, Canada, India and Egypt) for banking and finance professionals in the area of ESG.
- Gain a vital understanding of the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) landscape including the European, UN and Global responses in each of the key aspects of E, S and G and the challenges and opportunities as well as the possible models for delivering on ESG objectives.
- Develop critical insights on the implications for business customers and financial services institutions of reporting and disclosure requirements.
- Gain new knowledge and skills with respect to ESG risks and opportunities within the financial services sector.
- Assess the impact of ESG on core business operations within the financial services sector, including credit, risk management, and investment management as well as the unique challenges and opportunities resulting from ESG issues within these sectors.
- Acquire the necessary skills to explain ESG risks and opportunities to customers and investors.
- Apply the learning from the programme in professional contexts in accordance with sustainable principles to provide an example to peers and direct reports.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. ESG in Financial Services

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

You will also be awarded the EBTN Accredited Certificate in ESG in Financial Services which recognises the knowledge and proficiency of graduates to recognised European standard.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/esg-in-financial-services

Contact us

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Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 60 ECTS
Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership programme is designed to enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of financial services professionals in leadership for sustainability. In the financial services sector, there is a growing emphasis on sustainable investing and lending to meet global sustainability goals. Financial services leaders play a crucial role in accelerating the transition to a net-zero economy by communicating the relationships between environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors and financial performance, building consensus around sustainable investing, supporting policy measures, and fostering an ESG-focused culture of innovation.

The programme covers ESG strategy, digital transformation's impact on the financial services sector, risk management strategies, and organisational culture informed by sustainability principles. It aims to empower individuals to make a sustainable difference in their organisations, communities, and society as leaders.

How you will benefit

On completing the Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership you will be able to:

- Outline and explain the theory and practice underpinning sustainable transformational leadership
- Draw on theory and practice (as appropriate) to develop a suitable ESG Business strategy for a financial services organisation (or part of)
- Ascertain and evaluate the strategic challenges and opportunities arising from digital transformation in financial services – (traditional and Fintech)
- Communicate the role of the financial services sector, and its products and services, in facilitating the global economy's transition to meet the relevant climate targets
- Critically reflect on your professional role and contribution to financial organisations in the context of ESG, Sustainable Finance and Digital Transformation in financial services.

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. ESG Strategy
2. Sustainable Finance Leadership
3. ESG Risk Management and Data for Leaders
4. Strategy and Culture in a Digital Transformation Environment
5. Digital Assets and Operating Model
6. Designing and Delivering Digital Transformation

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) in business or a related discipline

or

- An honours degree (H 2.2 L8 NFQ) in a non-relevant business discipline and 3 years' relevant work experience

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work experience.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/sustainable-transformational-leadership

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

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services is designed to equip financial services professionals and aspiring leaders with the theory and practice underpinning ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership and the capability to design, develop, implement an appropriate ESG business strategy.

The programme will consider ESG strategy, its aims, formulation, and successful implementation. Attention will also be given to sustainable leadership, the roles and responsibilities of such leaders and the principles and practices underpinning it.

The programme will also consider the evolution of risk management to include the sustainability risk space focussing on a range of approaches to measure and manage so called non financial risk (such as extreme climate change-induced catastrophes, data fraud and theft, and social ills) that can pose significant micro and macroeconomic threats.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services, you will be able to:

- Outline and explain ESG fundamentals and how they impact the financial services sector, now and in the future
- Identify and ascertain the possible effect of the risks and opportunities that exist in the financial services sector, utilising an ESG lens approach
- Act as an advisor to a Sustainable Finance Leader on the aims of an ESG Business Strategy, its design, implementation, and evaluation in each context and setting, drawing on appropriate resources
- Clearly communicate the role of the financial services sector, and its products, in facilitating the global economy's transition to meet relevant climate targets
- Drawing on your learning, identify and pursue further opportunities for self-development as an ESG and Sustainable Finance leader.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. ESG Strategy
2. Sustainable Finance Leadership
3. ESG Risk Management and Data for Leaders

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services.

Students that enrol to the Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services, can continue and complete the remaining modules in the Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership, and in doing so will receive the higher award only.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work experience i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/esg-and-sustainable-finance-leadership

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

Contact us

Deirdre Hendrick
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

This programme is aimed at those who are employed or aspiring to be employed in (Financial) Reporting, Risk or Finance functions, or working in dedicated Sustainability Teams with the knowledge, skills, and competencies to report, advise on, and advance the sustainability agenda across and within the financial services industry sector.

The programme will greatly enhance your knowledge and expertise of reporting and disclosures in relation to sustainable finance and provide you with the practical skills and tools to implement sustainability practices in your own organisation.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures you will be able to:

- Outline and explain the key concepts, theories and practice underpinning current and evolving sustainable finance reporting and disclosures
- Apply knowledge and understanding of ESG and sustainable finance reporting for your organisation, aligned with the latest regulatory standards
- Select and use data and assessment techniques to evaluate current sustainable finance reporting challenges and formulate appropriate response to address the issues
- Communicate clearly to colleagues, peers, regulators and the public, the essence of and requirements for sustainable reporting and disclosures
- Begin integrating good practices for reporting and sustainable finance strategy into your organisation
- Leverage the knowledge gained in specific areas to identify and pursue further study to enhance your career and professional ambitions.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Existing ESG Reporting Frameworks
2. New ESG Reporting Frameworks
3. Implementing an ESG Reporting Framework

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of the programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/sustainable-finance-reporting-and-disclosures

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

Contact us

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Wealth and Financial Advice

Certificate in Customer Service for APAs and QFAs

Professional Diploma in Financial Advice
QFA

Professional Certificate in Financial Advice
APA

Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit
APA

Professional Certificate in Stockbroking
APA

NEW
Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship
APPT

Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning
CFP

Professional Diploma in Financial Planning

Professional Certificate in Asset Management
AMP

Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning

Certificate in Customer Service for APAs and QFAs

Duration: 20-25 hours
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB

About the course

The Certificate in Customer Service for APAs and QFAs is for anyone who holds an APA or QFA designation who would like to increase their competency in Customer Service skills. The aim is to develop competency and confidence in these skills which can then be applied to any career. It would also suit anyone who would like to gain some basic knowledge on retail financial products with the aim of beginning or continuing their career as an adviser.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of the Certificate in Customer Service for APAs and QFAs, you will be able to:

- Identify customer needs in a changing regulatory environment.
- Discuss the products available to customers and make a recommendation based on their needs.
- Communicate effectively with customers and address any queries they have.

Topics include:

- Planning and Preparation
- Questioning Skills
- Listening Skills
- Effective Meetings
- Needs Analysis
- Reviews
- Product Knowledge
- Handling Objections
- Closing Skills
- Time Management
- Goal Setting
- GDPR
- Vulnerable Clients
- Ethics

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

4 hours	All MCC categories
4 hours	LCI / FCIC
3 hours	WMP / RPP
2 hours	MCI

Assessment

The assessment is a 45 multiple choice question (MCQ) exam.

You will also complete a short quiz to reinforce learning after each topic.

Duration and Delivery

The course is self-paced and should take between 20–25 hours to complete. Delivery is online.

How to register

Please visit iob.ie/programme/skills-certificate-in-customer-service-for-apas-and-qfas

Professional Diploma in Financial Advice (QFA)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: QFA



"IOB has provided me with the specialist learning opportunities I've needed to take leaps forward in my career and move into new areas. The Professional Diploma in Financial Advice qualification is a must for anyone looking to further their career in the financial services industry. The learning platform IOB Learn, provides students will ample material to help with their studies and upskill in a way that suits individual learners."

James Butler

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Financial Advice is a six-module level 7 qualification and is a must for all those pursuing a career in retail and business banking. It is the industry recognised, premier designation qualification, for financial advisers in retail financial services in the Republic of Ireland. If you are a financial adviser, or wish to become one in the future, then the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice will enhance the breadth and depth of your knowledge to provide consumers with sound professional advice.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme and on attaining the recognised professional designation QFA, you will be able to:

- Provide advice to consumers regarding the various loan offerings available, the process involved and the implications of these offerings to consumers
- Discuss the need for, and types of, retirement provision available and the regulation and restrictions on such provision
- Describe relevant regulation that is used in the provision of financial services and the impact it has in this environment
- Explain the types of investment needs of consumers and the important issues arising as a result of these needs
- Provide advice to a consumer regarding their life assurance needs and the implications of decisions that they may make
- Use analytical skills to make recommendations to clients regarding financial planning.

Minimum Competency Code

Holders of the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice are invited to apply for the Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA) designation thereby meeting the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who wish to arrange, advise on, or undertake specified functions for the following five categories of retail financial products:

- Life Assurance
- Pensions
- Savings and Investments
- Housing Loans, Home Reversion Agreements and Associated Insurances
- Consumer Credit Agreements and Associated Insurances.

Continued use of the QFA designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements. The QFA designation is overseen by the QFA Board, which includes representatives from IOB.

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. Regulation
2. Investment
3. Life Assurance
4. Loans
5. Pensions
6. Financial Planning

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Financial Advice from UCD and will be invited to apply for the QFA designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

To enrol for the Financial Planning module, candidates must have enrolled for, passed or be exempt from the first five modules: Regulation, Life Assurance, Loans, Investment and Pensions.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/financial-advice-qfa

Contact us

Ann Hodgins
Programme Manager

E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Financial Advice (APA)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: APA

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Financial Advice is a must for all those pursuing a career in retail and business banking. It is the benchmark qualification for product advisers in retail financial services products in the Republic of Ireland. If you are a product adviser, or wish to become one in the future, then the Professional Certificate in Financial Advice will enhance the breadth and depth of your knowledge to provide consumers with sound professional advice.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme and on attaining the recognised professional designation APA, you will be able to:

- Provide financial product advice to consumers
- Describe relevant regulation that is used in the provision of financial services and the impact it has in this environment
- Use analytical skills to make recommendations to clients regarding a financial product.

Minimum Competency Code

Holders of the Professional Certificate in Financial Advice are invited to apply for the Accredited Product Adviser (APA) designation (appropriate to the product module they have successfully completed as per page 89), thereby meeting the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who wish to arrange, advise on, or undertake specified functions for one or more of the following five categories of retail financial products:

- Life assurance
- Pensions
- Savings and investments
- Housing loans, home reversion agreements and associated insurances
- Consumer credit agreements and associated insurances.

Continued use of the APA designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study two modules, Regulation and one of four other optional modules:

1. **Core (Module 1)**
   - Regulation

2. **Options (Module 2)**
   - Investment
   - Life Assurance
   - Loans
   - Pensions

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Financial Advice from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Financial Advice are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/financial-advice-apa

Contact us

Ann Hodgins
Programme Manager

E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit (APA)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: APA

Who is this programme for?

The Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit, a single-module level 7 qualification, is a must for those working in retail consumer credit. It covers all the major areas of consumer credit including credit agreements, loans, credit cards and hire purchase as well as looking at the Consumer Credit Act 1995 and Consumer Protection Code.

You are introduced to key areas such as risk-assessment, issues of over-indebtedness and the supports available to consumers who find themselves in difficulty repaying credit. This professional certificate also analyses the types of life assurance and insurance products currently on the market.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme, and on attaining the recognised professional designation, you will be able to:

- Describe the growth of consumer credit protection and discuss the impact of consumer credit legislation on the Irish consumer and how this impacts on the provision of financial products and services to consumers
- Discuss the pertinent credit issues, from the perspective of a lender and how they impact the consumer
- Explain the concept of over-indebtedness and describe the supports and services available to consumers who are over indebted
- Analyse the consumer credit products and services available to consumers within the regulated framework.

Minimum Competency Code

This programme and attaching APA designation satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who wish to arrange, advise on or undertake specified functions, for the category of retail financial product 'Consumer Credit Agreements and Associated Insurances'.

Holders of the certificate are invited to apply for the APA (Consumer Credit) designation. Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Consumer Credit

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/consumer-credit-apa

Contact us

Lorraine Duane
Programme Manager

E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Stockbroking (APA)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: APA



"I would recommend this programme to anyone who has an interest in financial markets even if it is not the area you work in. I think it would give great insight and understanding into markets and give someone who wants to make a career change the confidence to do so. I would naturally recommend it to people working in financial services who want to upskill and broaden their knowledge for career advancement purposes."

Killian Doheny

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Stockbroking is the only educational route approved by the Irish Stock Exchange for gaining the designation Registered Stockbroker.

This two-module level 7 qualification is the benchmark qualification for those working in stockbroking firms and those seeking entry into the profession. It focuses on the underlying securities traded on exchanges and how they are issued, traded and settled. It also outlines the key accounting concepts and statements, the taxation regime member firms operate within and the rules governing member firms.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme, and on attaining the recognised professional designation APA, you will be able to:

- Describe the main pieces of legislation and the rules of the Irish Stock Exchange that constitute the regulatory environment in which a stockbroking firm operates
- Explain the roles and functions of statutory bodies and persons in the regulatory environment and describe in general terms the various instruments traded and settled on the Irish Stock Exchange
- Summarise the issuance process, settlement process and trade reporting requirements employed for the main categories of instruments traded on an exchange
- Outline the process to assess a client's needs from both a private client and institutional client perspective
- Compute simple personal tax calculations and explain the operation of the major taxation regimes in Ireland
- Calculate the main accounting ratios and explain their significance and explain the general accounting principles and the purposes of the primary statements in financial reporting.

Minimum Competency Code

The Professional Certificate in Stockbroking and attaching APA and Registered Stockbroker designation satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who wish to arrange, advise on or undertake specified functions, for the category of retail financial product 'Savings and Investments'.

Holders of the certificate are invited to apply for the APA (Savings and Investments) and Registered Stockbroker designation. Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Registered Stockbroker

On successful completion of this programme, holders of the Professional Certificate in Stockbroking may apply to IOB's Registered Stockbroker scheme, subject to agreeing to comply with the CPD requirements and meeting the employment criteria. Members of the scheme are eligible to use the designation 'Registered Stockbroker' and are listed in the online register of Registered Stockbrokers.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. Stock Exchange Regulatory Environment
2. Stock Exchange Securities and Markets

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Stockbroking from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Stockbroking are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/stockbroking-apa

Contact us

Jennifer Fearon
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

NEW

Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship (APPT)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: APPT

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

We are delighted to launch the Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship in partnership with Trustee Decisions. The programme is designed for individuals acting or aspiring to act as trustees of pensions schemes and individuals wanting to learn and understand the role of a pension scheme trustee. It will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to carry out pension trustee duties effectively and with confidence.

The programme has been approved by the Pensions Authority and meets the collective qualification and knowledge requirements for trustees.

Who is this programme for:

- Trustees of an Occupational Pension Scheme (Defined Benefit or Defined Contribution) or a Trust based Retirement Annuity Contract
- Directors of a company acting as a professional or pensioneer trustee
- Those that may want to act as a pension scheme trustee
- Anyone working in a pensions administration role who wants to broaden their knowledge and gain experience of the role of a pension scheme trustee
- Anyone who is providing services or advice to clients in relation to company pension schemes.

How you will benefit

On completion of the Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship, you will be expected to:

- Analyse the fundamental principles of pension scheme management, discussing their applications and implications in real world scenarios
- Apply trust law principles in the management of a pension scheme, taking into consideration legal and ethical implications
- Explain and advise on the regulatory requirements and a trustee's obligations in the management of a pension scheme
- Evaluate industry guidance and codes of practice, making informed judgements about their application and the importance of ethics in the industry
- Assess the role and functions of the relevant statutory bodies in the management of pension schemes
- Communicate clearly using appropriate media, the requirements of pension related legislation in the management of a pension scheme.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. QFA Pensions*
2. Fundamentals of Pension Trusteeship

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

* Those who have completed the QFA Pensions module in the past 10 years or currently hold an APA in Pensions or the QFA designation will receive an exemption from the QFA Pensions module

Award / Designation

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

You will also be eligible to apply for the Accredited Professional Pension Trustee (APPT) designation.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics, or
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/pension-trusteeship

Contact us

William Lawless
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning (Gateway to CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 60 ECTS
Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: CFP designation

About the programme

The Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning is designed for those working in, or who would like to develop a career in, financial planning and wealth management and want to ensure that they have the requisite knowledge and skills at an international standard to support their career as a financial planning professional.

The programme is specifically designed to provide financial planners with the knowledge and understanding of the applicable regulatory requirements, the mechanisms and purpose of the main investment products and the ability to satisfy their individual clients' financial planning and investment portfolio needs.

The Graduate Diploma seeks to deepen your technical knowledge in areas such as asset management, tax, risk management and retirement planning. Each area provides the building blocks for the integrated personal financial planning module which provides the basis for developing client solutions and building long-term mutually beneficial relationships.

How you will benefit

This programme will provide you with the knowledge and skills required for a career as a professional financial planner. It will:

- Enhance your knowledge of the constituent disciplines underpinning financial planning including investments, pensions, taxation and estate planning
- Develop your analytical, problem solving and decision-making skills to produce comprehensive financial planning solutions
- Enable you to evaluate economic, financial and other relevant data to create integrated financial plans
- Promote a deep understanding of professional values and ethical issues in financial planning execution
- Prepare you for the Certified Financial Planner™ designation qualifying examination.

Gateway to the prestigious international - CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation

CFP certification is the world's most widely respected financial planning designation and it marks the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ as being professional, competent and ethical to the highest global standards.

At the end of 2024, there were 230,648 CFP professionals in 28 countries around the globe, including all of the main developed and developing economies.

The first cohort of candidates in Ireland were awarded the CFP designation following completion of the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning in June 2011. There are now 1,006 CFP professionals in Ireland.

For further information on CFP certification, visit www.fpsb.ie

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. Financial and Data Analysis for Financial Planning
2. Tax and Estate Planning
3. Asset Management
4. Retirement Planning
5. Risk Management in Financial Planning
6. Integrated Personal Financial Planning

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ).

or

- Equivalent relevant professional qualification e.g. Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA), with three years' relevant work experience obtained in the banking or financial services industry, Chartered Tax Advisers (CTAs), accountants, solicitors and barristers.
- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Candidates should also have a working knowledge of Microsoft Excel before starting on the programme.

Exemptions

On successful completion of the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning, holders qualify for four exemptions from the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice (QFA) - Life Assurance, Pensions, Investment and Financial Planning.

Holders of the Chartered Tax Adviser (CTA) qualification qualify for an exemption from the Tax and Estate Planning module.

Designation

*The programme acts as a gateway to the prestigious international designation CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation.

Financial Planning Standards Board Ireland (FPSB Ireland) require in addition to completing the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning, a candidate who wishes to become a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional in the Republic of Ireland must:

- Have successfully completed the certification exam set by FPSB Ireland
- Have met the three years experience requirement in financial planning as set out by FPSB Ireland
- Accept continuing obligations for certification, and
- Commit to the ethics and standards required for CFP® professionals.

Professional body membership

You must be a member, or become a member of IOB to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/financial-planning

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

Contact us

Edel Hayden
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Financial Planning

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Financial Planning is designed for those working in, or who would like to develop a career in, financial planning and wealth management. It will be of interest to those involved in the following roles with three years relevant work experience:

- Customer facing, providing financial advice;
- Support roles to Financial Planners;
- Accountants;
- AITI and Charetered Tax Advisors;
- Solicitors and Barristers

How will you benefit?

On completing the Professional Diploma in Financial Planning, you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the core concepts and the theory and practice associated with and underpinning the functions within financial planning e.g. data analysis, taxation and estate and retirement planning
- Use and apply your knowledge to advise clients' on specific financial planning goals, and make recommendations on their implementation
- Provide an adjudication on various approaches to financial planning and the appropriateness of specific strategies, bearing in mind the context and clients' background (financial, education, employment, health etc.) and circumstances
- Communicate clearly to colleagues, peers, clients and industry experts the fundamentals of the financial planning process
- Draw on your learning to identify possible areas of further study that would enhance your professional and personal career ambitions.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. **Financial and Data Analysis in Financial Planning**
2. **Asset Management**
3. **Retirement Planning**

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Financial Planning from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

Candidates who successfully complete the Professional Diploma in Financial Planning are eligible to continue their studies with the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning and / or the MSc in Financial Services and will receive the higher award only.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Financial Planning are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ).

or

- Equivalent relevant professional qualification (e.g.) Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA), with three years' relevant work experience obtained in the banking or financial services industry, Chartered Tax Advisers (CTAs), accountants, solicitors and barristers.
- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Candidates should also have a working knowledge of Microsoft Excel before starting on the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates, exam dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/pro-dip-financial-planning

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

Contact us

Edel Hayden
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Asset Management (AMP)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: AMP

About the programme

Post-financial crisis, financial services firms are exposed to significant conduct risk and it has become increasingly important that individuals in a client facing role understand the complex nature of the products they manage and/or advise on. Additionally, managers/advisors must have complete knowledge of the fundamental principles underpinning investment products to mitigate clients' risks.

The Professional Certificate in Asset Management has been designed in response to Banking and Insurance industry needs to upskill managers/advisors, above and beyond the Minimum Competency Code (MCC) requirements, in the area of investment advice.

How you will benefit

This programme has been designed for those satisfying the Minimum Competency Code (MCC) of the Financial Regulator who wish to progress their knowledge and skills in the specific area of investment and asset management to that of Certified Financial Planner (CFP), the world's most widely respected financial planning designation.

- The programme integrates both theoretical and practical aspects of investment and asset management
- It will provide a detailed examination of the theoretical and practical elements of investment assets, investment markets and market participants
- It also provides a stepping-stone to those considering taking the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning and the full CFP designation.

Professional designation

The Asset Management Professional (AMP) designation is awarded by IOB on successful completion of the Professional Certificate in Asset Management. The AMP designation, underpinned by both UCD and IOB, is set to become the premier professional designation for those working in Asset Management administration in Ireland.

Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Asset Management

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Asset Management from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the pathway to the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning (60 ECTS credits) are required to complete five further modules (50 ECTS credits). Further details at iob.ie/programme/financial-planning

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Asset Management are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ).

or

- Equivalent relevant professional qualification e.g. Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA), with three years' relevant work experience obtained in the banking or financial services industry, Chartered Tax Advisers (CTAs), accountants, solicitors and barristers.
- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Professional body membership

You must be a member, or become a member of IOB to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/asset-management

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

Contact us

Edel Hayden
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning is designed to deepen your knowledge of the theory and practice of retirement planning along with enhancing your skills needed to provide retirement planning advice.

The Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning is designed to complement IOB current programme offerings in Asset, Investment and Wealth Management advice. It also provides graduates with a pathway to further study – the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning.

How you will benefit

The Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning is designed to meet the needs of individuals within the financial services sector who are responsible for the provision of retirement planning advice.

Attention will be given to the increased complexity and variety of pension products available in Ireland and the regulatory requirements to be adhered to. Reference will also be made to the EU's reform of occupational pension legislation (IORP II) which emphasises governance and communication standards for occupational pension schemes.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Retirement Planning

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the pathway to the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ designation. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning (60 ECTS credits) are required to complete five further modules (50 ECTS credits). Further details at iob.ie/programme/financial-planning

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning are as follows:

- Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) in business or a related discipline

or

- Equivalent relevant professional qualification (e.g.) Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA), with three years' relevant work experience obtained in the banking or financial services industry, Chartered Tax Advisers (CTAs), accountants, solicitors and barristers.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/retirement-planning

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

Contact us

Edel Hayden
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Governance, Risk and Compliance

Certificate in Financial Services Compliance Essentials

Professional Certificate in Compliance

Professional Diploma in Compliance

LCI

NEW

Professional Certificate in Governance

NEW

Professional Certificate for Reputational Risk in Financial Services

NEW

Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services

Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals

CSFCP

MSc in Compliance

FCI

Professional Certificate in Data Protection

CDPO

Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention

CFCP

Certificate in Financial Services Compliance Essentials

Duration: 20-25 hours
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB

About the course

The Certificate in Financial Services Compliance Essentials introduces you to the role of compliance in the international financial services industry. It describes the regulatory environment in which the financial services firms operate. It introduces you to governance and compliance frameworks, and is an introduction to how some aspects of compliance are managed such as data protection and Anti Money Laundering activities. The emphasis will be on providing you with the knowledge and practical skills which you can apply in your day-to-day role.

On successful completion of the Certificate in Financial Services Compliance Essentials, you will be able to:

- Describe the domestic and international regulatory environment in which financial services firms operate
- Understand the role of compliance and where the compliance function fits within a financial services organisation
- Outline the regulations in relation to data protection, and financial crime in financial services.

Topics include:

- International Financial Services Regulation
- Types of regulated entities
- Governance, Risk and Compliance framework
- Three lines of defence - where compliance sits within the organisation
- Consumer protection – conduct standards and conduct risk
- Fitness & Probity, Minimum Competency Code, SEAR and IAF
- Ethics - Foundations of Ethics
- Culture and speaking up
- Role of Compliance Officer
- Effective Compliance Management Framework
- Compliance processes and controls
- Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) including Sanctions
- Data protection
- Emerging topics
- Purpose and management of a Regulatory Inspection

Assessment

- The assessment is a multiple choice question (MCQ) exam with 45 questions.
- You will also complete a short quiz to reinforce learning after each topic.

Duration and Delivery

The course is self-paced and should take between 20-25 hours to complete. Delivery is online.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

4 hours	MCC (All categories) - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
4 hours	CFRCP / CFSCP / LCI / FCI - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
3 hours	WMP, RPP - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
1.5 hours	CECA / FCI Ethics / PB / CB / CBD / CIFD - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
1 hour	CDPO / CFCP - (of which 0.5 hrs is Ethics)
0.5 hours	Ethics for RRP / PIP

How to register

Please visit iob.ie/programme/skills-cert-in-financial-services-compliance-essentials

Professional Certificate in Compliance

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"This programme provided me with a solid grounding of what compliance is and it gave me the confidence to change my career and start working in Compliance as a Compliance Specialist. I also went on to complete the Professional Diploma in Compliance. I would highly recommend both programmes."

Lorna Vaughan

About the programme

This programme is for those who work or aspire to work in a professional capacity within a compliance function in financial services. The Professional Certificate in Compliance is designed to enhance skills, judgement and ability to deal with practical issues in the management and practice of compliance in the financial services industry.

Those who successfully complete Compliance and the Regulatory Structure - PDC 1 and Conduct of Business Rules – PDC 2 are awarded the Professional Certificate in Compliance. The professional certificate introduces you to the theory of regulation and to its application to the financial services industry. The professional certificate is popular with students who require an introduction to the area of compliance as well as those who already work in the area and are looking to achieve the recognised industry and accredited qualification.

If you complete a further two modules, Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Compliance – PDC 3 and Compliance Management – PDC 4, you are awarded the Professional Diploma in Compliance.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of the Professional Certificate in Compliance you will be able to:

- Describe the legal and regulatory environment that applies to the financial services industry in Ireland
- Describe the role of compliance within a financial services organisation
- Outline the regulations in relation to data protection, marketing and financial crime
- Discuss the regulatory rules that apply to the provision of investment services by retail intermediaries and investment firms
- Explain the impact of regulatory and conduct of business rules from the point of view of the firm, of the customer and of the wider sector
- Analyse the importance of ethics and their role in the compliance function.

The programme is offered in partnership with the Compliance Institute.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. Compliance and the Regulatory Structure – PDC 1
2. Conduct of Business Rules – PDC 2

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Compliance from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Compliance are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Compliance Institute, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/compliance-cert

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in Compliance (LCI)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: LCI



"The Professional Certificate and Diploma in Compliance has broadened my professional expertise significantly and has been very beneficial to my career progression. My experience of the programme was very positive and I would certainly recommend it to any existing or prospective compliance professionals."
Emma Cummins

About the programme

This programme is for those who work or aspire to work in a professional capacity within a compliance function in financial services. The Professional Diploma in Compliance is a level 7 qualification considered to be the benchmark qualification for compliance professionals. It is designed to enhance skills, judgement and ability to deal with practical issues in the management and practice of compliance in the financial services industry.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of the Professional Diploma in Compliance you will be able to:

- Describe the role of the compliance function within a financial services organisation
- Explain the domestic and international legal and regulatory environment that applies to the Irish financial services sector
- Assess the authorisation, supervision and prudential requirements for different financial entities
- Explain the impact of regulatory and conduct of business rules from the point of view of the firm, of the customer and of the wider sector
- Discuss the importance of compliance practice, planning and monitoring as part of the assurance and governance in an organisation
- Evaluate the importance of ethics and ethical behaviour in the operation of financial services.

The programme is offered in partnership with the Compliance Institute.

Minimum Competency Code

The Professional Diploma in Compliance and attaching LCI (Licentiate of Compliance Institute) designation satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who 'adjudicate on any complaint communicated to a regulated firm by a consumer which relates to advice about a retail financial product provided to that consumer or the arranging of a retail financial product for that consumer'.

Holders of the diploma are invited to apply for the LCI designation. Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Compliance – PDC 3
2. Compliance Management – PDC 4

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Compliance from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Compliance are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Entry to the Professional Diploma in Compliance is limited to those who have successfully completed or registered for the Professional Certificate in Compliance.

To enrol on Compliance Management - PDC 4, candidates must have enrolled for or passed the first three modules Compliance and the Regulatory Structure, Conduct of Business Rules and Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Compliance.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional Designation

Individuals who pass the Professional Diploma in Compliance are entitled to apply for the designation 'Licentiate of Compliance Institute' and use the designatory letters LCI. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting the Compliance Institute's Continuing Professional Development requirements.

LCI is the leading professional designation for compliance professionals in all sectors of the financial services industry in the Republic of Ireland.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Compliance Institute, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/compliance-diploma

Contact us

Mikeala White
Programme Manager
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NEW

Professional Certificate in Governance

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

Governance is essential in the financial services sector because it underpins regulatory compliance, risk management, consumer protection, market integrity, and the long-term sustainability of financial institutions. Effective governance frameworks ensure that financial institutions operate responsibly, ethically, and transparently, fostering trust and confidence among stakeholders and contributing to the overall stability and health of the financial system.

The Professional Certificate in Governance will equip financial services professionals with critical and transferable governance skills across various roles. The objective is to develop governance professionals for a variety of roles and responsibilities, which either solely involve governance, or contain an element of governance across the financial services sector.

This programme is aimed at those individuals who work or aspire to work in the financial services sector, at any level as there is an aspect of governance now required within many roles, from entry level to Board level, and across all sections from IT to outsourcing, procurement, artificial intelligence and human resources.

It will also act as a 'refresher' for senior management, given the expectations currently being placed on them, notably by the Individual Accountability Framework but also contained in specific legislatures such as CSRD, AI, and DORA.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in Governance, you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the key terms and concepts underpinning the theory and practice of governance in the financial services sector and the factors (cultural, legal, regulatory, behavioural etc.) impacting and shaping institutional and organisational governance.
- Distinguish clearly between governance and management and outline the role and functions of a Board or advisory Board, and the factors that shape its effectiveness in financial services firms or organisations.
- Evaluate various governance codes, models, frameworks and ascertain how they can influence and inform governance practice in financial services firms and organisations.
- Communicate clearly to key stakeholders the essence of governance (Corporate, Project Management, Data Protection, IT, etc.) and the factors impacting governance practice in local financial services providers (FSPs).

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Introduction to Governance in Financial Services

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Governance from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Governance are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/governance

Contact us

Leigh Casey
Programme Manager
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NEW

Professional Certificate for Reputational Risk in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Reputational Risk in Financial Services is designed to inform you about the essence and importance of a firm's reputation and recognise the factors that shape it. The programme looks at how reputational risk differs from other sources of risk, such as compliance risk, liquidity risk or credit risk. Unlike those sources of risk, reputational risk is less definable and highly dynamic.

The external environment for financial institutions at present is highly challenged and sources of reputational risk are expanding and becoming highly diffuse. This programme seeks to explore these sources of risk and equip you with the knowledge to address them at an individual and organisational level.

By undertaking this programme, you will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to consider challenges to a firm's reputation and have the confidence to engage in practices to mitigate this risk.

The programme will be of interest to individuals currently in, or assuming such roles as risk managers, senior executives, or positions within internal audit, business continuity, corporate communications, marketing, sales, compliance, public affairs/ regulatory staff, Investor Relations and HR.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in Reputational Risk in Financial Services, graduates will be able to:

- Describe and explain the key terms, concepts and practice underpinning reputation and reputational risk in the financial services sector.
- Identify reputational risk dynamics and assess their impact on individuals' current roles, practices, and peer group across financial services providers.
- Devise and implement effective strategies for measuring and monitoring reputational risk within financial services firms and their applicability.
- Appraise best practice/worst practice in reputational risk management and mitigation and apply such practices in case studies and scenario planning.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Introduction to Reputational Risk in Financial Services

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Reputational Risk in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Reputational Risk in Financial Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/reputational-risk-in-financial-services

Contact us

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Programme Manager
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NEW

Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

To find out more about this new programme watch video

About the programme

Financial services companies often handle sensitive customer information, making them subject to strict data protection regulations. Upskilling employees in data protection regulation is essential for financial services companies to comply with regulations, protect customer data, mitigate risks, and maintain trust and credibility in the market.

The Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services is for all professionals who work with client data who wish to gain a foundational knowledge of data protection law, and the operational elements required to demonstrate that their organisation complies with data protection regulations. The programme is suitable for those wishing to gain experience for a role in privacy, or for those who have an element of privacy compliance responsibility in their role.

Undertaking the Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services provides the opportunity to upskill and equips financial services professionals with greater knowledge in how to comply with regulations.

How you will benefit

Learners will be provided with a basic overview of the law and gain valuable insights into how to interpret the requirements, along with practical steps that can be adopted. Learners will also hear directly from experts in the field and discuss relevant case studies that bring the theory into practice.

Graduates completing the Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services will benefit in the following ways:

- Compliance Requirements: ensuring compliance requires employees to understand these regulations thoroughly.
- Avoiding Penalties: it is crucial for employees to be well-versed in the regulations to avoid violations.
- Protecting Customer Trust: upskilling employees in data protection helps maintain trust by demonstrating a commitment to protecting customer information.
- Mitigating Data Breach Risks: upskilling employees in data protection equip them with the knowledge and skills to identify and mitigate potential security risks, reducing the likelihood of data breaches.
- Ensuring Data Integrity and Confidentiality: employees need to understand how to handle, process, and store data securely to prevent unauthorised access, manipulation, or disclosure.
- Adapting to Evolving Threats: cyber threats are constantly evolving, requiring employees to stay updated on the latest trends and techniques used by cybercriminals. Continuous upskilling ensures that employees are equipped to identify and respond to emerging cyber threats effectively.
- Enhancing Regulatory Reporting: upskilled employees can ensure accurate and timely reporting, reducing the risk of regulatory scrutiny and penalties.
- Supporting Digital Transformation: Upskilling employees in data protection enables them to manage and secure this data effectively, supporting the organisation's digital initiatives.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Introduction to Data Protection Essentials

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The entry requirements for individuals seeking admission to the Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services are:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level/GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, please visit iob.ie/programme/data-protection-essentials

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals (CSFCP)

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: In-person and online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: CSFCP



"The programme met all my personal learning objectives, was comprehensive in its scope and was delivered by expert practitioner lecturers. I developed a deep understanding of the risk, challenges, and opportunities, how the financial services sector is responding, and the regulatory responses at global, regional and national level."

Kathy Jacobs

About the programme

The aim of the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals is to equip those in governance, risk and compliance, or those entering compliance roles with the critical knowledge and compliance skills to advise on and advance the sustainability agenda within the financial services industry.

The curriculum will support those in these roles in control and assurance functions, enabling them to lead authoritatively on the legal, regulatory, policy, monitoring and risk management activities, which will not only provide Board and Regulator assurance but also be a key input into organisation strategy with respect to sustainability.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals, you will be able to:

- Explain to peers, customers, and other key stakeholders the relevance of sustainability to the economy, business and the financial sector, and the role of financial services within the sustainability agenda
- Identify the key current and emerging issues and drivers from a sustainable finance and regulatory perspective in particular the EU Taxonomy, SFDR, mandatory and voluntary sustainable finance and standards
- Explain to peers and the Board, corporate sustainability reporting and sustainable finance disclosure requirements
- Analyse the role of culture and ethics in a sustainable finance compliance framework and advocate for the sustainability agenda within your organisation
- Recognise the regulatory requirements on sustainability factors and risks relevant to the financial services sector and organisation in which you work and assess the impact on how the organisation manages sustainable finance compliance risk
- Establish compliance frameworks to translate the mandatory rules, regulations and policy into operational requirements and the tools to assess sustainable compliance risks and monitor and report on them.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Compliance for Sustainable Finance: Building the Foundation
2. Sustainable Finance Rules, Regulation and Policy
3. Compliance Toolkit for Sustainable Finance

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Professional designation

Graduates who complete the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals will be invited by Compliance Institute to apply for the professional designation Certified Sustainable Finance Compliance Professional - CSFCP.

Compliance Institute is recognised as the primary association for awarding designations in compliance and ethics, with Compliance Institute designations being the benchmark to demonstrate competence to work in compliance in financial services.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals are as follows:

- An Honours degree (Second class Honours Grade 2 award or higher)

or

- Have at least 3 years' experience in a compliance role, financial services or professional advisory role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of Compliance Institute or IOB to apply for this programme.
Note: You must be a member of Compliance Institute to attain and hold the designation.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online visit iob.ie/programme/sustainable-compliance-professionals

Contact us

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Programme Manager
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MSc in Compliance (FCI)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 90 ECTS
Modules: 9
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: FCI

IFS Skillnet | Compliance Institute



"The programme content was very relevant to my role and helped me to develop my understanding of the wide-reaching regulatory requirements and how they impact my daily responsibilities.

The support infrastructure from IOB was exceptional and the backup of UCD providing access to resources were incredibly important. Having the lessons and exams online made the programme so much more accessible."

Sinéad Clinton Caldas

About the programme

The MSc in Compliance is designed to give Compliance professionals and those working as part of the three lines of defence, the knowledge and skills needed to implement effective compliance and enhance your company's overall internal governance structures.

This programme will provide you with the multi-disciplinary skills to participate more effectively in leading compliance functions and to understand the practical application of compliance best practices.

It has been developed for those who work in assurance and control functions and will be of particular interest to Compliance managers and those aspiring to these roles as part of their career development.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your personal and professional development. It will:

- Provide you with the opportunity to develop comprehensive knowledge and expertise across a broad curriculum in compliance and regulatory risk
- Develop an in-depth understanding of the requirements and responsibilities of ensuring robust compliance within financial services firms, while maintaining the trust of customers and wider stakeholders
- Develop your thinking on key business challenges and ethical dilemmas faced by management when striving to improve business performance in regulated environments
- Advance your ability to blend theory and practice in complex and specific situations to improve business performance
- Enhance your business judgement, critical analysis and problem solving skills.

Professional designation

Members who complete the MSc in Compliance, will be invited to become Fellows of the Compliance Institute and to use the designatory letters FCI subject to CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study nine modules:

1. Ethics and Corporate Governance (10 ECTS)
2. Managing for Compliance (10 ECTS)
3. Financial/White-Collar Crime Prevention (10 ECTS)
4. Data Protection Policies and Procedures (10 ECTS)
5. The Regulatory Landscape (10 ECTS)
6. Designing an Internal Governance Framework (10 ECTS)
7. Compliance Leadership (5 ECTS)
8. Research Methods and Methodology (5 ECTS)
9. Applied Project (20 ECTS)

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a MSc in Compliance from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Students who leave the programme on successful completion of the first six modules are eligible for the exit award Graduate Diploma in Compliance from UCD (postgraduate level 9).

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the MSc in Compliance are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) in a relevant area in a business, legal or cognate discipline 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.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Compliance Institute, or become a member, to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc

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

Contact us

Mikeala White
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Data Protection (CDPO)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: CDPO



"This comprehensive programme delivers a coherent and practical knowledge of the GDPR. Its implications on data subjects is imparted, ensuring those who go on to take up the CDPO designation are well equipped to deliver in their role and ensure compliance with the legislation. I highly recommend this qualification for anyone who is interested in pursuing a career as a DPO."

Mary McDonald

About the programme

The complexity and volume of regulation underpinning compliance in data collection, use and management continues to be an area of focus in organisations. As well as a thorough understanding of the regulatory and legislative framework, professional practice in data protection requires judgements and decisions to be made for many scenarios.

The primary motivation underpinning the Professional Certificate in Data Protection is to provide a learning opportunity for compliance professionals, and those managing personal data, to develop the necessary skills to ensure that their organisation meets their current and future data protection responsibilities.

The programme was designed in consultation with the office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your personal and professional development. It will enable you to:

- Interpret domestic and European data protection legislation
- Develop a data protection framework within your organisation
- Design, complete and report on major data protection projects, which will enhance your firm's governance of personal data
- Justify the rationale behind recommendations concerning data protection
- Apply professional best practice and contribute to a personal ethos of life-long learning and self-improvement.

Professional designation

Members who complete the Professional Certificate in Data Protection, will be invited to apply for the designation CDPO – Certified Data Protection Officer and must meet CPD requirement.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Data Protection Policies and Procedures

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Data Protection from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Professional Certificate in Data Protection forms part of the MSc in Compliance. Further information is available at iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Data Protection are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2) in a business, legal or IT discipline

or

- Those who do not hold a degree, but have exceptional professional experience in the area of data protection, 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 Compliance Institute, or become a member, to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/data-protection

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

Contact us

Mikeala White
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention (CFCP)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: CFCP

Compliance Institute



"Studying the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention has greatly increased my knowledge of financial crime for use within my current role and future career development. High quality content and a very enjoyable and engaging experience. I would recommend this programme to anyone who works within the financial sector."

Alessia Damiano

About the programme

There has been a significant increase in the complexity and volume of regulation underpinning compliance in the area of financial crime prevention. Consequently, practitioners operating in this complex environment have to fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities of ensuring ethical and legal compliance within this regulatory environment while contributing to wider organisational objectives.

The role of the Head of Compliance with responsibility for Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing legislation, often the Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO) in a regulated firm, is a Pre-Approval Control Function under the Central Bank Fitness and Probity regime. MLROs within firms carry serious legal responsibilities and those who fill the roles must know and understand what these responsibilities are.

Relevant law and standards apply both at a domestic and international level and material breaches can result in personal accountability for MLROs as well as significant reputational damage and fines for financial services firms. The wider damage caused by financial or white-collar crime to individuals, communities and the public at large is immeasurable. Effective prevention of fraud and financial crime, combined with thorough investigation if and when it does arise, yields very positive outcomes.

The Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention has been carefully designed to equip MLROs and others who specialise in this area with the necessary competence to fill this role and is the only accredited qualification at this level.

This certificate has been designed in consultation with the Garda Bureau of Fraud Investigation and the Suspicious Transactions Unit in the Office of the Revenue Commissioners.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your personal and professional development. It will enable you to:

- Interpret contemporary legislation in the specific areas of financial crime prevention
- Design, complete and report on major financial crime prevention projects, which may be required to enhance your firm's positioning within the sector
- Determine, on an ongoing basis, the performance of a financial crime prevention framework within your firm's framework
- Apply professional knowledge and skills to investigate a suspected financial crime
- Maintain, develop and apply contemporary professional best practice.

Professional designation

Members who complete the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention, will be invited to apply for the designation CFCP - Certified Financial Crime Professional.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Financial/White-Collar Crime Prevention

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Those who successfully complete the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention, may wish to apply for the MSc in Compliance to progress their studies. Further information is available at iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) in a business, IT or relevant cognate discipline

or

- Those who do not hold a degree, but have exceptional professional experience in the areas of fraud, risk or compliance 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 Compliance Institute, or become a member, to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/financial-crime-prevention

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

Contact us

Mikeala White
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Retail Banking

Bachelor of Financial Services

Professional Banker

Professional Diploma in Financial Services

Professional Banker

Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services

Pathway to MSc in Financial Services

Professional Diploma in Banking

Chartered Banker



Bachelor of Financial Services (Professional Banker)

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 180 ECTS
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: Professional Banker

About the programme

The Bachelor of Financial Services (BFS) degree programme addresses the educational needs of those who wish to develop management and senior management careers in financial services. The BFS provides those who work in banking with an ideal opportunity to acquire a level 8 university degree, which is recognised and supported by the financial services industry.

While providing a broad business foundation, this programme also examines contemporary issues of importance to the financial services industry. A key feature of this programme is that it merges academic knowledge with relevant professional skills and has been developed by both industry and academic subject leaders. The BFS is designed with those working full-time in mind, and is flexible so that candidates can continue to pursue their career goals while studying.

How you will benefit

Upon successful completion of the BFS degree you will be able to:

- Broaden and deepen your technical understanding of the main activities in banking and associated risks
- Develop a highly marketable and transferable skill set, including decision-making, problem solving, communication and analytic skills
- Enhance your critical awareness and understanding of the contemporary issues in financial services
- Apply concepts and techniques to evaluate complex business problems to aid decision-making
- Develop and critically evaluate strategy and the sustainability of business models in banking and financial services
- Integrate learning into professional practice to take responsibility for personal and professional development.

Professional designation

Those who complete Stage 2, will be invited to the Professional Banker designation and must meet the requirements of the Professional Banker CPD scheme.

The Professional Banker designation is fundamental for those seeking to develop and advance a career in banking, including management roles.

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Bachelor of Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to Stage 1 are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications to Stage 1 on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Progression to Stage 2 requires that students have:

- Completed Stage 1

or

- Completed the University Diploma in Financial Services

or

- Completed the Joint Financial Services Diploma (subject to matriculation, which involves an NUI fee of €150)

or

- Applicants with an ordinary degree in business (or equivalent) will be considered for direct entry to Stage 2.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/bachelor-financial-services

Contact us

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Bachelor of Financial Services
(Professional Banker)
(continued)

Curriculum

The BFS has three stages. Students must complete 60 ECTS (academic credits) at each stage to achieve the award of Bachelor of Financial Services. Students must complete each stage before progressing onto the next stage.

* To be eligible to enrol to the BFS programme at Stage 2, you need to have completed 60 credits at NFQ level 7.

Stage 1 (Pre-requisite)
Students are required to complete all 6 core modules, plus any 6 optional modules (totalling 60 ECTS credits at NFQ level 7).

Stage 1 – 60 ECTS (Each module is 5 ECTS credits)

Core Modules; complete all 6 modules.

- QFA Regulation
- QFA Loans
- QFA Savings and Investment
- QFA Pensions
- QFA Life Assurance
- QFA Financial Planning

Optional Modules; complete any 6 modules.

- Stock Exchange Regulatory Environment
- Stock Exchange Securities and Markets
- PDC 1 – Compliance and the Regulatory Structure
- PDC 2 – Conduct of Business Rules
- PDC 3 – Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Compliance
- PDC 4 – Compliance Management
- Digital Risk Management
- AML and Financial Crime prevention
- Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour
- Digital Financial Services
- Introduction to Data Analytics for Financial Services
- Applications of Data Analytics in Financial Services

+

Stage 2 (Enrol to the BFS programme)*
Students are required to complete all 6 modules.

Stage 2 – 60 ECTS (Each module is 10 ECTS credits)

Complete all 6 modules.

- Principles and Practices of Credit Risk Management
- Customer Experience Management in Financial Services
- Business Economics
- Finance & Investment Decisions
- Business Management
- Operational Risk Management Practices

+

Stage 3
Students are required to complete all 6 modules.

Stage 3 – 60 ECTS (Each module is 10 ECTS credits)

Complete all 6 modules.

- Financial Services and Fintech in a Digital Age
- Principles and Practices of Banking
- SME Credit Risk Assessment
- Intelligent Digital Financial Services Transformation Essentials
- SME Financing and Distressed Credit Analysis
- Compliance for Sustainable Finance - Building the Foundation

↓

Bachelor of Financial Services

Professional Diploma in Financial Services (Professional Banker)

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: Professional Banker



"The Professional Diploma in Financial Services appealed to me as I wanted to progress my career opportunities and attain the Professional Banker designation. The Programme Manager and faculty were very supportive throughout my studies. I would recommend the programme to anyone who has credit experience and wants to develop their knowledge and skills in this area."

Chris Herlihy

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Financial Services programme is aimed at everyone working in banking, including those who work in or aspire to work in roles with management responsibilities. It broadens and deepens your knowledge of the practice of banking, customer relationship management and, particularly, credit risk management.

How you will benefit

This highly practical and applicable programme offers you a blend of academic knowledge and professional skills. Specifically, it will:

- Broaden and deepen your technical understanding of the main activities in banking and associated risks
- Develop a highly marketable and transferable skill set, including decision-making, problem solving, communication and analytic skills
- Enhance your critical awareness and understanding of the contemporary issues in financial services.

Professional designation

Members who complete the Professional Diploma in Financial Services, will be invited to the Professional Banker designation and must meet CPD requirements.

The Professional Banker designation is a fundamental acquirement for those seeking to develop and advance a career in banking, including management roles.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Principles and Practice of Banking
2. Principles and Practices of Credit Risk Management
3. Customer Experience Management in Financial Services

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Financial Services from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Financial Services are as follows:

- 3 years' experience in a retail banking role, have completed a 30 ECTS Special Purpose Award/s at Level 7 NFQ (e.g. Professional Diploma in Financial Advice) and have completed one of IOB's Specialist Purpose Awards (min 10 ECTS) at Level 8 from IOB's suite of specialist programmes

or

- Have an honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) with at least 3 years' experience in a banking role, and have completed one of IOB's Special Purpose Awards (min 10 ECTS) at Level 8 from IOB's suite of specialist programmes.

Continuing Professional Development

Once you hold the Professional Banker designation you will be required to complete 6 CPD hours annually. IOB will provide all of the required CPD content.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/prof-diploma-financial-services

Contact us

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Programme Manager
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Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"My aim is to attain the MSc in Financial Services, so I enrolled to the Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services as it is a core programme on the pathway. My student experience was honestly amazing. The way the classes were structured and delivered was excellent and my engagement and communication with other students was very helpful."

Moyo Adelaja

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services is ideal for financial services professionals who are in management and leadership positions, or who aspire to senior management and leadership roles.

The Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services will focus on the theory and practice underpinning strategy design, development and implementation. It will also ascertain and analyse the key drivers that shape and contribute to a firm's superior performance (competitive advantage) in the marketplace.

The aim of the Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services is to provide you with a specific skillset to build on your prior learning, augment your technical knowledge and competencies and up-skill/re-skill them to deal with the key changes and challenges facing your organisation and sector. The programme will provide a strategic lens through which you can integrate your technical knowhow in the provision of organisation-wide solutions, solve complex problems and formulate and implement strategy and change in a dynamic business environment.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services, you will be able to:

- Explain current theory and practice underpinning strategy, strategy formulation, innovation, strategic-decision making and strategic implementation
- Analyse and assess the financial services market environment using appropriate models and frameworks
- Select and apply appropriate tools to diagnose the environmental opportunities and threats faced by a financial services organisation and evaluate the strategic alternatives available to deliver customer and client value
- Formulate performance measures for strategic implementation and create and implement a change management programme to support strategic implementation
- Engage with colleagues and demonstrate personal initiative and leadership in developing and implementing organisational strategy
- Communicate clearly (using appropriate media) to pertinent stakeholder's, current strategic management issues for financial services players
- Pursue appropriate learning opportunities (academic and non-academic) to enhance your strategic decision capabilities.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Strategy and Innovation in Financial Services
2. Strategic Decision Making
3. Strategy Implementation and Change Management

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/strategic-management

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

Contact us

Edel Hayden
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Pathway to MSc in Financial Services

About the programme

The Pathway to the MSc in Financial Services is a flexible way for you to master critical skills that are aligned to your career plans and that prepare you for tackling complex financial services management challenges.

If you're an experienced professional who wants to deepen expertise in your chosen career while enhancing your strategic mindset, then this flexible MSc Pathway offers you the very best learning experience and a world-class qualification.

How you will benefit

On completing the MSc in Financial Services you will be able to:

- Utilise in-depth technical and theoretical knowledge necessary to manage in the evolving financial services landscape
- Critically appraise the forces shaping financial services (including regulation, technology, competition, risk, customer/client expectations)
- Assimilate a range of theoretical and empirical evidence to analyse complex problems and develop and evaluate innovative solutions and strategic alternatives
- Formulate strategy and policy for the financial services firm cognisant of the impact it may have on wider society and the need to recommend courses of action in an ethical and sustainable manner
- Critically evaluate the trade-offs between an institution's risk appetite, related internal control framework, operating model and its profitability
- Communicate clearly to stakeholders, using appropriate media and reporting standards, contemporary issues, decisions and developments in retail banking and financial services.

Routes to attaining the MSc in Financial Services

To attain the MSc in Financial Services, you must complete 90 ECTS (academic credits) through the programmes outlined in the Programme Structure diagram.

Core Requirement
The Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services (30 ECTS) is a mandatory component of the MSc and must be completed.

Two routes to attaining the MSc:

First route
Graduate Diploma Pathway

- Complete one of the four Graduate Diplomas listed in the Programme Structure diagram. Each Graduate Diploma consists of six modules over **18 months**. (60 ECTS)

  You must achieve a **minimum 2.2 grade** in the Graduate Diploma.
- Complete the core programme - **Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services** (30 ECTS)

Second route
Professional Diploma Pathway

- Complete three Professional Diplomas (30 ECTS each)

  One of these must be the core programme - Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services.

  Choose the other two Professional Diplomas from those listed in the Programme Structure diagram.

Programme Structure

MSc in Financial Services

↑

Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services
30 ECTS (academic credits)

Core Programme

+

Complete any two of the following Professional Diploma Programmes:
Each programme carries 30 ECTS

- Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management
- Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments
- Professional Diploma in Banking
- Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures
- Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in AI Models & Programming in Financial Services
- Professional Diploma in AI Management in Financial Services

Complete one of the following Graduate Diplomas:
Each programme carries 60 ECTS

- Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning
- Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services
- Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership
- Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management*

** If you select the Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management, which already includes the three core modules from the Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services, you must complete one additional Professional Diploma to meet the MSc requirements. However, please do not choose the Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management or the Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services programmes, as they also include common modules. Please choose from one of the nine remaining Professional Diplomas.*

Pathway to MSc in Financial Services

(continued)

Duration

You must complete all 90 ECTS credits within seven years to be eligible for the MSc award.

Final Award

Upon successful completion of all required programmes, you will receive the MSc in Financial Services from UCD, a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Important:

Upon completion of your final programme, you will receive only the MSc award and not individual diplomas.

Entry requirements

Those interested in embarking on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services apply in the first instance for one of the constituent Professional Diploma or Graduate Diploma programmes within the Pathways framework.

The entry requirements to these constituent Graduate Diplomas and Professional Diplomas in most cases are:

- An Honours degree (min 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Please note that some of the constituent programmes also have additional admission options (for example, entry to the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning is open to those who hold an equivalent relevant professional qualification (e.g.) Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA), with three years' relevant work experience obtained in the banking or financial services industry, Chartered Tax Advisers (CTAs), accountants, solicitors and barristers).

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information on this programme, visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Contact us

Edel Hayden
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Banking
(Chartered Banker)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: Chartered Banker

To find out more about this programme watch video



"The programme provided invaluable industry insights, practical learning and a clear pathway to the prestigious Chartered Banker designation, making it an excellent choice for professionals looking to advance their careers."

Karl McEntegart

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Banking was introduced specifically to support the development of individuals in leadership positions, or those who aspire to leadership roles, in banking and financial services.

The programme exposes you to contemporary issues in bank governance within the context of banking risk and capital management. It brings together the latest thinking and concepts in governance and risk and the technical knowledge required to assess and manage the bank's assets and liabilities. Graduates will therefore have a robust conceptual understanding of bank management and the technical skills to implement that understanding in running the bank's business.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your personal and professional development whilst giving you a deep, integrated understanding of banking. It will:

- Broaden your knowledge and understanding of the requirements for responsible banking, and the management of banks in the interests of a wide range of stakeholders
- Enhance your business judgement, critical analysis and problem solving skills
- Develop your thinking on key business challenges and ethical dilemmas faced by management when striving to improve business performance
- Provide you with the opportunity to develop comprehensive knowledge and expertise across a broad curriculum relevant to financial institutions
- Develop a holistic professional skill set to ensure commercial sustainability and the maintenance of the trust of customers and wider stakeholders.

Professional designation

This programme satisfies the educational requirement for the prestigious and internationally recognised Chartered Banker designation. Chartered Banker is the gold standard for professionals working in the financial services sector. Chartered Bankers are highly qualified professionals, well equipped for a management career or leadership role.

Those who successfully complete this programme will be invited to apply for the Chartered Banker designation. However, to be eligible for the Chartered Banker designation, you will also have to satisfy the requirement of a minimum of three years' experience in banking or financial services.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Risk Management in Financial Institutions
2. Bank Governance and Regulation
3. Bank Capital and Asset Liability Management

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Banking from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Banking are as follows:

- Individuals (non-degree holders) will have at least 6 years' minimum experience in a banking or financial services firm and hold the Professional Banker designation of IOB

or

- Admission will also be granted to individuals with an Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

Continuing Professional Development

Once you hold the Chartered Banker designation you will be required to complete 6 CPD hours annually to maintain the designation.

We provide all of the required CPD content with a combination of online courses and events.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/professional-diploma-banking

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

Contact us

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Funds and Asset Management

Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services

Accredited Funds Professional

Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services

Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company

Accredited Funds Professional

Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments

Accredited Funds Professional

Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds

Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management

Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services (AFP)

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 15 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: AFP

IFS Skillnet | irish funds

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services is a unique and specific programme, designed to support the international investment funds industry.

The programme will be of particular interest and relevance to those working in, and those seeking to work in the investment funds industry and to newly practising professionals working in the asset management and investment funds area of the legal and auditing advisory firms.

Reflecting industry practise and developments

Designed and delivered by the industry, the Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services is the acknowledged qualification of, and for, the international funds industry. A three module programme, the first module, Introduction to Investment Funds, introduces and contextualises the fund as an investment product, discusses the investment fund from its establishment right through its life cycle and the various involvements and interjections through that life cycle, including the importance of ESG and Sustainable investing in the funds industry and the increasing emergence of Digital Assets.

The Fund Accounting and Valuation for International Investment Funds module outlines the accounting and valuation aspects of investment funds, including the accounting statements for funds, the calculation of the Net Asset Value (NAV) and the importance of and controls around ensuring an accurate NAV, Exchange Traded Funds and their ever growing significance in the industry.

The third module, Depositary Functions and Transfer Agency, examines the operation and the roles and responsibilities of the depositary and transfer agency functions for international investment funds.

How you will benefit

The overall aim of the programme is to introduce, discuss and describe the investment fund from its inception right through to its termination detailing the functions and parties to a fund; the roles, responsibilities and activities of all the parties to the fund and how each area interacts with each other. It will enable you to:

- Outline and explain the theory and practice underpinning international investment fund services and administration
- Detail the factors, (including legal & regulatory), products, services/service providers which impact on the successful operation of international investment fund services industry and marketplace
- Examine the efficiency of the procedures, products, services, regulations, processes, and controls that are in place which include accounting standards and anti-money laundering to ensure the integrity of investment funds services industry
- Communicate clearly (in writing and orally) to colleagues, and other relevant stakeholders the factors, considerations driving the globalization of investment fund services, noting the associated risks and benefits
- Identify and pursue key learning skills designed to enhance students' personal and professional career ambitions.

This programme is offered in partnership with Irish Funds (IF).

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Introduction to Investment Funds
2. Fund Accounting and Valuation for International Investment Funds
3. Depositary Functions and Transfer Agency

Each module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/investment-fund-services-cert

Contact us

William Lawless
Programme Manager
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Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet | irish funds



"This programme is up to date with what is currently happening in the market and was invaluable in terms of deepening my understanding of various types of derivatives such as futures, options and swaps. I can highly recommend this programme to anyone working in the funds industry."

Mairead Kennedy

About the programme

This programme is designed for an ever increasing range of people working in the international financial services area who are engaged in activities which require a good working knowledge of the characteristics of derivative products and complex financial instruments.

The use of complex financial instruments in investment fund strategies has seen a huge increase over the past five years. Many alternative fund strategies seek to generate returns from asset classes solely created from derivative structures, such as the use of Total Return Swaps or Credit Default Swaps for long-short strategies in equities or bonds. Derivatives are now used in combination with even the most basic equity and bond management strategies.

The growth in derivative usage comes at a time of vast changes in regulatory oversight in both Europe and the US. The regulatory changes are being implemented through the European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR) and will impact the most fundamental aspects of how these products are traded, how collateral/counterparty risk is treated and how transactions are reported.

Understanding the risk and return characteristics of complex products and the derivatives which underpin those strategies has now become a critical function in the asset management, valuation and trading areas in international financial services.

The objective of this programme is to provide you with not only a very practical understanding of how the most common types of complex financial instruments and derivative products are used in the financial markets, but also their use in hedging, risk management and return enhancement strategies.

How you will benefit

On successful completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- Explain how complex financial instruments work and understand their uses
- Evaluate the benefits and risks of differing instruments and explain how they can be used for speculation, arbitrage, hedging and general risk management
- Describe how these instruments are used for investment strategies within the major asset classes (equities, currencies, bonds, commodities and property)
- Understand the role that complex financial instruments played in the recent market turmoil and what lessons can be learned for the future.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Complex Financial Instruments

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate, including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are 23 years of age before the date of their application for admission to the programme.

Experience in derivatives, although preferable, is not a requirement for enrolling to the programme.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/complex-financial-instruments

Contact us

William Lawless
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Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company (AFP)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: In-person and online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: AFP

About the programme

The Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company was introduced specifically to support the development of individuals in Designated Person roles, or those who aspire to these roles. It is also relevant to individuals who support Designated Persons and to other professionals in Fund Management Companies.

The Central Bank of Ireland requires that a Fund Management Company or self-managed fund ("Fund ManCo"), which delegates activities, must appoint a number of Designated Persons to carry out prescribed managerial functions. Designated Persons (DPs) are the individuals who are responsible for monitoring and overseeing the managerial function assigned to them. DP roles are Pre-Approval Controlled Functions (PCFs) under the Central Bank's Fitness and Probity regime.

According to Central Bank guidance, Designated Persons (DPs) are a Fund ManCo's line of management that lies between the board of directors and delegates. In that sense they can be regarded as the senior leadership team or an integral part of the Fund ManCos Senior Leadership Team.

There are six managerial functions and the related PCFs are as follows: Capital and Financial Management (PCF-39A); Operational Risk Management (PCF-39B); Fund Risk Management (PCF-39C); Investment Management (PCF-39D); Distribution (PCF-39E); and Regulatory Compliance (PCF-39F).

The Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company has been carefully designed to equip professionals in the funds industry with the necessary competence to fill DP roles and is the only accredited qualification at this level.

This certificate has been designed in consultation with our Funds Advisory Board, Irish Funds and a variety of industry experts.

How you will benefit

The programme will support your personal and professional development in taking on senior roles in the fund management industry. It will:

- Enhance your knowledge and skills; and
- Equip you with the competencies necessary to take on a DP position, or to support a DP

The programme will achieve these objectives by:

- Ensuring that you have a full understanding of the legal and regulatory obligations including the Central Bank expectations in this area
- Guide you on how you can develop a "DP mindset"
- Provide you with a good understanding of the various conflicts that can arise from multiple sources and situations and how these can be addressed, with a strong focus on the practicalities of challenge in different situations and different DP roles
- Equip you to engage successfully with boards and with the Central Bank.

Curriculum

You study one module.

1. The Role of Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company from UCD and will be invited to apply for the Accredited Funds Professional designation.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Accredited Funds Professional (AFP) is a prestigious "badge of excellence" in the funds industry demonstrating an ongoing commitment to developing knowledge and skills. The designation highlights to clients, colleagues and the wider industry a commitment to professionalism and career lifelong learning.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/fund-management-persons

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

Contact us

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Programme Manager
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Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments (AFP)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: AFP

IFS Skillnet | if irish funds

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments is an opportunity for professionals working in the funds industry to develop their expertise in the growing alternative assets market.

Increasingly, alternative assets which include hedge funds, commodities, private equity, structured products and real asset investments such as infrastructure investments, are becoming mainstream investments which are predicted to grow significantly.

Given the breadth of alternative assets, the programme will appeal to professionals working in the funds industry who want to develop expertise in alternative investments.

How you will benefit

The overall aim of the programme is to develop your technical knowledge and skills in alternative investments. It will:

- Advance your knowledge and understanding of valuation issues relevant to alternative investments and alternative investment funds
- Progress your understanding of long-term trends in the demand for alternative investments
- Deepen your knowledge and expertise in the range of alternative investment strategies
- Introduce the relevance and importance of alternative investments to various types of investors
- Develop your knowledge of legal and regulatory issues affecting alternative investment funds.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Investment Valuation and Risk
2. Applied Alternative Investment Strategies
3. Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Alternative Investments

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments from UCD and will be invited to apply for the Accredited Funds Professional designation.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Accredited Funds Professional (AFP) is a prestigious "badge of excellence" in the funds industry demonstrating an ongoing commitment to developing knowledge and skills. The designation highlights to clients, colleagues and the wider industry a commitment to professionalism and career lifelong learning.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/applied-alternative-investments

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

Contact us

William Lawless
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

IFS Skillnet



"The curriculum was very current with many real life and relevant case studies provided by the excellent Lecturer. The programme content was broad but well structured, and the Lecturer helped us understand the key factors that underpin market activities and how the Irish Funds industry interacts with capital markets."

Ronan Barrett

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds is designed for professionals in the funds, capital markets and asset management industry, drawing on and integrating key areas of essential knowledge, theory and practice required by individuals associated with the investment and risk management processes.

The programme is designed for:

- Capital Markets and Banking specialists
- Equity and Debt Raising professionals
- Corporate Finance advisers
- Asset managers and fund service providers
- Accountants, lawyers and other professionals who provide advice in the areas of capital markets, investment and funds
- Those involved in wealth management and advice
- Internal Audit staff who assess investment and risk processes
- Compliance professionals
- Fund Managers / Fund Promoters
- Financial control staff with responsibility for budget setting, capital allocation, financial performance evaluation and financial/regulatory reporting.

How you will benefit

On completing the Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds, you will be able to:

- Describe and explain the theory and practice underpinning capital markets activities, and the operations required to facilitate investors in those markets in achieving their investments goals
- Identify capital markets main participants, outline their roles and the variety of products commonly traded on capital markets
- Outline and discuss the key factors which impact on capital markets operations and future development
- Advise an individual investor on risk management and measurement in capital markets, and the enablers which exist for robust risks management
- Review the impact of the intended and unintended consequences of regulatory change across capital markets from the perspective of an Investment Funds Manager
- Drawing on your learning, identify and pursue career enhancement / professional development opportunities within capital markets and the funds industry.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Capital Markets, Investments and Funds

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Captial Markets, Investments and Funds from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ) and have employment experience in the financial services sector

Or

- Applications from aspiring candidates who do not satisfy criterion above but have significant employment experience at middle to senior management level, will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online visit iob.ie/programme/capital-markets-investments-and-funds

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

Contact us

William Lawless
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Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 60 ECTS
Modules: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management is designed to deepen your knowledge of the theory and practice underpinning investment fund services and investment fund services management design, delivery and operations. The programme is designed for practitioners in the international investment funds management industry (involved in the design, management, coordination and integration of services as funds administration, depositary, legal services, tax) drawing on and integrating key areas of essential knowledge, theory and practice required by individuals associated with strategy implementation, decision making and risk management strategies and procedures.

The programme is designed to meet the needs of practitioners (current and aspiring) in the investment fund services sector in Ireland, drawing on and integrating key areas of essential knowledge and practice required by individuals dealing with investment fund services management strategy, innovation, portfolio, and risk management processes and preventing financial crime.

How you will benefit

On completing the Graduate Diploma in Investment Funds Services Management, you will be able to:

- Outline and explain the theory and practice underpinning investment funds management and the design and provision of investment funds management services
- Use and apply your theoretical and practical knowledge to identify, articulate and evaluate the strategic role of investment funds services management for funds sector operations, innovation, and planning
- Evaluate and advise on innovative strategies and techniques to be applied to ensure that the provision and effectiveness of investment management services (funds administration, depositary, tax, audition etc.) is appropriately designed and integrated
- Communicate clearly to various parties (orally or in writing) the key issues pertaining to investment funds services management and the challenges to be identified and managed
- Review the impact of the intended and unintended consequences of decisions made in relation to strategy choice and implementation, risk management and implementation of strategic plans of an entity
- Draw on your learning, identify and pursue career enhancement / professional development activities to facilitate the attainment of specific goals (personal/professional).

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. Strategy and Innovation for Retail Financial Services
2. Strategic Decision Making
3. Capital Markets, Investments and Funds
4. Financial/White Collar Crime Prevention
5. Strategic Operational Conduct and Reputational Risk Management
6. Strategic Implementation and Change Management

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be awarded a Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management are as follows:

- An honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the academic admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role (to be considered on a case-by-case basis).

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/investment-fund-services-management

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

Contact us

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Risk Management

Regulatory Reporting in ROI

Regulatory Reporting Professional

Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management

Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management

Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services

Regulatory Reporting in ROI (Regulatory Reporting Professional)

Masterclasses: 6
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: IOB
Designation: Regulatory Reporting Professional



"I was extremely impressed with the quality of the expert lecturers and supportive administrative team. The programme has enhanced my career prospects and contributed to my professional development, boosting my confidence and competence in regulatory reporting."

Jackie Campbell

About the programme

This course is designed to provide you with core knowledge with respect to the risks within the banking sector that the regulators are monitoring via the regulatory returns. It will also provide you with regulatory reporting skills to ensure compliance with the regulatory demands for more detailed and robust regulatory reporting.

The course comprises of six one-day practical modules with each module examining the main characteristics of each principal risk area, the key regulations which are in force and the applicable reporting requirements. Students will gain new, practical skills associated with the mechanics of regulatory reporting, and be able to apply them immediately.

How you will benefit

At the end of the course you will be able to:

- Articulate the main areas of risks in banking that regulation seeks to mitigate
- Explain the regulatory rationale underpinning the reporting requirements associated with the risks in banking
- Explain the main regulatory reporting compliance requirements, including Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR) reporting requirements
- Describe the mechanics of regulatory reporting
- Explain the interrelatedness of the regulatory requirements and how they relate to the overall financial condition of a bank.

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. Regulatory Reporting Environment
2. CoRep & Related Returns
3. Statistical Reporting
4. Liquidity Returns
5. FinRep Returns
6. Other Regulatory Returns

The course is delivered on a part-time basis and each module will take place over six days.

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this course, you will be invited to the relevant designation and CPD scheme. The designation is maintained through completion and return of annual CPD hours.

Delivery and Assessment

This course is delivered online, please visit iob.ie/programme/regulatory-reporting-in-roi for details on the assessment methods.

Entry requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for this course.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this course.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/regulatory-reporting-in-roi

Contact us

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Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 15 ECTS
Modules: 2
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"Financial services is evolving at a rapid pace. When I sought to advance my learning and further develop my skillset, I looked no further than IOB. This programme provided exemplary and relevant course content with a consistent level of support throughout. IOB is an excellent facilitator of lifelong learning and I wholeheartedly recommend it to all in the financial services sector."

Deirdre Considine

About the programme

The programme was designed in conjunction with operational risk and conduct risk professionals working in banking. This certificate is the benchmark operational risk management and conduct risk management qualification for the banking industry in Ireland. It is designed to provide a deep and practical understanding of the key conduct risks and operational risks facing financial services professionals today, and the tools to identify, measure and mitigate those risks to improve business performance.

The programme is a progression for individuals who have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice who are designated Qualified Financial Advisers (QFA) and also individuals who have completed the Professional Certificate or Diploma in Compliance.

How you will benefit

This specialist programme will provide you with the skills to:

- Apply global best practice tools for the identification, assessment, measurement, and management of operational risks and conduct risks
- Have a deep and practical understanding of the requirements and responsibilities of operational risk and conduct risk management
- Develop a thorough understanding of key practical and relevant operational risks facing financial services professionals in Ireland
- Have the knowledge to identify skills to investigate, and report on operational risk events and conduct risk events
- Be able to produce meaningful risk MI
- Develop an advanced ability to blend theory and practice in operational and conduct risk management to improve business performance.

Curriculum

You study two modules:

1. Operational Risk Management Practices (10 ECTS)
2. Banking Risk Management Framework, Culture and Conduct Risk (5 ECTS)

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Attain the PRMIA Global Operational Risk Manager certificate

Graduates are eligible to apply directly to PRMIA to be awarded the globally recognised PRMIA Operational Risk Manager certificate.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management are as follows:

- 3 years' experience (full-time) in a relevant banking role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS level 7 programme

or

- Have an honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals employed in a risk role with responsibility for decision-making.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/conduct-risk

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 4
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"My experience of the programme was incredibly enriching. The lectures and assessments were highlights, allowing me to apply what I learned to real-life scenarios. Additionally, the programme offered valuable networking opportunities with peers, which has been great for my career growth. Overall, it was challenging but highly rewarding, significantly enhancing my skills and career prospects in banking risk management."

Kate Greene

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management is a specialist risk management programme specifically designed for senior risk professionals who are working in senior risk management or related roles in banking, financial institutions or providing risk management advisory services to banks.

This programme has been designed in conjunction with senior risk management and compliance professionals in banking. It covers a broad technical curriculum encompassing the key conceptual foundations of banking risk management and it will enable you to think strategically in order to manage the key risks in accordance with the bank's competitive advantages and risk appetite.

This programme is designed for:

- Banking and financial institutions' senior risk and compliance professionals who are members of the bank risk committees and related roles including, but not limited to, governance, risk, regulatory and liquidity committees
- Banking, financial and regulatory institutions' senior risk and compliance professionals who are working in risk and compliance roles including:

  Compliance - Credit review - Capital and credit modelling - Conduct risk - Asset and liability management - Market risk - Operational risk - Internal audit -Legal - Finance - Technology - Change management
- Risk professionals working in the Central Bank of Ireland, National Treasury Management Agency, accountants, business consultants, lawyers and other professionals who provide risk management advisory services.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your professional development and provide you with:

- At the strategic level, an understanding of the sources and nature of the key risks inherent in the banking model and the inter-relationships between those risks, the bank's competitive advantage, capital requirements, regulatory requirements and customer imperatives
- An understanding of corporate and risk governance and its relevance within the overall business context including global best practice governance standards
- The current global best practice risk management approaches used by banks to identify, measure, mitigate and manage risks in an enterprise-wide risk context
- The technical risk skills and knowledge to critically evaluate and implement practical solutions to the key risk challenges facing banks' senior management teams
- An understanding of the regulatory imperatives that drive risk management in banking and an understanding of what regulators are seeking to achieve.

Curriculum

You study four modules:

1. Risk Governance, Culture, Business and Enterprise Risk Management (10 ECTS)
2. Regulatory and Economic Capital Management, Credit Risk and Pricing for Risk (5 ECTS)
3. Strategic Operational, Conduct and Reputational Risk Management (10 ECTS)
4. Asset and Liability Management (ALM), Liquidity and Market Risk (5 ECTS)

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Attain the PRMIA Associate Professional Risk Manager (APRM) global certificate

Graduates are eligible to apply directly to PRMIA to be awarded the globally recognised PRMIA Associate Professional Risk Manager (APRM) certificate.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/advanced-banking-risk-management

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

Contact us

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Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services has been designed in conjunction with operational risk management professionals working in financial services and leading academics in operational risk management.

It will equip you with a deep, practical understanding of operational risk management frameworks and measurement methodologies in financial institutions. This qualification is the benchmark operational risk qualification recognised in the Irish financial services industry.

This programme is a practical operational risk management programme specifically designed for operational risk professionals. It covers a broad technical curriculum encompassing the key conceptual foundations of financial services risk management and it will enable you to think strategically in order to manage the key risks in accordance with financial services competitive advantages and risk appetite.

The programme is relevant to all risk related roles in financial services and to those who wish to develop a career in risk management. It will also be of interest to holders of a Professional Certificate or Diploma in compliance.

Specific job titles may include:

- Heads of Operational Risk
- Enterprise Risk Managers
- Operational Risk Managers
- Financial controllers
- Technology Manager
- Operations Managers
- Internal Auditors
- Compliance Officers
- Legal Officers
- Consultants
- Regulators.

The programme would also be of interest to financial institutions' frontline staff who wish to gain a deeper understanding of banking risk management practices including retail, business banking and corporate banking staff.

How you will benefit

This specialist programme will provide you with:

- A deep and practical understanding of the requirements and responsibilities of operational risk management
- Global best practice tools for the identification, assessment, measurement and management of operational risks
- Insights into latest academic thinking in areas such as AI applications to operational risk management and emerging machine learning models
- A thorough understanding of the key practical and relevant operational risks facing banking professionals in Ireland today including inter alia: financial crime prevention/AML/CFT, KYC, external and internal fraud, information security, IT resilience, cybercrime, outsourcing, business continuity planning, data quality, data protection, impact on capital and other practical areas
- Knowledge and skills to capture, report and investigate operational risk events, how to produce meaningful risk MI including Key Risk Indicator (KRI) data and trend analysis, and how to implement operational risk appetite
- Tools to identify, measure and mitigate risks and thereby improve business performance
- Enhanced business judgement, critical analysis and problem-solving skills.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Risk Governance, Culture, Business and Enterprise Risk Management
2. Operational Risk, the Capital Markets and AI
3. Strategic Operational Conduct and Reputational Risk Management

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services from UCD. This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Attain the PRMIA Associate Professional Risk Manager (APRM) global certificate

Graduates are eligible to apply directly to PRMIA to be awarded the globally recognised PRMIA Associate Professional Risk Manager (APRM) certificate.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/advanced-operational-risk

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

Contact us

Calum Conneely
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Credit and Lending

Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency

APA

Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit

Professional Diploma in SME Credit



Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency (APA)

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 10 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: APA



"I enrolled to the Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management & Insolvency so I could further my career in banking. I've found the knowledge gained has been invaluable and I still refer back to the programme material from time to time."

Joseph Doherty

About the programme

This programme is designed to meet the needs of professionals who are required to meet the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code in relation to Debt Management Services.

The Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency is a specialist education programme that offers a unique, independent, university level qualification. It is relevant to:

- Front office retail banking staff who are involved with mortgage pre-arrears, arrears and collections
- Back office staff including underwriters, mortgage restructure solutions specialists and other mortgage support staff involved with mortgage pre-arrears, arrears and collections
- Staff working in firms which provide specialist mortgage arrears and collections support to mortgage lenders (Outsourcing/Insourcing)
- Accountants, lawyers, Personal Insolvency Practitioners and other professionals who are involved with mortgage pre-arrears, arrears and collections.

How you will benefit

- The programme will provide you with the necessary knowledge and skills which are required to engage directly with indebted customers including mortgage customers, who are experiencing financial difficulties and to develop a range of robust financial solutions.

Minimum Competency Code

This programme, and attaching APA designation, satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those working in either debt management firms, or those who require new competencies to enable them to provide debt management services to consumers.

Professional Designation

Holders of the certificate are invited to apply for the APA (Personal Debt Management) designation. Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award/Designation

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency from UCD and will be invited to the relevant designation.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency are as follows:

- 3 years' experience (full-time) in a relevant banking role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS level 7 programme

or

- Have an honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals employed in a credit role with responsibility for credit decisions in financial services.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing date and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/personal-debt-management-insolvency

Contact us

Susan Freeney
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 25 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit is a specialist programme for people working or seeking to work in corporate banking and who provide services to large, privately owned and publically quoted companies including property lending to property developers and investors.

The programme was designed in conjunction with corporate banking professionals working in Irish corporate banking and is the benchmark qualification for corporate banking in Ireland.

This programme is designed to meet the needs of:

- Graduates of the Professional Diploma in SME Credit who are moving into corporate banking roles
- Corporate banking relationship managers and their lending portfolio support staff
- Corporate banking staff who are working in property-based corporate lending
- Corporate and SME Credit underwriters
- Loan administration and credit policy officers
- Credit review staff who are responsible for ensuring that lending and credit delivery standards are complied with
- Internal audit staff who assess whether the credit management standards are fit for purpose and are being complied with
- Credit portfolio managers who are responsible for identifying and managing excessive credit concentrations in the loan book, forecasting loan losses and estimating impairment provisions
- Accountants, lawyers and other professionals who provide corporate banking advisory services.

How you will benefit

This specialist programme will enable you to:

- Understand the components of the credit risk management framework
- Understand the regulation of published financial accounts
- Credit assess the credit worthiness of corporate borrowers both trading and property borrowers
- Assess corporate strategy, industry, economic and management team risk
- Conduct corporate financial statement analysis
- Calculate and analyse repayment capacity
- Evaluate the commercial viability and sustainability of a corporate borrower business plan
- Structure corporate lending transactions to meet the needs of the corporate borrower and comply with credit policies
- Describe a structured approach to analyse property credit risk
- Understand the key components of credit risk relating to property transactions
- Understand the key market indicators which highlight early warning signals in property transactions
- Explain covenants and conditions precedent
- Explain the key components of term sheets
- Understand the different types of debt instruments which can be used when structuring a corporate lending transaction
- Understand the role of external credit agencies
- Understand ethics in banking
- Describe and explain the different interest rate risk hedging, currency risk hedging and international trade products and services which can be offered to corporate customers.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Principles and Practices of Credit Risk Management (10 ECTS)
2. Corporate Credit Risk Assessment (10 ECTS)
3. Corporate Banking Risk Management Products (5 ECTS)

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit are as follows:

- 3 years' experience (full-time) in a relevant banking role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS level 7 programme

or

- Have an honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals employed in a credit role with responsibility for credit decisions in financial services.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/corporate-banking-credit

Contact us

Susan Freeney
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in SME Credit

NFQ: Level 8
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD



"Completing the Professional Diploma in SME Credit has provided me with a platform to pursue a career in corporate and business credit, and a base to continue my education with IOB. Being a busy working Mum, studying with IOB has allowed me to maintain a good work life balance."

Heather McNally

About the programme

This programme is designed to provide you with core credit analytical skills enabling you to specialise in trading, property, agri and distressed credit. It is a specialist education programme that offers a unique, independent, university level qualification.

The programme is designed to meet the needs of:

- SME relationship managers and their lending portfolio support staff
- SME Property specialists
- SME Agri specialists
- Credit underwriters
- Loan administration and credit policy officers
- Accountants, lawyers and other professionals who provide SME advisory services
- Credit review staff who are responsible for ensuring that lending and credit delivery standards are complied with
- Internal audit staff who assess whether the credit management standards are fit for purpose and are being complied with
- Credit portfolio managers who are responsible for identifying and managing excessive credit concentrations in the loan book, forecasting loan losses and estimating provisions
- Marketing staff who design and promote credit products
- Financial control staff.

How you will benefit

The programme will equip you with an analytical framework for identifying and conducting the credit risk assessment of:

- Viable and sustainable trading, property, and agri SME businesses focussing on the principal SME exposure sectors of the banks
- Fundamentally viable trading SME businesses burdened with an overhang of property-related debt that is non-core to the business.

It will also:

- Introduce the structuring options which are specific to the case studies
- Enhance the skills of relationship managers and credit analysts in managing credit risks to help mitigate potential loan losses
- Support the banks' strategic plans for addressing their SME distressed businesses.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Principles and Practices of Credit Risk Management
2. SME Credit Risk Assessment
3. SME Financing and Distressed Credit Analysis

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in SME Credit from UCD.

This is a level 8 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in SME Credit are as follows:

- 3 years' experience (full-time) in a relevant banking role and have completed the Professional Diploma in Financial Advice or equivalent 30 ECTS level 7 programme

or

- Have an honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission will also be considered from experienced professionals who do not meet the minimum admission requirements as set out above, who can demonstrate learning based on work and training experience e.g. individuals employed in a credit role with responsibility for credit decisions in financial services.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/sme-credit

Contact us

Susan Freeney
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Culture

Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services

Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services

CECA

Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services

NFQ: Level 7
Academic credits: 5 ECTS
Modules: 1
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD

Compliance Institute



"I enjoyed the mix of webinar and self-learning whilst studying this programme. The content made me aware of various industry standards which will be beneficial to my current role. The weekly reminder emails kept me on track and the webinars were delivered in a clear, engaging and digestible format."

Joanne Dowling

About the programme

The Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services, is a single-module level 7 qualification and is the industry benchmark culture qualification, for people working in the financial services industry across all roles and functions up to senior manager level.

The programme aims to develop your knowledge of the Consumer Protection Risk Assessment and how it relates to culture, ethics and behaviours and your personal responsibilities in sustaining an effective corporate culture.

The programme has been designed in consultation with leading industry experts in the areas of Consumer Protection Risk Culture, Ethics and Behaviours, and with Compliance professionals.

The programme is designed with an emphasis on Consumer Protection Risk Assessment, with particular focus on the areas of product design, sales process, post-sales handling and good customer outcomes.

How you will benefit

This programme will provide you with:

Consumer Protection Risk Assessment:

- Understanding background, purpose, approach and transition points of CPRA to consumer protection
- Understanding the rules on protecting consumers
- Components of a good consumer/conduct risk framework
- Product Governance, lifecycle, how to develop products correctly
- Selling financial products appropriately and ensuring the right outcomes post the sale transactions
- Understanding the role of incentives in encouraging the right behaviours and accountability
- Monitoring and MI.

Ethics Values and Integrity:

- Foundational concepts of ethics, values and integrity
- Behavioural economics and its relevance in financial services
- What it means to be ethical in Financial Services and how the right ethical climate supports good decision making
- How ethical behaviours can improve customer outcomes
- The role of morality and values in creating the right behaviours
- What happens when things go wrong
- What obligations do businesses have to customers
- How to effectively challenge and escalate
- Good and bad behaviours.

Culture:

- Indicators of a sound risk culture
- Regulator expectations and reports
- Roadmap for achieving desired culture
- Governance arrangements around the design, monitoring, and analysis of culture MI
- How culture can be assessed in organisations/ culture audits
- Understanding the importance of culture in ensuring good customer outcomes
- Understanding the role of mind-set and sense-making on behaviours and how this is being applied in supervision of culture and behaviours
- Understanding the role of group dynamics
- Understanding the impact of biases when making compliance decisions.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviours

This module carries 5 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 7 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services are as follows:

- Five passes in the Leaving Certificate including English and Mathematics
- Five O Level or GCSE passes, including English Language and Mathematics
- IOB will also consider applications on a mature candidate basis from applicants who are over 23 years of age, with at least one year's experience working in financial services.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member, or become a member of IOB, if you are not already a member of the Compliance Institute.

How to enrol

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to enrol online, visit iob.ie/programme/consumer-protection-risk-ethics

Contact us

Susan Freeney
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services (CECA)

NFQ: Level 9
Academic credits: 30 ECTS
Modules: 3
Delivery: Online
Awarding body: UCD
Designation: CECA

IFS Skillnet | Compliance Institute



"This programme provided valuable insights into decision-making, behavioural drivers, and the mechanics of change. I gained a deeper understanding of what 'good' looks like, how to lead meaningful change, and how to assess its embeddedness over time. I would highly recommend this programme to current leaders in financial services, as well as those aspiring to leadership roles."

Sandra Foley

About the programme

The Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services is aimed at senior managers in financial services working across a range of roles and functions.

Deputy Governor of the CBI, Derville Rowland, highlighted the fundamental role of culture in ensuring appropriate consumer protections: "The Central Bank's mission is to safeguard stability and to protect consumers. One of the ways we do that is through the regulation of the behaviour of firms and the people who work in them. Trust and confidence in financial services and the system of regulation is vital. Our vision for a financial services system underpinned by a strong culture of compliance, with firms and the people working in those firms acting in the best interests of their customers..."

The onus on senior managers to understand and address the drivers of behaviours and culture within their firm has come into sharper focus more recently by the introduction of the Individual Accountability Framework. Senior managers who engage in unethical behaviours, or who fail to take reasonable steps to tackle non-compliant or unethical behaviours in their firm, risk being held individually to account.

The programme aims to develop your critical awareness in the areas of culture, behaviour, and ethics. It aims to equip you with decision making, reflective and analytical skills to enable you to implement an effective culture that considers the intended and unintended consequences of decisions and policies for the consumer, shareholders, and society.

You will assimilate an understanding of ethical principles, corporate culture, values, group dynamics, cognitive bias and change management giving you a foundation to create corporate responses to commercial challenges in the context of customer focused culture as mandated by the Individual Accountability Framework and the Central Bank's consumer protection framework.

The programme has been designed in consultation with the Compliance Institute and other leading experts in the areas of Consumer Protection Risk Culture, Ethics and Behaviours.

How you will benefit

On completing this programme you will be able to:

- Explain the theory and practice underpinning culture, ethics, leadership, behavioural change, supervision in the context of financial services sector and institutions
- Outline the implications of ethical theories and behaviour and evaluate the intended and unintended consequences of proposed resolutions to ethical dilemmas and decisions affecting customers, shareholders and the public good
- Ascertain an institution's cultural behaviour, applying pertinent tools, models or frameworks
- Assess the impact of group dynamics and behaviours on board or team decision-making
- Evaluate existing policies and practices taking account of the commercial, consumer protection and societal imperatives in the context of delivering cultural change
- Appraise usefulness of moral rules, codes, standards or principals in leading and delivering cultural change
- Communicate to internal and external stakeholders how cultural and ethical behavioural change can be addressed and facilitated to deliver outcomes in the best interest of the company, customers and society
- Engage in self-reflection on ethical and cultural decision-making, in your role as leader of cultural change.

Curriculum

You study three modules:

1. Ethical Practice in Financial Services
2. Behaviour and Organisation Culture
3. Leading and Implementing Cultural Change

Each module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression

This award is on the Pathway to MSc in Financial Services. Those wishing to continue their studies and achieve the MSc will receive the higher award only. To find out more, please visit iob.ie/programme/msc-financial-services

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the Terms and Conditions for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)

or

- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work i.e. they have more than 5 years' experience in a management role.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Compliance Institute or IOB to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/leading-cultural-change

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

Contact us

Mikeala White
Programme Manager
E: education@iob.ie

Executive Education

Certified Bank Director

CBD

Certified Investment Fund Director

CIFD

Inside out Leadership:
A next generation programme for women leaders



Certified Bank Director (CBD)

Modules: 14
Delivery: In-person and online
Awarding body: IOB
Designation: CBD

CertifiedBankDirector



"An incredibly enjoyable format and learning journey, which provides insightful perspectives on banking and governance from programme content, professional delivery, and positive in-class engagement. Provides a broad context on governance through the lens of recent crises through to robust recovery, with key lessons learned through the economic cycle, with a unique Irish and Global viewpoint. Highly recommended for both experienced and aspirational directors."

Barry D'Arcy

About the programme

The programme is designed for executive and non-executive directors of the main and subsidiary boards of banks. It will be highly beneficial, not only to individuals new to the roles and responsibilities of being a bank director, but also to experienced bank directors operating in a significantly changed regulatory landscape. This programme is also targeted at senior managers aspiring to be bank executive directors and/or identified as potential future executive directors within their organisation.

The programme comprises 14 modules delivered over 10 days across two blocks of five days' duration each. A panel of subject area experts drawn from academia and industry lead each of the individual modules. The emphasis in the programme is on the application of key concepts to enhance the skills of participants and to create a learning forum where challenges can be explored and wisdom and insights dissected and shared.

Programme outcomes

On successful completion of the programme, you will:

- Understand the unique characteristics of banks, bank balance sheets, bank P&Ls and bank strategy
- Appreciate the implications of ongoing regulatory changes and the legal, regulatory and governance framework relevant to board directors
- Comprehend the unique risk profile of banking models, including the systematic and systemic implications of risk-related policies in the context of strategy and the relationship between risk appetite, profitability and stakeholder maximisation
- Appreciate the importance of the internal governance processes and the application of best practice
- Understand the changing nature of investor engagement and the implications for the work of the board
- Understand the behaviours required from well functioning boards and the expectations and requirements of individual directors.

Curriculum

You study 14 modules:

1. Introduction to Bank Governance
2. Global Prudential Regulation
3. Capital, Dynamic Balance Sheet Management and Stress Testing
4. Operational Risk and Enterprise Risk Management: Management and Oversight
5. Integrating Environmental and Societal Factors into the Governance Framework
6. IRRBB and Market Risk: Management and Oversight
7. Liquidity Risk: Management and Oversight
8. Credit Risk Management and Oversight
9. Fundamentals and Analysis of Bank Financial Statements
10. The Role of the Audit Committee
11. Conduct Risk
12. Culture, Ethics and the Board
13. Bank Strategy
14. Roles of the Board in Practice

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will earn the professional designation of Certified Bank Director from IOB.

Delivery and Assessment

Please visit iob.ie/cbd for details on delivery and assessment methods.

Entry requirements

The programme is for executive and non-executive directors of the main and subsidiary boards in banks. It is also relevant to senior banking executives and members of a bank's executive committee. Entry is assessed based on an application.

Designation

On successful completion, you will be invited to apply for the the CBD designation from IOB.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

CBDs are required to complete six hours of continuing professional development each year.

How to apply

As the number of places on the programme is restricted, early applications are encouraged. It is recommended that candidates speak to the Relationship Manager prior to submitting an application for the programme.

Contact us

For further information on the CBD programme visit iob.ie/cbd or you can contact:

Kate Walsh
Relationship Manager
E: kate.walsh@iob.ie

Certified Investment Fund Director (CIFD)

Modules: 10
Delivery: In-person and online
Awarding body: IOB
Designation: CIFD

cifd by iob



"The programme provided me with a valuable opportunity to engage in discussions on topical industry matters and important governance topics led by experts. This tremendous experience provided a great space for learning, discussion and really underscored the significance of good governance."

Eve Finn

About the programme

The CIFD programme is designed for:

- Investment Fund Directors
- Directors of Fund Management Companies
- Those with extensive fund/asset management experience who aspire to become Fund Directors and/or Directors of Fund Management Companies
- Those with extensive fund/asset management experience holding senior leadership positions in the funds industry.

The CIFD programme is delivered through an intensive combination of class-based, online, and self-directed learning. This is a blended learning programme, where class-based learning is supported by additional reading, online webinars and individual learning outside the classroom.

This approach allows for time constrained professionals to manage their own learning journey whilst still benefiting from the interactive and peer learning that a classroom environment provides.

The programme comprises 10 modules

Eight modules are delivered in the classroom and two are delivered online. The classroom-based modules are delivered over one block of five consecutive days and are supplemented by assigned prereading material and, for some modules, short supporting webinars. The online modules are Fundamentals of Alternative Investments and Risk Management and Board Oversight. Although these two modules are delivered online only, their content is weaved throughout the delivery of the classroom-based modules.

Participants on the CIFD programme are given login access to a programme participant page. Through this page, participants will have access to the webinars and a library of reading material recommended by programme faculty. Webinars are provided at the start of the programme and participants will be provided with a detailed programme guide with a recommended timeline to follow as participants navigate through the programme. As participants, you will play an important role in the success of the programme. Outside the classroom, engaging with the assigned reading and webinars is critical.

We estimate that approximately 50 hours of online and self-directed learning is required for this purpose. Inside the classroom, over the five-day block, active participation and discussion is facilitated and encouraged by lecturers. Contextualising the programme material in the day-to-day experiences of participants within the classroom is an integral ingredient of the CIFD programme.

What does the programme cover?

The programme's syllabus is intended to cover all key aspects of the value chain for funds and address the key governance issues faced by fund directors. The content delivered by the programme's faculty is dynamic - reflecting key prevailing industry topics and trends, such as the rise of sustainable finance and the evolving technology and digital landscape - to ensure participants are well equipped with the knowledge to become successful fund directors in the industry today.

Programme outcomes

On successful completion of this programme, participants will be equipped to:

- Critically evaluate the investment fund governance models they are involved with as a director or asset manager and identify gaps in the objectives, framework and process
- Articulate the objectives of investment fund governance
- Implement an effective investment fund governance framework
- Enhance the effectiveness of the interrelationships among the fund board, management company board, and fund service providers, including delegates linked to the fund promoter
- Understand the behaviours required from well-functioning boards and individual directors.

Curriculum

You study 10 modules as follows:

1. (Online) Fundamentals of Alternative Investments
2. (Online) Risk Management and Board Oversight
3. Investment Fund Governance I and II
4. Fund Distribution and Board Oversight
5. Transfer Agency and Board Oversight
6. Portfolio Management and Board Oversight
7. Investment Fund Valuation and Board Oversight
8. Analysis of Fund Financial Statements
9. Investment Fund Regulation
10. Custody and Board Oversight

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Certified Investment Fund Director (CIFD).

Delivery and Assessment

Please visit iob.ie/programme/certified-investment-fund-director for details on delivery and assessment methods.

Designation

On successful completion, you will be invited to apply for the CIFD designation.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

CIFDs are required to complete six hours of continuing professional development each year.

How to apply

As the number of places on the programme is restricted, early applications are encouraged. It is recommended that candidates speak to the Relationship Manager prior to submitting an application for the programme.

Contact us

For further information on the CIFD programme and/or to arrange to speak to our Relationship Manager, please visit iob.ie/programme/certified-investment-fund-director or contact:

Kate Walsh
Relationship Manager
E: kate.walsh@iob.ie

Inside out Leadership: A next generation programme for women leaders

Modules: 6
Delivery: In-person and online
Awarding body: IOB



"This is such a super course, and a real game-changer for women in mid-career who want to make the next step. Fantastic content and excellent presentation and engagement throughout. And what a bonus to have such a great tribe to march forward with!"

Gillian Murphy

About the course

IOB is delighted to partner with WomanUp to bring you this unique leadership programme that is specifically designed for women working in the financial services sector, to give you the skills and confidence to succeed in this rapidly changing, ever evolving word.

The programme is designed for women at key inflection points in their careers and who face unique challenges in progressing to more senior roles compared with their male colleagues. It guides them to lead from within by overcoming inhibitors, identifying their strengths and taking control of their career journeys, while also enhancing their leadership skills and technical knowledge.

The programme involves

- Six highly interactive modules
- Pre and post-module resources and tasks designed to deepen knowledge and understanding
- A report and analysis of each participant's leadership attributes and styles, i.e. using Life Styles Inventory (LSI) tool which has helped millions of people understand and change their thinking and behavioural styles to increase their effectiveness
- 1-1 coaching with an Executive Coach designed to support participants in interpreting their LSI reports, identifying blockages and behavioural changes while also embedding the programme learnings
- Self-guided reflective exercises and processes to capture the learnings and articulate visually where participants want to take their career.

How you will benefit

On completion of this programme, you will be able to:

- Establish a clear plan to progress your career while reconciling work and personal responsibilities
- Develop heightened self-awareness of your default behaviours and the changes you need to make to have more impact and lead authentically
- Understand the barriers that prevent you from progressing to more senior roles
- Discuss the key finance and risk considerations that are pertinent to the financial services sector now, and in the future
- Develop the key future leadership skills needed in financial services including Digital, Data and Sustainability
- Analyse the key strategic considerations facing financial services including the competitor landscape, threats and opportunities
- Have greater insight and knowledge on key technical areas required to lead within the financial services sector
- Create new networks through the programme that will help both your professional and personal development.

As a consequence, financial services firms will have a broader, more diverse pool of candidates for leadership roles.

Curriculum

You study six modules:

1. Looking Inwards: Changing Behaviours and Enhancing Leadership Impact
2. Sustainability, Data and Digital
3. Looking Outwards: Developing your Personal Brand and Networks
4. Finance and Risk
5. Culture and Strategy
6. Looking Forward, becoming more Strategic, Visionary and Resilient

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded with a digital certificate from IOB.

Delivery and Assessment

This programme is delivered on a part-time basis over a 20 week period.

Entry requirements

The programme is designed for women at key inflection points in their careers and who face unique challenges in progressing to more senior roles compared with their male colleagues.

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of IOB, or become a member, to undertake this programme.

Express an interest

For further information, including module content, fees, closing dates and to express an interest online, visit iob.ie/programme/inside-out-women-leaders

Contact us

Leigh Casey
Programme Manager
E: leigh.casey@iob.ie

General Information

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About IOB

Who we are

IOB is a professional community of over 32,100 members who work in banking and the international financial services sector. IOB has 38 corporate members consisting of leading banks and international financial services firms.

A recognised College of UCD, IOB is a centre of excellence in the provision of specialist education and lifelong learning to the financial services sector with programmes for members at every stage of their career.

IOB was founded in 1898 and is one of the oldest banking institutes in the world. It is a not-for-profit organisation providing education for public benefit.

Our Goal

In our chosen markets and sectors, to be the leading, progressive, authoritative expert in financial services education by combining academic rigour and practical application.

Our Purpose

Educate, enable and empower a community of professionals to achieve their full potential in delivering financial services to the highest standards with better outcomes for their customers, clients and for society.

Our Vision

An ethical, sustainable and continuously learning financial services community that contributes to a thriving economy.

An education framework for the banking profession

Through our Professional Education Framework, IOB provides a core set of qualifications and a professional pathway for everyone in banking and financial services - from Customer Adviser to Board Director. Developed in conjunction with the banks and UCD, the Framework supports you in developing your knowledge and your transferable skills.

It enhances your capability and confidence in developing your career and in availing of new opportunities. It also sustains your employability in the context of changing industry and organisational needs.

The Framework is open to everyone, whatever your age, career stage, qualifications, experience, specialism and ambition.

Our programmes

Our comprehensive portfolio of more than 40 educational programmes includes professional certificates and diplomas (level 7) on the National Framework of Qualifications, degree (level 8) and Masters degree qualifications (level 9). Our programmes are credit based, using the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

No matter what your current role is or what your career goals are, you will find a programme that helps you to do your job better, enhances your promotion prospects, and enables you to meet and exceed both customer and regulatory requirements.

Pathway to further qualifications

Our qualification structure is built on a credit accumulation system. If you have school-leaving qualifications, for example, the framework affords you a direct pathway to progress from level 7 to level 8 and onto our postgraduate level 9 programmes.

Similarly if you hold 30 credits at level 7, you have a direct pathway to progress onto a level 8 programme and 30 credits at level 8 provides you with a direct pathway to level 9 programmes.

We ensure that, when necessary, our programmes and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) modules give you the education, current knowledge and skills you need to meet the Central Bank's regulatory requirements, including the Minimum Competency Code and Fitness and Probity requirements.

Our executive and specialist programmes are designed for non-executive directors, senior executives and high-potential managers within the financial services sector. We support the development of members to become the industry leaders of tomorrow.

Lifelong Learning

Lifelong Learning is vital for our professional community. Keeping your qualifications and knowledge up-to-date enables you to meet and exceed customer and regulatory requirements.

Our comprehensive and cost-effective CPD programme includes:

- eCPD online modules, incorporating multi-media (audio, video and animation) that are accessible on PCs and tablets
- Topical webinars
- Events in locations around Ireland
- Accreditation for CPD hours of company events and programmes
- Online CPD record where you can manage and return your CPD hours
- CPD Annual Update Manual (where relevant to your designation)

Many of our qualifications count for CPD hours. Find out more about our CPD schemes and services at iob.ie/info/cpd

Excellence

Innovation is one of IOB's core values. We constantly strive to introduce new ideas, new education programmes and services, and to improve our services for our members.

IOB is committed to developing programmes which achieve the best levels of quality, relevance and recognition.

Through the independence, rigour, practical relevance and quality of our education programmes and learning experience, academic excellence is at the heart of what we stand for.

Education services

As a recognised College of UCD, our programmes draw on the strengths and expertise of both IOB and UCD, as well as those of our national and international educational and professional partners. When you complete one of our academic programmes, you receive your academic award from UCD.

Our programmes are designed for those with professional or school-leaving qualifications and graduates who want to pursue management or careers in banking and financial services.

We offer a diverse range of certificates and diplomas, which are designed to give you immediately applicable skills and technical expertise. Each certificate and diploma develops your understanding of the financial services industry, gives you analytical skills and practical knowledge in a specialist field and, where relevant, satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code.

Our degree and postgraduate programmes give you the knowledge, competencies, critical thinking, decision-making skills and vision you need to ensure that our industry is at the front line of international best practice.

Active in Europe

IOB is an active member of EBTN, the European Banking and Financial Services Training Association, which brings together banking institutes and education bodies in Europe. It has 26 European country members and 14 associate members. EBTN represents the interests of the leading banking institutes in Europe and beyond and draws attention to issues of strategic interest to providers of education and training in banking in a sustainable manner. EBTN also promotes joint education, training and research initiatives. IOB was the first education body in Europe to achieve the "Triple E" quality standard in financial services education awarded by EBTN.

For further information, please visit www.ebtn-association.eu

Triple E
Quality Standard Awarded by EBTN

Programmes and Designations** 2025-2026

Step 4 (Executive Education)

- CBD — Certified Bank Director programme
- CIFD — Certified Investment Fund Director programme
- Inside out Leadership: A next generation programme for women leaders

Step 3 (NFQ† level 9)

- CFP — Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning — 60
- Professional Diploma in Financial Planning — 30
- AMP — Professional Certificate in Asset Management — 10
- Professional Certificate in Retirement Planning — 10
- Pathway to MSc in Financial Services — 90
- Professional Diploma in Strategic Management in Financial Services — 30
- CB — Professional Diploma in Banking — 30
- Graduate Diploma in Digital and Data Strategy in Financial Services — 60
- Professional Diploma in AI Models and Programming in Financial Services — 30
- Professional Diploma in AI Management in Financial Services — 30
- Professional Diploma in Data and Analytics in Financial Services — 30
- Professional Diploma in Digital Transformation in Financial Services — 30
- Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Transformational Leadership — 60
- Professional Diploma in ESG and Sustainable Finance Leadership in Financial Services — 30
- Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance Reporting and Disclosures — 30
- FCI — MSc in Compliance — 90
- CDPO — Professional Certificate in Data Protection — 10
- CFCP — Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention — 10
- CECA — Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services — 30
- Graduate Diploma in Investment Fund Services Management — 60
- AFP ‡ — Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company — 10
- AFP — Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments — 30
- Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds — 10
- Professional Diploma in Advanced Banking Risk Management — 30
- Professional Diploma in Advanced Operational Risk Management in Financial Services — 30

Step 2 (NFQ† Level 8)

- PB — Professional Diploma in Financial Services — 30
- PB — Bachelor of Financial Services — 180
- Professional Certificate in Customer Experience Management in Financial Services — 10
- Professional Diploma in Digital Financial Services Management and Fintech — 30
- CSFCP — Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for GRC Professionals — 30
- Professional Certificate in Conduct Risk, Culture and Operational Risk Management — 15
- APA — Professional Certificate in Personal Debt Management and Personal Insolvency — 10
- Professional Diploma in Corporate Banking Credit — 25
- Professional Diploma in SME Credit — 30

Step 1 (NFQ† Level 7)

- QFA — Professional Diploma in Financial Advice — 30
- APA — Professional Certificate in Financial Advice — 10
- APA — Professional Certificate in Consumer Credit — 5
- APA — Professional Certificate in Stockbroking — 10
- APPT — Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship — 10
- AFP ‡ — Professional Certificate in International Investment Fund Services — 15
- Professional Certificate in Complex Financial Instruments in International Financial Services — 10
- Professional Certificate in Compliance — 10
- LCI — Professional Diploma in Compliance — 10
- Professional Certificate in Governance — 5
- Professional Certificate in Reputational Risk in Financial Services — 5
- Professional Certificate in Data Protection Essentials in Financial Services — 5
- Professional Certificate in Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals in Financial Services — 15
- Professional Certificate in Digital Risk, AML and Financial Crime Prevention — 10
- Professional Certificate in Digital Financial Services and Data Analytics — 15
- Professional Certificate in ESG in Financial Services — 5
- Professional Certificate in Consumer Protection Risk, Culture and Ethical Behaviour in Fininicial Services — 5

KEY

* The Professional Education Framework for banking is a flexible education pathway that provides learning and development opportunities wherever you are in your career. You can access the framework at any step to take specialist qualifications, depending on your career and learning need.

** Professional designations are a recognition of educational achievement and professional standing. They are an endorsement of academic qualifications, professional knowledge and experience.

† NFQ - National Framework of Qualifications.

‡ Accredited Funds Professional.

Professional Designations - your badge of excellence

What are they?

Professional designations are a recognition of educational achievement and professional standing. They are an endorsement of academic qualifications, professional knowledge and experience. They are your badge of excellence in your profession.

On successful completion of a relevant qualification you will be invited to the appropriate professional designation. Subject to satisfying its Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements, holders of designations are entitled to use certain qualifying letters or titles after their name. Examples are Chartered Banker, Professional Banker and Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA). IOB awards a number of professional designations.

Why are they important?

IOB's programmes and the designations leading from them are portable and several of them are leading international designations with world-wide reputation.

Designations are important because they meet the expectations of customers and regulatory requirements.

What role does CPD play and why is it necessary?

Learning and professional development do not stop once you have obtained your qualification, they are the basis of lifelong learning keeping you up-to-date as a professional through ongoing CPD. It is a process which continues for the rest of your professional life to ensure that you can keep up-to-date and maintain your professional knowledge, skills and competence. CPD is therefore central to sustaining a professional designation and integral to lifelong learning.

CPD is a mandatory regulatory requirement to maintain certain banking and financial services designations under the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code.

IOB offers a comprehensive range of CPD online programmes, seminars, events and other services. IOB has the largest CPD management system in Ireland with 25,000 registered members.

Accredited Product Adviser (APA) and Qualified Financial Adviser Diploma (QFA)

The APA designation allows individuals to become accredited in one or more of the eight categories of retail financial products under the Central Bank's Minimum Competency Code.

To be awarded the Professional Certificate in Financial Advice, an individual must pass the module Regulation and one of four other optional modules (see Figure 1). The precise APA awarded is determined by the elective modules passed. For example, those passing Regulation and Loans are eligible for APA (Loans) and those passing Regulation and Life Assurance for APA (Life Assurance). Individuals may subsequently complete additional elective modules to 'extend' their APA. For example, a person with an APA (Savings and Investments) who goes on to complete the Loans module will be eligible for the APA (Savings and Investments, Loans). However, the Regulation module has to be passed only once and the Professional Certificate in Financial Advice is awarded only once.

As can be seen in Figure 1, the Professional Certificate and related APAs are both qualifications/recognised designations in their own right and stepping stones to the prestigious Professional Diploma in Financial Advice/Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA) designation. For example, a person who has achieved an APA in five product categories (i.e. completed Regulation and four other modules) must complete only the module Financial Planning to be eligible to apply for the Qualified Financial Adviser (QFA) designation.

QFA is the benchmark professional designation in financial advice for those working in Irish banking and financial services.

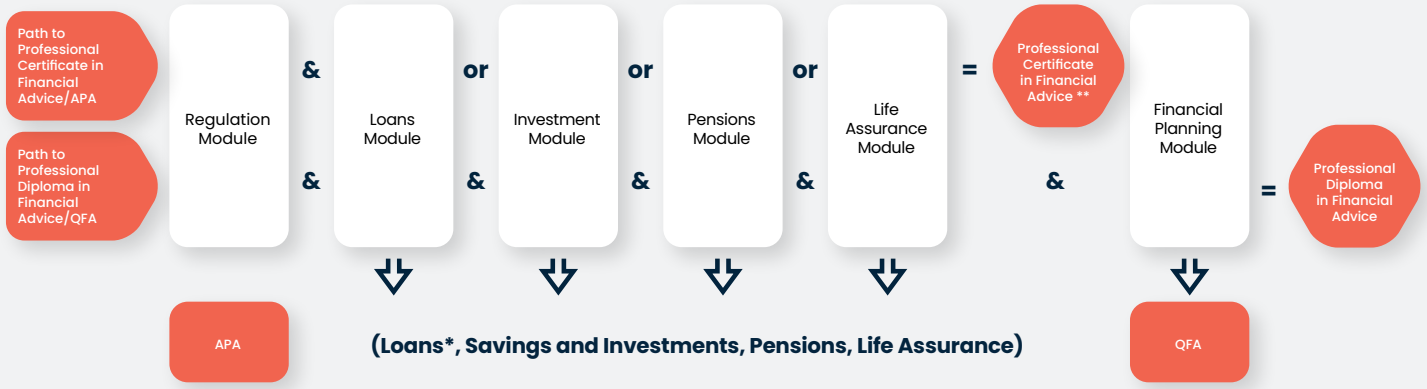
Route to APA:

Professional Certificate in Financial Advice

Route to QFA:

Professional Diploma in Financial Advice

Figure 1: Path to APA and QFA designation



* Holders of the APA (Loans) designation are accredited to advise on (and undertake specified functions relating to) the Housing Loans and Consumer Credit product categories.
** The Professional Certificate in Financial Advice (PCFA) and the designation APA are awarded only once on completion of Regulation and one of the following modules: Loans, Investment, Pensions, Life Assurance. Thereafter, members may pass additional elective modules to 'extend' their APA, thereby becoming accredited for additional retail financial product categories.

Professional Designations - your badge of excellence

Accredited Professional Pension Trustee (APPT)*

The Accredited Professional Pension Trustee (APPT) designation is awarded by IOB on successful completion of the Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship programme. The award and designation will certify holders that they have attained the skills, competencies, and knowledge necessary to act as a professional Pension Scheme Trustee. This will enable the holder to ensure the sound and prudent management of any pension scheme they are appointed to as trustee.

Continued use of the designation will be subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

*(Designation subject to approval)

Route:

Professional Certificate in Pension Trusteeship

Registered Stockbroker

The Professional Certificate in Stockbroking and attaching APA and Registered Stockbroker designation satisfies the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who wish to arrange, advise on or undertake specified functions, for the category of retail financial product 'Savings and Investments'.

Holders of the certificate are invited to apply for the APA (Savings and Investments) and Registered Stockbroker designation. Continued use of the designation is subject to meeting annual CPD requirements.

Route:

Professional Certificate in Stockbroking

Accredited Funds Professional (AFP)

Accredited Funds Professional designation was developed in conjunction with Irish Funds. The professional designation is awarded by IOB to those who have successfully completed the Professional Certificate in International Investment Funds Services (or the previously named programmes; Certificate in Mutual Funds, Professional Certificate in Investment Fund Services, Specialist Certificate in Investment Fund Services) and the Professonial Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company, or have at least four years relevent industry experience.

Designates who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development are entitled to use the designation 'Accredited Funds Professional'.

Route:

Professional Certificate in International Investment Funds Services

Professional Certificate for Designated Persons in a Fund Management Company

Professional Diploma in Applied Alternative Investments

Professional Banker

Professional Banker is a prestigious professional designation awarded by IOB. Professional Bankers are recognised for their knowledge of and proficiency in banking. It is a fundamental requirement for those seeking to develop and advance a career in financial services, including management roles.

Designates who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development are entitled to use the designation, 'Professional Banker'.

Route:

Professional Diploma in Financial Services

Bachelor of Financial Services

Chartered Banker

Chartered Banker is the gold standard, internationally recognised professional designation, awarded jointly by IOB and the Chartered Banker Institute (Scotland). Chartered Bankers are recognised as well equipped for a leadership role in financial services.

Designates who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development are entitled to use the designation 'Chartered Banker'.

Route:

Professional Diploma in Banking

Certified Bank Director (CBD)

The Certified Bank Director designation is unique in Europe and is regarded as the qualification of choice for bank directors. On successful completion of the Certified Bank Director programme, participants are invited by IOB to apply for the professional designation of Certified Bank Director.

Designates who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development are entitled to use the designation 'Certified Bank Director'.

Route:

Certified Bank Director programme

Certified Investment Fund Director (CIFD)

Those who complete the Certified Investment Fund Director programme and who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development will be entitled to use the designation Certified Investment Fund Director.

Route:

Certified Investment Fund Director programme

Professional Designations - your badge of excellence

Licentiate of the Compliance Institute (LCI)

Licentiate of the Compliance Institute (LCI) is awarded to those who successfully complete the Professional Diploma in Compliance (PDC). Continued use of this designation and the designatory letters LCI is subject to meeting the Compliance Institute's CPD requirements.

The PDC and attaching LCI designation is one of the recognised qualifications under the Central Bank of Ireland's Minimum Competency Code for those who 'adjudicate on any complaint communicated to a regulated firm by a consumer which relates to advice about a retail financial product provided to that consumer or the arranging of a retail financial product for that consumer'. The LCI designation is also recognised by IFCA (International Foundation of Compliance Officers) as Internationally Certified Compliance Professionals (ICCP). There are more than 1,450 LCIs currently in Ireland.

Route:

Professional Diploma in Compliance

Certified Sustainable Finance Compliance Professional (CSFCP)

Graduates who complete the Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals will be invited by the Compliance Institute to apply for the professional designation Certified Sustainable Finance Compliance Professional - CSFCP. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting the Compliance Institute's Continuing Professional Development requirements.

Route:

Professional Diploma in Sustainable Finance for Governance, Risk and Compliance Professionals

Fellow of the Compliance Institute (FCI)

FCI is the highest professional designation awarded by the Compliance Institute. Fellowship is awarded to those who have successfully completed the MSc in Compliance and who, as members of the Compliance Institute, undertake to meet ongoing Continuing Professional Development requirements. Fellows are entitled to use the designation 'FCI'.

Route:

MSc in Compliance

Certified Ethics and Cultural Advisor (CECA)

Graduates who complete the Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services, are entitled to apply for the designation offered by the Compliance Institute 'Certified Ethics and Cultural Advisor' and use the designatory letters CECA. Continued use of this designation is subject to meeting the Compliance Institute's Continuing Professional Development requirements.

Route:

Professional Diploma in Leading Cultural Change and Ethical Behaviour in Financial Services

Certified Data Protection Officer (CDPO)

Graduates who complete the Professional Certificate in Data Protection programme and who, as members of the Compliance Institute, complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development will be entitled to use the designation 'CDPO' - Certified Data Protection Officer.

Route:

Professional Certificate in Data Protection

Certified Financial Crime Prevention Practitioner (CFCP)

Graduates who complete the Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention programme and who, as members of the Compliance Institute, complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development will be entitled to use the designation 'CFCP' - Certified Financial Crime Professional.

Route:

Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention

Asset Management Professional (AMP)

This professional designation is awarded by IOB on successful completion of the Professional Certificate in Asset Management. The AMP designation, underpinned by both UCD and IOB, is set to become the premier professional designation for those working in Asset Management administration in Ireland.

Route:

QFA designate plus
Professional Certificate in Asset Management

Regulatory Reporting Professional

Regulatory Reporting Professional is a prestigious designation awarded by IOB. Regulatory Reporting Professionals are recognised for their core knowledge with respect to the risks within the banking sector that the regulators are monitoring via the regulatory returns.

Designates who complete the requisite Continuing Professional Development are entitled to the use the designation, Regulatory Reporting Professional.

Route:

Regulatory Reporting in ROI

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER certification certification is the world's most widely respected financial planning designation and it marks the Certified Financial Planner as being competent, ethical and professional to the highest global standards.

At the end of 2024, there were 230,648 CFP professionals in 28 countries around the globe, including all of the main developed and developing economies.

The first cohort of candidates in Ireland were awarded the CFP designation following completion of the Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning in June 2011. There are now 1,006 CFP professionals in Ireland.

Route:

Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning

The Professional Education Framework - an overview

The Professional Education Framework is a core set of designations for everyone working in the banking profession, from Customer Adviser to Board Director. Developed in conjunction with the banks and UCD, the Framework responds to the expectations of customers, the industry's changing business needs and the requirements of regulation. The Framework is at the heart of advancing professional excellence in the banking profession.

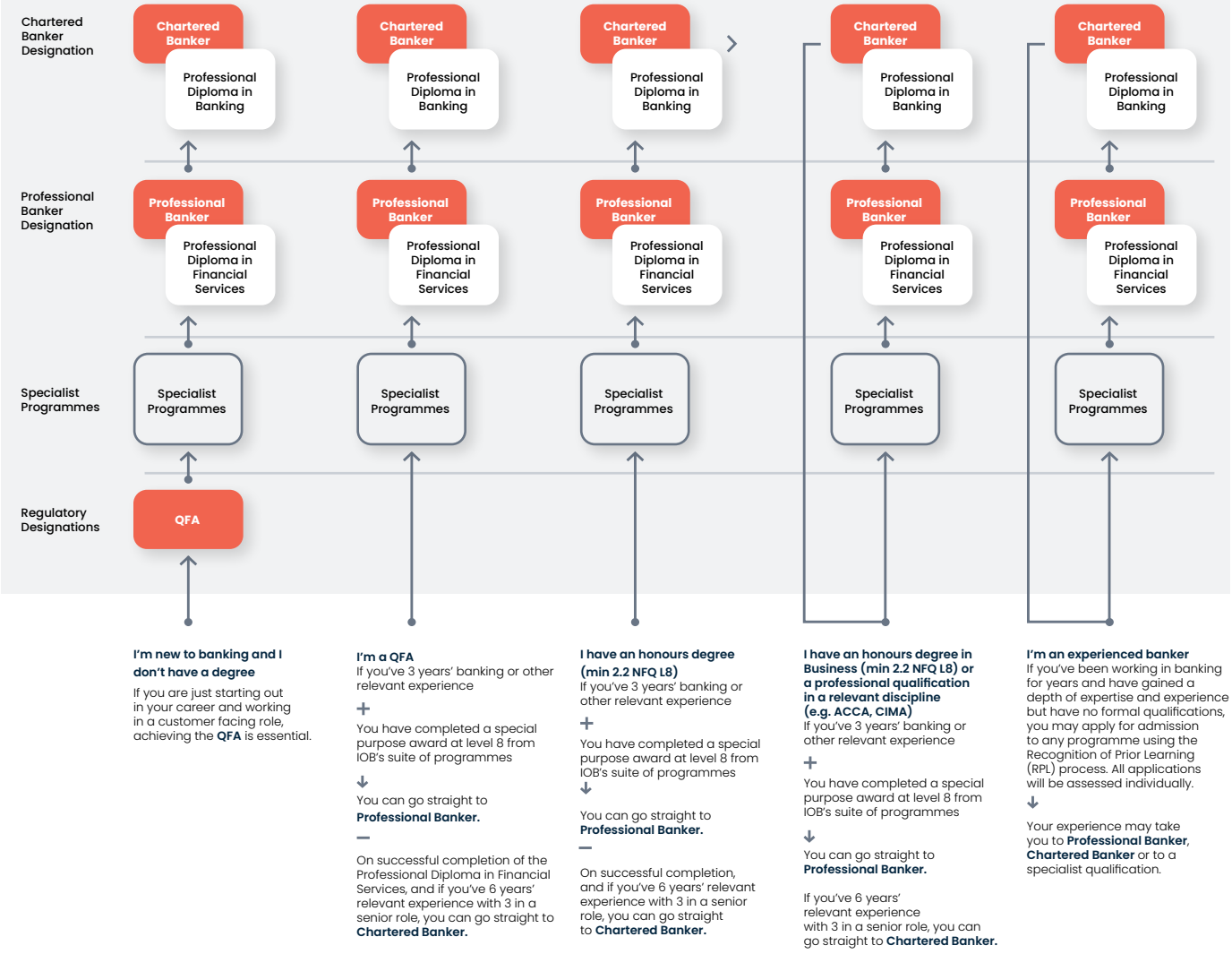
What's in it for you?

The Professional Education Framework:

- Supports you in developing your knowledge and skills in the essential areas of financial services
- Will furnish you with tailored programme options as appropriate for you
- Provides high quality education with academic awards from UCD, Ireland's largest university
- Offers three core industry professional designations, Professional Banker, Chartered Banker and Certified Bank Director, which recognise your educational achievement, experience and professional standing. They are your badge of excellence
- Evidences standards of proficiency as expected under the Central Bank of Ireland's Fitness and Probity regime
- Enhances your capability and confidence in developing your career and availing of new opportunities
- Sustains your employability in a fast changing industry.

Fig 2: Routes to the Professional Education Framework

Designations Some typical member pathways



Terms and Conditions

Entry Criteria

- Applicants to a programme are required to meet the entry criteria as stated in the programme overview of this prospectus, or the Requirements Section of the programme page on iob.ie before registration.
- Where required, you should apply for a programme through iob.ie and provide the information requested. If you are successful in your application, you will be enrolled to the programme. At that point you will be able to register online for your module(s), which requires full payment for your module(s) at registration.
- If you are applying to a programme, the verification of documentation relating to admissions criteria (for example transcripts, work references) may be required and so early application is strongly recommended.
- Applications from members who do NOT meet the standard admission requirements in particular often require extra time for verification and processing. A non standard application form along with a CV is normally required in these cases. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit full documentation as part of the application. Information required is outlined on the individual programme page at iob.ie.
- Level 7 programme entry requirements: The second level educational requirements for employment in financial institutions are normally acceptable for entry (unless there are specific entry requirements stated in the programme overview in this prospectus). These educational requirements are five passes in the Leaving Certificate including English and Mathematics or Five O Level or GCSE passes including English Language and Mathematics.

  Mature applicants, who are over 23 years of age on the proposed year of entry, are exempt from these entry criteria.

  Applicants under 23 years of age on the proposed year of entry are required to send in a copy of their Leaving Certificate/GCSE results.
- Level 8 and 9 entry requirements are specified under each programme. If prior learning in other institutions is being used as grounds for entry, programme enrolment is considered provisional until an original transcript is received. A transcript of results is a formal document from an institution listing the modules studied, credits involved, grades achieved and final category of award. Note, a parchment cannot be accepted as the equivalent.
- English Language Requirements: All IOB programmes are delivered through English and students are expected to be proficient in English. This proficiency is typically evidenced by use in the daily working environment, through passing English as a subject in the Irish Leaving Certificate Examination/equivalent, by achieving the minimum standard in a recognised English language test or through other documented verifiable means. This minimum standard is an IELTS score of 6.5 (minimum 6.0 in each band in the academic version) or equivalent. Further information is available in our English Language Policy at iob.ie under International Students. Students who are born outside of Ireland will be contacted at registration for evidence of their English language standard.
- Information on how to apply to a programme and/or register to modules is available on iob.ie including closing dates for all programmes.

Enrolment

- Enrolment and Membership: To enrol to an IOB programme you must become and remain a current member of IOB. The membership fee applies for the calendar year and new membership is payable on enrolment. It is then payable annually and falls due on 1 January each year.

Compliance Institute Membership

- If registering for modules on the Professional Certificate or Diploma in Compliance, Professional Certificate in Financial Crime Prevention, Professional Certificate in Data Protection, or the MSc in Compliance, a yearly membership fee to the Compliance Institute is applicable, payable directly to the Compliance Institute and students are required to provide evidence of membership on enrolment to the programme.

Fees

- All programme fees are payable in full in advance, using online payment in IOB Learn, (accessed at iob.ie via the relevant programme page), or through an approved Employer Funding Scheme. Students are not considered registered until your modules have been paid for in full. Where an employer does not approve funding or withdraws funding, students will be withdrawn from the module. All matters in relation to employer funding should be discussed directly with the employer.
- Module pricing is subject to change for each academic year.

Withdrawal

- Students may withdraw from a module within 6 weeks of the start of each trimester. After this date, **fees are not refundable.** Students withdrawing from their first module will be required to apply to the programme again, where relevant. Students without an active module registration are required to follow leave of absence procedures available iob.ie under Student Info.
- Students who have not registered to a module for a period of two years will be unenrolled automatically from the programme.

UCD Accredited Programmes

- Programmes outlined in this prospectus are governed by UCD academic regulations and information on these regulations and related procedures is available from iob.ie. This information relates to areas such as applying for recognised prior learning, recommended student workload, leave of absence requirements, applying for extenuating circumstances, provision of alternative exam accommodations and assessment regulations. Questions can also be sent to info@iob.ie.

Minimum Numbers

- All programmes are subject to minimum numbers and IOB reserves the right to cancel a programme if there are insufficient numbers. All dates are subject to change and in such cases amended dates will be published at iob.ie.

Terms and Conditions

Exams

- Exam dates are provided at time of registration and are subject to change. In the unlikely event of an exam date change, all registered students will be communicated with.

Contact Details

- It is the students responsibility to ensure their mobile number and contact details are up to date using the Member Resources section in IOB Learn. We communicate with students through SMS, email and through the Correspondence section of IOB Learn.
- Students on a UCD accredited programme will receive a parchment to the address provided at the time of registration. Students should regularly check IOB Learn for communications and information and to update their contact details to ensure accuracy.
- Students with a prior record in UCD may be registered with another name (e.g. maiden name). Students should contact UCD directly to amend their record if they wish their parchment to refer to their current name.

Programme Participation

- IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. Students should ensure they have appropriate equipment (laptop) and that appropriate software (including MSOffice: Office and Word) is available to them in order to participate in the programme and related assessments (continuous assessments and exams). Where equipment is provided by an employer, there may be security restrictions on the device which prevent downloading of apps required for exams. Further information is available from iob.ie under Student Info and it is the students responsibility to ensure they have access to a suitable device.
- Programmes with in-person lectures/workshops will have that information stated on the programme page.
- By enrolling on the programme, students are signing up to the academic regulations of the programme including the code of conduct, available from iob.ie under Student Info.



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A recognised college of UCD