

EMPOWER

ENABLE

EDUCATE

FUNDS

LEVEL

9

Professional Certificate in

Capital Markets, Investments and Funds

2022-2023



A recognised
college of UCD



Who we are

IOB

IOB is a professional community of over 32,900 members who work in banking, investment funds and international financial services on the island of Ireland. Professional development of our members through education is at the heart of what we do. IOB provides university level programmes to enable our members achieve and sustain their professional qualifications and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) – essential in meeting customer and regulatory expectations. More than 8,500 individuals studied with us last year and over 23,800 members are registered for CPD schemes administered by IOB.

Excellence in education – a recognised college of UCD

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

Irish Funds

The Irish Funds Industry Association (Irish Funds) is the representative body of the international investment fund community in Ireland. It represents fund promoters / managers, administrators, depositaries, transfer agents and professional advisory firms involved in the international funds industry in Ireland, with over 14,000 funds and net assets of more than €5.4 trillion.

The objective of Irish Funds is to support and complement the development of the international funds industry in Ireland, ensuring it continues to be the location of choice for the domiciling and servicing of investment funds. Through its work with governmental and industry committees and working groups, Irish Funds contributes to the development of Ireland's regulatory and legislative framework. Irish Funds is also involved in defining market practice through the development of policy and guidance papers and supporting industry specific training.

Irish Funds raises the profile of Ireland as the premier location to enable and support global investing through its reputation for trust, capability, and innovation. The Association promotes awareness of the funds industry both internationally and domestically by hosting conferences, events, and seminars and by engaging with the media. Irish Funds is committed to the continued development of its most valuable resource – its people.

For further information, visit irishfunds.ie.

Faculty

Kevin McConnell

Kevin, a Chartered Financial Analyst, is an external specialist consultant in the banking and investment sectors with over 25 years of experience in financial markets. Working with banks, regulators and investors in Credit, Capital, Stress Testing and Strategy, Kevin has experience in over a dozen regulatory jurisdictions across Europe, US and Emerging markets.

He has worked through a range of mid-tier to top tier M&A transactions providing stress testing/due diligence consultancy, and transaction advisory. He was a member of Committee on Collective Investment Governance (CCIG) of Central Bank of Ireland (2014) which supported the development of CP86.

He is currently a member of the Advisory Committee of the Certified Investment Fund Director Institute. He developed and delivers the post graduate programs in Alternative Assets at IOB (UCD), in Wealth Management in the Masters in Finance at Trinity College Dublin, and on the Certified Bank Director program in Ireland and UK.

Kevin is also deputy chair of the Irish platform one of the largest CLO originators in Europe and is chief executive of GEM Strategic, a specialist consultancy firm.



Introduction

Who is this programme for?

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. It 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 expected to 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 also the variety of products commonly traded through capital markets and their settlement and reporting cycles. Explain how the funds industry interacts with capital markets and capital markets participants.
 - Outline and discuss the key market drivers of capital markets operations and fund performance.
 - Understand the key processes which underpin a robust risk management system in the funds area, and investigate cases when investments / investment strategies fail in implementation or failures in the trade life cycle.
- Have an understanding of the regulatory regime for funds and review the consequences of regulatory change across capital markets from the perspective of an investment funds manager, distributor, funds services providers, and the investor in those funds.
 - Drawing on your learning, identify and pursue career enhancement / professional development opportunities within capital markets and the funds industry.



Curriculum

The Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds is a level 9 NFQ, single module programme, targeted at the fund management industry, bringing together all the major areas of requisite knowledge required for portfolio and risk management processes within the funds and investment environment. Covering financial markets drivers, through product structures, settlement cycles, risk/return, due diligence, regulation, alternatives and ESG, this programme is designed to develop and widen your knowledge and understanding of the funds industry.

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds from UCD. This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Professional Certificate in Capital Markets, Investments and Funds comprises one module as follows:

1. Capital Markets, Investments and Funds (NFQ LEVEL 9, 10 ECTS)

Topics	Descriptions
Understanding Financial Markets	Financial markets history: Equities, Bonds, Alternatives markets. Evolution and importance of capital markets. Understanding the core financial markets and history of asset prices.
Portfolio Management Part 1: Economics of Investment Management	Economics for Equity, Bonds, Property, Cash, other Alternatives. Impact of economic cycles on market returns and asset performance. Impact of Monetary Authorities and of Fiscal policy.
Key Legal Regulatory Requirements Part 1	Funds & Investments Regulations for capital markets, market participants and market structure. Markets Regulations.
Portfolio Management Part 2: a) Mathematics of Risk & Return	Measuring of performance, VAR, IRRs, Beta, Duration. Time Values, Discounting, Bond returns.
b) Asset Valuation	Key drivers of valuation – Bonds, Equities, Property, Alternatives. Valuation models and techniques.
Risk Management	Market Risk, Volatility, Liquidity Risk, Climate Risk, FX Risk, Interest Rate Risk. 3 Lines of Defence, Regulatory Reporting Requirements.
Hedging Portfolios & Derivatives	Key Uses of Derivatives – Calls, Puts, Futures, Interest Rate SWAPs, Total Return SWAPs, Credit Derivatives.
Alternative Investment Management	Real Estate, Private Equity/Private Credit/Debt, Hedge Funds, Commodities, Infrastructure, Digital Assets.
Portfolio Management Part 3: Building/Managing Portfolios	Fund development, investment selection, investment management. Case studies in investment management.
Key Legal Regulatory Requirements Part 2	Funds Regulations / Funds Law-UCITS / AIFMD / PRIIPS / CP86. Key fund structures and regulations. Protection of institutional and retail investors. Designated person for Investment Management (PCF 39D).
Sustainable Investing	ESG, Climate Risk Investing, Investing for Transition, SFDR Article 6,8,9 Investment Funds.
Portfolio Management Part 4: Investments & Funds Due Diligence	Key due diligence questions in building and managing assets and investment funds portfolios for all major fund industry participants.

Further Information

Entry Requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Capital Markets Investments and Funds

1. Will normally possess an Hons. Degree (Second class Hons. Grade 2 award or higher) and have employment experience in financial services sector

Or

2. Applications from aspiring candidates who do not satisfy criterion 1 above but have significant employment experience at middle to senior management level, will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis.

Assessment

Continuous assessment which carries 30% of the final grade and a two-hour end of trimester exam worth 70%.

Fees

The programme fee is €1,595.

How to apply

To apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/capital-markets-investments-funds

Your Study Supports

We are committed to providing you with a wide range of supports to help you with your studies. You should start using these as soon as you register to gain maximum benefit, as students who start studying earlier, perform better.

Learning Supports

Learning supports are available from the start of the trimester from IOB Learn – your own online resource – which is accessible from iob.ie. You should check IOB Learn regularly for module news, study and workshop material and other resources.

IOB Learn

Study Guide

Your Study Guide contains key information. This online document:

- Introduces you to the module you are studying
- Outlines the learning outcomes
- Helps you plan your weekly study throughout the trimester
- Sets out the assignment submission dates.

Student Handbook

Your Student Handbook contains key information about the programme, exam guidelines and regulations.

Email Support

Your Programme Manager will send you regular emails throughout the trimester to help you progress through your studies. These emails will help you prepare for workshops, prompt you on important dates and generally keep you on track.

Professional body membership

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

Contact Us

William Lawless
Programme Manager

E: education@iob.ie

Key Dates 2023

Spring Trimester January 2023 – May 2023	Key Dates
Closing date for applications*	27/01/2023
Closing date for module registrations (including fees)	10/02/2023
Trimester start date**	07/02/2023
Re-registration closing date	20/03/2023
Module withdrawal date	20/03/2023
Exam period	06/05/2023– 20/05/2023
Exam results release date	30/06/2023

* Places may be available after this date depending on availability

** Member Resources in IOB Learn

IOB Learn

IOB members gain exclusive access to IOB Learn, our innovative personalised learning platform and mobile app. Powered by artificial intelligence, this dynamic platform is a first in Irish education. IOB Learn helps you keep pace with a sector in transformation.

Access exclusive content

Access the latest industry insights and thought leadership on financial services. Follow content channels in topics such as risk, compliance, digital innovation and ESG to stay up to date with sector trends and best practices.

Learn at your pace

Learn at a time and pace that suits you with the full library of archived IOB events and webinars. IOB Learn is your ticket to the conversations that matter.

Start a new pathway

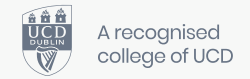
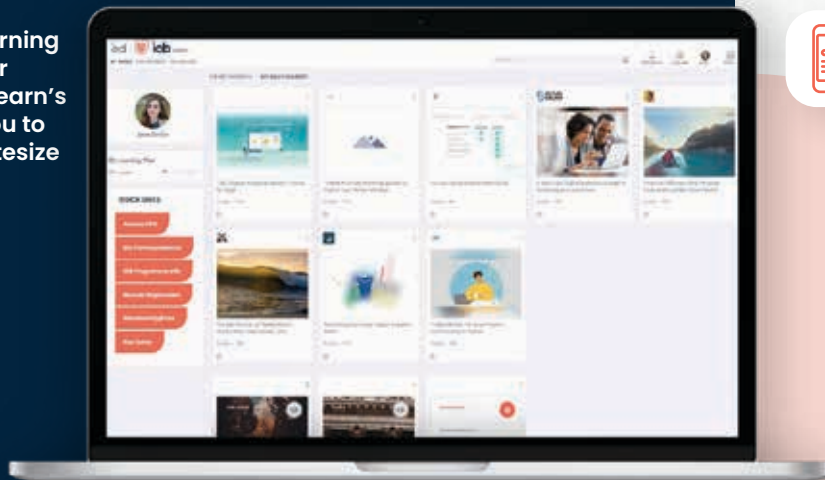
Set your own learning goals and follow a learning pathway to boost your skillset. See how IOB Learn's algorithm can help you to gain expertise with bitesize content and courses.

Explore your module and CPD resources

Find your module materials, resources and CPD content for professional designations on one dedicated platform.

Boost your wellbeing

The Wellness Channel on IOB Learn has a suite of inspiring courses, videos and articles from international experts to help you manage stress and develop positive new habits.



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Watch webinars, events and browse micro-learning content



Log CPD hours on-the-go



IOB

1 North Wall Quay, Dublin 1,
D01 T8Y1, Ireland

Phone: +353 (0)1 611 6500

Email: info@iob.ie

iob.ie

Irish Funds

Ashford House, Tara Street,
Dublin 2, D02 VX67, Ireland

Phone: +353 (0)1 675 3200

Email: info@irishfunds.ie

irishfunds.ie