



Extension of Validation (2)

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

Provider name	National College of Ireland
Date of validation	18-Jul-2017

Enrolment interval	First intake	Last intake
	Sep-2017	Sep-2023

	Code	Title	Award	Duration (Full Time)	Duration (Part Time)	Exit
Principal programme	PG23405	Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics	Higher Diploma (Higher Diploma at NFQ Level 8) 8M20516 60 credits	2 years		N/A
Embedded Programme						

	Full Time	Part Time
Maximum Intakes per annum:	1	
Minimum Learners per Intake:	15	
Maximum Learners per Intake:	150	

Principal Programme

5 Year Plan: Planned total enrolment i.e. aggregated across all intakes in all approved centres.					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum intake into first year	15				
Maximum intake into first year	150				

Target learner groups	The course is particularly suitable for learners that have a level 8 qualification in any discipline and wish to transfer into the world of Financial Services and Analytics. The programme is of interest to learners employed by a Financial Services (FS) company that Page 2 of 6 would like to upskill in areas such as
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	Technologies, Financial Markets and Analytics and work as an International Financial Services (IFS) Specialist.	
Approved countries for provision (i.e. where enrolled learners will be based)	Republic of Ireland	
Delivery mode: Full-time/part-time	Full-time-Apprenticeship	
List the teaching and learning modes¹	Blending learning combining traditional classroom teaching, flipped classroom and work based learning Synchronous Online delivery planned for year 2 or 3 of programme delivery.	
Does the blend of modalities predominantly involve remote e-learning (Yes/No)	No	
Brief synopsis of the programme (e.g. who it is for, what is it for, what is involved for learners, what it leads to.)	This programme is a 2-year apprenticeship aimed at graduates or mature applicants who wish to follow a career in financial services. Learners will be employed by Financial Services companies. Learning will take place within that company and the learner will also attend NCI or other education provider over the academic year. Learners will follow three themes in the programme around technology, finance and analytics. Taking modules in Data Programming, Financial Markets, Statistics for Finance, Data Management and Data Mining and Machine Learning. The programme leads to a level 8 professional award Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics- (title to be agreed) awarded by QQI.	
Summary of staffing requirements (the details are provided in the module descriptors)	WTE ²	Qualifications and experience
	3	Practical and academic experience delivering modules in ICT, Statistics, Data Analytics, and Financial Markets.
	1	Programme Co-ordinator with experience in relationship management at senior levels
	1	National Programme Director who is responsible for the academic management of the programme and may also be a lecturer on the Programme
		Workplace Supervision experience in addition to lecturing and/or industry experience in the field on a ratio of 1WS :8 apprentices. May also be lecturers
		Practitioner(s) based in a work environment. The number will be dependent on the number of companies and apprentices
Outline the physical resource requirements (the details are provided in the module descriptors)	The programme requires appropriate learning spaces to facilitate the teaching, learning & assessment strategy of the programme. Learning spaces should accommodate traditional classrooms, spaces for collaborative learning and access to appropriate technologies as required by individual module curriculum e.g. word, excel, PowerPoint or similar products. Learners must also have access to appropriate personal study space. Access to appropriate recreation and dining spaces and functions are also required. The on the job requirements include access to appropriate technologies and workspaces appropriate to the role	
Outline specifications for the ratio of learners to teaching staff	Staff to learner ratio	Learning activity type

¹ Defined later in this document.

² WTE is the whole-time equivalent number. The number 1 indicates a fulltime person fully dedicated to the programme.



	1:50	Class room based teaching
	1:8	Supervision



Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

Part 1: Statutory Conditions of validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

1. co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
2. establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
3. continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
4. provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

[The PAEC must endorse all the conditions in Part 2. These lists of potential conditions must be checked for each programme. Delete any that do not apply.]

Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

1. Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

1. The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

1. Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
2. Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.



3. Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
4. Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
5. Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.
6. Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.
7. Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).
8. When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.
9. Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.
10. Notify QQI in writing without delay of:
 - a. any material change to the programme;
 - a. anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards;
 - b. anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or
 - c. anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.
11. Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)).
12. Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria

1. Replace this text with any applicable conditions.



Part 2.5 Special Condition of Validation

1. N/A



Approved Programme Schedule(s)

Name of Provider:		National College of Ireland											
Programme Title		Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics											
Award Title		Under discussion at national level and subject to direction of QQI											
Stage Exit Award Title³													
Modes of Delivery (FT/PT):		Full-time Apprenticeship											
Teaching and learning modalities		Direct contact via lectures and demonstrations, Blended e-learning											
Award Class⁴	Award NFQ level	Award EQF Level	Stage (1, 2, 3, 4, ..., or Award Stage):	Stage NFQ Level²	Stage EQF Level²	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject code					
Professional/Major	8	6	Award	8	6	60	September 2017	0668					
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)	Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester2)	Module	Credit Number⁵	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)				
				Status	NFQ Level² where specified	Credit Units ECTS	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %
Data Programming	1	M	8	5	125	48	18	59		60	40		
Financial Markets I	2	M	8	5	125	48		77		40			60
Business Data Analysis	3	M	8	5	125	48		77		100			
Work Based Learning	1, 2 & 3	M	8	15	375	36		54	285		100		
Financial Markets II	4	M	8	5	125	48		77		40			60
Data Management	5	M	8	5	125	48	18	59		50			50
Data Mining & Machine Learning	6	M	8	5	125	48		77		60	40		
Work Based Project	4, 5 & 6	M	8	15	375	36		54	285		100		
Special Regulations (Up to 280 characters)													
Pass by Compensation may be applied to off-the job modules in accordance with the quality assurance guidelines at NCI. Pass by compensation is not applicable for on-the-job modules.													
At a minimum, apprentices can expect to have at least 15 minutes on-to-one interaction with their supervisor every three weeks in addition to regular group supervision and seminars.													