

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **Revalidated**

Provider Name	National College of Ireland
Date of Validation	24-Jun-21

	Code	Title	Award	Exit Only
Principal Programme	PG23507	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (Honours Bachelor Degree at NFQ Level 8) 8M20580 180 credits	N/A
Embedded Programme	N/A			

	First Intake	Last Intake
Enrolment Interval	Sep-17	Sep-22

Principal Programme

	Full Time	Part Time	Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time
Intakes per Annum:	1	1	Full Time, Part Time
Minimum Learners per Intake:	50	25	
Maximum Learners per Intake:	90	45	
Duration (months)	36	48	

Target Learner Groups

School leavers, mature learners returning to education, and/or international students.

Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

This programme is a 3 year degree in psychology (4 year part-time) which is designed to provide students with a solid grounding in the core aspects of the discipline in addition to providing exposure to more specialist areas within psychology.

There are two modes of delivery for the programme. The full-time mode is generally taken by school leavers (that can apply through the CAO system) and a small number of international students, while the part-time mode is generally taken by mature students or those returning to education.

In addition to leading to a Level 8 award, the programme was specifically designed to meet the requirements for PSI accreditation thereby enabling graduates to pursue further training in psychology at postgraduate level.

Minimum Intended Programme Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme the learner will be able to:

1. Refer to provider

Teaching and Learning Modes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lectures / Classes 2. Practical Sessions 3. Tutorials
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Approved Countries	Ireland
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Physical Resource Requirements

The programme requires appropriate learning spaces to facilitate the teaching, learning and assessment strategy of the programme. Learning spaces should accommodate traditional classrooms, spaces for collaborative learning, and access to appropriate technologies and equipment.

Specific to the psychology programme, learners need access to appropriate facilities for carrying out experimental work, including computer laboratories and experimental testing rooms.

Learners must have access to appropriate personal study space (e.g., within the library). Access to appropriate recreation and dining spaces and functions are also required.

Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturer	Lecturing staff which should normally hold a PhD in Psychology.	8
Psychology technician	Psychology technician qualified in psychology and proficient in the use of psychological technical equipment.	1
Programme coordinator	Programme coordinator to provide administrative support.	1

Approved Centres	Centre	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	42522R National College of Ireland	50	135

Additional Locations	Location Name	Minimum Enrolment per Annum	Maximum Enrolment per Annum
	N/A		

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Large group/lectures should not exceed this ratio, but will typically fall below this	1:90
	Elective modules (see more information in section 5.1.2)	1:40
	Smaller group settings and tutorials should not exceed this	1:30
	Final project supervision	1:1

Programme being replaced by this Programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated
	N/A		

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

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

Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation