

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

ReValidation

Provider Name	Dublin Business School
Date of Validation	12-Sep-19

	First intake	Last intake	Intakes per annum
Enrolment Interval	Sep-19	Aug-24	2

	Code	Title	Award	Duration (Months)	Intakes per annum
Principal Programme	PG24224	Higher Diploma in Science in Computing	Higher Diploma in Science (Major Award at NFQ Level 8) 8M20831 60 credits	1 year FT 2 years PT	2
Embedded Programmes	PG24230	Certificate in Information Technology	Certificate (Minor Award at NFQ Level 8) 8H20832 15 Credits	6 weeks FT 18 weeks PT	N/A

Principal Programme

5 Year Plan: Planned total enrolment i.e. aggregated across all intakes and all approved centres

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum Intake into first year	10	10	10	10	10
Maximum Intake into first year	200	200	200	200	200

Target Learner groups

The Higher Diploma in Science in Computing is aimed at learners with the following entry qualifications:

- Level 8 primary honours Bachelors degree at least pass level in any discipline from a recognised third level institution or equivalent qualification.
- Candidates will ideally be able to demonstrate technical or mathematical problem-solving skills as part of previous programme learning. Typically, holders of more technical, numerate degrees are likely to gain a higher ranking in any order of merit in selection for the programme.
- For candidates who do not have a Level 8 qualification the College operates a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) scheme meaning applicants who do not meet the normal academic entry requirements may be considered based on relevant work or other experience.

The Higher Diploma in Science in Computing is a conversion course for non-computing graduates who wish to acquire core ICT skills and computing expertise which will enable graduates play an active role in Software Development, Mobile Applications Development, Web and Cloud, IT Infrastructure and Networking or DevOps.

Graduates will, upon completion of this programme, will have the skills necessary to carry out industry-level computations and information processing, system and application development, support modern IT infrastructures and participate in ICT projects and pursue a career path in the technology-driven world.

The Higher Diploma in Science in Computing creates graduates capable of dealing with diverse intrinsic and extrinsic technological realities in a creative manner to ensure sustainability and career growth. In this way, this programme is aimed at those who wish to specialise in the field of ICT with a view to entering industry, progressing professionally or to undertake postgraduate studies in a related field.

Brief Synopsis of the programmes

Ireland has an exceptionally strong ICT services sector with a highly creative and talented workforce, an open economy and a competitive corporate tax environment. As a result, there is a

continuing need for well-educated staff that have skills and competencies in a wide range of ICT management, innovation and operational areas. Ireland is a very profitable location for ICT services, due to the combination of high productivity and a cost base that is very competitive with other locations, which have similarly sophisticated ecosystems.

Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025 and the Expert Group on Future Skills Need 2019 identify a need for further education in this area to fill the skills gap, which arises in start-up, indigenous and multinational companies. The shortage of ICT talent is potentially significant for a number of sectors where ICT professionals (e.g. programmers, software engineers, web designers and others), ICT managers and ICT technicians are required.

The programme is aimed at both domestic and international learners who seek an underpinning in key ICT theories, concepts as well as ICT processes and skills. The programme accommodates a wide audience of learners whose specific interests in Computing and specific ICT areas, such as Software Development, Mobile Technologies, Web and Cloud, IT Infrastructure and Networking or DevOps. This ensures learners acquire an integrated, balanced, and dynamic ICT education enabling the development of ICT knowledge, including previously acquired knowledge and experience. The programme engenders an awareness of the importance of transferable and cross enterprise skills required of competitive organisations and which stimulate sustainable and diverse careers in ICT. This programme is a 1-year full-time or 2-year part-time programme.

Delivery mode: full-time / part-time

Full-time and Part-time

Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Classroom lectures
2. Case-based learning
3. Practical skills sessions
4. Workshops
5. Tutorials
6. Individual and group work
7. Online synchronous and asynchronous learning

Approved countries

Ireland

Physical resource requirements

Lecture rooms with multimedia resources and physical resources suitable for working in breakout groups. Classroom / computer room with requisite (non-specialist) software required for the delivery of the programme. These resources are detailed in each of the module descriptors and also in Section 8 of this document.

Staff Profiles

Qualifications and Experience	WTE
<p>Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters and/or PhD in the following areas: Software Engineering & Development, IT Infrastructure and Networking, Cloud Computing, Web Development, Data Management & Analytics, Information Security</p> <p>Individuals with Level 8 honours bachelor degrees in the above disciplines, who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of significant senior industry experience may also be considered.</p>	2.84

Approved Centres

Centre	Minimum per intake per Centre	Maximum per intake per Centre
DBS: Dublin Campus	10	100

Learner Teacher Ratios

Learning Activity	Ratio
Workshops	1:25
Practical lab sessions	1:25

Classroom sessions	1:50
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**Programme being replaced
by this programme**

Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated	To Close
PG22785	Higher Diploma in Science in Computing	15-Jul-15	

Embedded Programme

Code	Title	Award	Duration (Months)	Annual Intakes
PG24230	Certificate in Information Technology	Certificate 8H20832 15 credits	6 weeks FT 18 weeks PT	N/A

5 Year Plan: Planned total enrolment i.e. aggregated across all intakes and all approved centres

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum Intake into first year	10	10	10	10	10
Maximum Intake into first year	200	200	200	200	200

Target Learner groups

The Certificate in Information Technology is aimed at learners with the following entry qualifications:

- Level 8 primary honours Bachelors degree at least pass level in any discipline from a recognised third level institution or equivalent qualification.
- Candidates will ideally be able to demonstrate technical or mathematical problem-solving skills as part of previous programme learning. Typically, holders of more technical, numerate degrees are likely to gain a higher ranking in any order of merit in selection for the programme.
- For candidates who do not have a Level 8 qualification the college operates a Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme meaning applicants who do not meet the normal academic 13 entry requirements may be considered based on relevant work or other experience.

The Certificate in Information Technology is an embedded award within the Higher Diploma in Science in Computing which is a conversion course for non-computing graduates who wish to acquire core ICT Skills and computing expertise which will enable graduates play an active role in Software Development, Mobile Applications Development, Web and Cloud, It Infrastructure and Networking or DevOps.

The Certificate comprises of Principles of Programming, Information Systems Development and Management, Database Design and Development, offering learners skills in development of Information Systems in a modern computing environment, database knowledge and the fundamentals of object-oriented programming.

Graduates will, upon completion of this programme, will have the skills necessary to carry out industry-level computations and information processing, system and application development, support modern IT 18 infrastructures and participate in ICT projects and pursue a career path in the technology-driven world.

The Certificate in Information Technology graduates will have the skills to design and develop structured programs in a modern programming environment utilising appropriate languages, design and implement a robust database system, and understand the software development life cycle across the ICT industry.

Brief Synopsis of the programmes

Ireland has an exceptionally strong ICT services sector with a highly creative and talented workforce, an open economy and a competitive corporate tax environment. As a result, there is a continuing need for well-educated staff that have skills and competencies in a wide range of ICT management, innovation and operational areas. Ireland is a very profitable location for ICT services, due to the combination of high productivity and a cost base that is very competitive with other locations, which have similarly sophisticated ecosystems.

Ireland's National Skills Strategy 2025 and the Expert Group on Future Skills Need 2019 identify a need for further education in this area to fill the skills gap, which arises in start-up, indigenous and multinational companies. The shortage of ICT talent is potentially significant for a number of sectors where ICT professionals (e.g. programmers, software engineers, web designers and others), ICT managers and ICT technicians are required.

This programme accommodates a wide audience of learners who wish to upskill in ICT and Computing, but who find the specialised and advanced technical content of the streams provided too challenging, or who need to withdraw from the programme for personal reasons. The cert will

not directly enrol any students.

Delivery mode: full-time / part-time

Full-time and Part-time

Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Classroom lectures
2. Case-based learning
3. Practical skills sessions
4. Workshops
5. Tutorials
6. Individual and group work
7. Online synchronous and asynchronous learning

Approved countries where enrolled learners will be based

Ireland

Physical resource requirements

Lecture rooms with multimedia resources and physical resources suitable for working in breakout groups. Classroom / computer room with requisite (non-specialist) software required for the delivery of the programme. These resources are detailed in each of the module descriptors and also in Section 8 of this document.

Staff Profiles

Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturing staff will have a minimum of a Level 9 Postgraduate Diploma or Masters and/or PhD in the following areas: Software Engineering & Development, IT Infrastructure and Networking, Cloud Computing, Web Development, Data Management & Analytics, Information Security Individuals with Level 8 honours bachelor degrees in the above disciplines, who are exceptionally qualified by virtue of significant senior industry experience may also be considered.	2.84

Approved Centres

Centre	Minimum per intake per Centre	Maximum per intake per Centre
DBS Campus, Dublin	10	100

Learner Teacher Ratios

Learning Activity	Ratio
Workshops	1:25
Practical lab sessions	1:25
Classroom sessions	1:50

Programme being replaced by this programme

Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated	To Close
PG22786	Certificate in Information Technology	15-Jul-15	

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

1. n/a

Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation

1. n/a

Approved programme schedules

Name of Provider					Dublin Business School												
Programme Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Award Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Stage Exit Award Title					N/A												
Mode of Delivery:					Full-time												
Teaching and Learning modalities					As per module descriptors												
Award Class	Award Level	NFQ Level	Award Level	EQF	Stage	Stage NFQ Level	Stage EFQ Level	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject Code							
Major	8		6		Award	8	6	60	01/09/2019	0613							
Module Title					Semester	Module		ECTS Credit Number	Total Student Effort Hours (Module)					Allocation of Marks (Module Assessment Strategy)			
						Status	NFQ Level where specified		Total Hours	Contact hours	Directed e-learning	Independent Learning	Work-based Learning Effort	CA %	Proj %	Prac %	Exam %
Information Systems Development and Management					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Principles of Programming					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50		50	
Database Design and Development					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Operating Systems and Networks					2	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Web Design and Development					2	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		100			
Object Oriented Programming					2	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		50		50	
IT Project Management					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		100			
Advanced Programming					3	E	8	10	250	96	40	114		50		50	
Mobile Application Development					3	E	8	10	250	96	40	114		100			
Web and Cloud Application Development					3	E	8	10	250	96	40	114		100			
Cloud Infrastructure and Virtualisation					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Advanced Web Technologies					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		100			
System Administration					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Advanced Networks and Security					3	E	8	10	250	96	40	114		100			
DevOps Practices and Principles					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		100			
Tools and Technologies for DevOps					3	E	8	10	250	96	40	114		100			
DevOps Project Management					3	E	8	5	125	48	20	57		100			
Project					4	E	8	10	250	18	0	232			100		
Placement					4	E	8	10	250	4	0	46	200		100		
Special regulations:																	

Name of Provider					Dublin Business School												
Programme Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Award Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Stage Exit Award Title					N/A												
Mode of Delivery:					Part-time												
Teaching and Learning modalities					As per module descriptors												
Award Class	Award Level	NFQ	Award Level	EQF	Stage	Stage NFQ Level			Stage EFQ Level	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject Code					
Major	8		6		Award	8			6	60	01/09/2019	0613					
Module Title					Semester	Module		ECTS Credit Number	Total Student Effort Hours (Module)					Allocation of Marks (Module Assessment Strategy)			
						Status	NFQ Level where specified		Total Hours	Contact hours	Directed e-learning	Independent Learning	Work-based Learning Effort	CA %	Proj %	Prac %	Exam %
Information Systems Development and Management					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Principles of Programming					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50		50	
Database Design and Development					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Operating Systems and Networks					2	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Web Design and Development					2	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		100			
Object Oriented Programming					3	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		50		50	
IT Project Management					3	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		100			
Advanced Programming					4	E	8	10	250	78	40	132		50		50	
Mobile Application Development					5	E	8	10	250	78	40	132		100			
Web and Cloud Application Development					4	E	8	10	250	78	40	132		100			
Cloud Infrastructure and Virtualisation					4	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Advanced Web Technologies					5	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		100			
System Administration					4	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Advanced Networks and Security					5	E	8	10	250	78	40	132		100			
DevOps Practices and Principles					4	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		100			
Tools and Technologies for DevOps					5	E	8	10	250	78	40	132		100			
DevOps Project Management					4	E	8	5	125	39	20	66		100			
Project					6	E	8	10	250	18	0	232			100		
Placement					6	E	8	10	250	4	0	46	200		100		
Special regulations:																	

Name of Provider					Dublin Business School												
Programme Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Award Title					Certificate in Science in Computing												
Stage Exit Award Title					Certificate in Science in Computing												
Mode of Delivery:					Full-time												
Teaching and Learning modalities					As per module descriptors												
Award Class	Award Level	NFQ	Award Level	EQF	Stage	Stage NFQ Level			Stage EFQ Level		Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject Code				
Major	8		6		Award	8			6		60	01/09/2019	0613				
Module Title					Semester	Module NFQ Level where specified			Total Student Effort Hours (Module)					Allocation of Marks (Module Assessment Strategy)			
									ECTS Credit Number	Total Hours	Contact hours	Directed e-learning	Independent Learning	Work-based Learning Effort	CA %	Proj %	Prac %
Status																	
Information Systems Development and Management					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Principles of Programming					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50		50	
Database Design and Development					1	M	8	5	125	48	20	57		50			50
Special regulations:																	
The Certificate in Information Technology is an exit award and will only be awarded after the successful completion of three mandatory modules.																	

Name of Provider					Dublin Business School												
Programme Title					Higher Diploma in Science in Computing												
Award Title					Certificate in Science in Computing												
Stage Exit Award Title					Certificate in Science in Computing												
Mode of Delivery:					Part-time												
Teaching and Learning modalities					As per module descriptors												
Award Class	Award Level	NFQ	Award Level	EQF	Stage	Stage NFQ Level			Stage EFQ Level	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject Code					
Major	8		6		Award	8			6	60	01/09/2019	0613					
Module Title					Semester	Module		ECTS Credit Number	Total Student Effort Hours (Module)				Allocation of Marks (Module Assessment Strategy)				
						Status	NFQ Level where specified		Total Hours	Contact hours	Directed e-learning	Independent Learning	Work-based Learning Effort	CA %	Proj %	Prac %	Exam %
Information Systems Development and Management					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Principles of Programming					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50		50	
Database Design and Development					1	M	8	5	125	39	20	66		50			50
Special regulations:																	
The Certificate in Information Technology is an exit award and will only be awarded after the successful completion of three mandatory modules.																	