



CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **Extended**

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

| | Code | Title | Award | Exit |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|
| Principal Programme | PG22720 | Higher Certificate in Business in . | Higher Certificate in Business (Higher Certificate at NFQ Level 6) 6M20362 120 credits | N/A |
| Embedded Programme | N/A | | | |

| | First Intake | Last Intake |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Enrolment Interval | 01-Sep-16 | 01-Sep-22 |

Principal Programme

| | Full Time | Part Time | Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---|
| Maximum Intakes per Annum: | 1 | 0 | Full Time |
| Minimum Learners per Intake: | 15 | 0 | |
| Maximum Learners per Intake: | 80 | 0 | |
| Duration (months) | 24 | N/A | |

Target Learner Groups

Prospective students are those interested in assuming positions at entry or middle management level within small, medium or large multinational organisations in the public and private sector. Equally graduates may use their skills to develop and market their own business ideas and in particular those students who have undertaken the Entrepreneurship stream. Furthermore the programme aims to differentiate itself within the marketplace by offering a number of external accreditations. Graduates may also wish to concentrate on a specialist area and are, therefore, eligible for progression to a range of Level 8 business courses both within NCI or at another higher education institution.



Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The programme will provide learners with in-depth understanding of all the key pillars of business and help them gain a holistic view of the interrelationships between the business functions. As such, all learners undertake mandatory modules in Management, Marketing, Finance, Law and Economics throughout the programme. In particular, the programme aims to ensure that graduates are equipped with the skills and competencies for the modern workplace. As such modules in technology, organisational behaviour and global business, are included as mandatory in the programme. Equally, the programme seeks to provide learners with the knowledge, tools and techniques to contribute to business strategy formulation, analysis and evaluation and modules in strategic management, project management and analytics are incorporated to ensure this skillset is acquired.

The programme will ensure that graduates are proficient in a range of business skills and in particular are market ready and have the business acumen and skills necessary to realise a vigorous knowledge-based economy. Specifically the programme aims to develop self-aware, reflective learners that take responsibility for their own learning and demonstrate a responsibility to fellow learners; develop a range of intellectual and practical skills that will enable graduates to add-value within the work place; provide assessment and project based tasks that allows learners to apply knowledge and skills appropriately within an authentic context; provide the educational foundation that is relevant to further study and life-long learning; and create a learning environment where professional standards are expected, but at the same time recognise that learning is challenging and appropriate support is provided both by staff and fellow learners.

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| Teaching and Learning Modes | 1. Lectures / Classes 2. Practical Sessions 3. Tutorials |
|------------------------------------|--|

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Approved Countries | Ireland |
|---------------------------|---------|

Physical Resource Requirements

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.

| Staff Profiles | Qualifications and Experience | WTE |
|-----------------------|--|------------|
| Lecturer | Lecturers with a Masters or PhD level qualification in an appropriate discipline with academic experience delivering modules in Management, Accounting, Law, Marketing or Human Resources at Level 8. | 3 |
| Programme Director | Programme Director who is responsible for the academic management of the programme and may also be a lecturer on the programme. The Programme Director will have at least a Masters or PhD qualification in an appropriate discipline. | 1 |
| Programme Coordinator | Programme Coordinator with experience in relationship management, academic support and programme delivery. | 1 |

| Approved Centres | Centre | Minimum Number of Learners per Intake per Centre | Maximum Number of Learners per Intake per Centre |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | 42522R National College of Ireland | 15 | 80 |

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



| Learner Teacher Ratios | Learning Activity | Ratio |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| | Tutorials | 1:25 |
| | Lectures | 1:75 |

| 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

1.

Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation