



CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **New**

Provider Name	National College of Ireland
Date of Validation	03-Dec-20

	Code	Title	Award	Exit
Principal Programme	PG24438	Certificate in Software Development Fundamentals	Certificate (Special Purpose Award at NFQ Level 8) 8S21081 10 credits	N/A
Embedded Programme	N/A			

	First Intake	Last Intake
Enrolment Interval	01-Jan-21	31-Dec-23

Principal Programme

	Full Time	Part Time	Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time
Maximum Intakes per Annum:	0	3	Part Time
Minimum Learners per Intake:	0	20	
Maximum Learners per Intake:	0	200	
Duration (months)	N/A	3	

Target Learner Groups

The Certificate in Science in Computing programme is a 12 week Level 8 programme aimed at learners who have little or no computing background or lack a firm knowledge in key areas of computing necessary to engage in Masters/Higher Diploma programmes. The Certificate in Science in Computing is aimed at students that wish to engage in Level 8/9 major award in Computing but who may lack a firm knowledge of required prerequisites for Computing.

Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The Software Development (SDev) micro-credential programme is a 10 Credit Level 8 programme, that will be available to learners online and through blended learning over 12 weeks. The SDev micro-credential programme has been designed to provide learners with a baseline understanding and knowledge of the key technical skills, terminologies, tools and stages of the software development process. The programme aims to give learners a systematic understanding of how computers can be used to solve problems, and therefore will introduce learners to the principles of programming and the object-oriented approach to program design and implementation. The micro-credential will enable learners to design, implement and debug programs using an object-oriented programming language.

Teaching and Learning Modes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E-learning (directed) 2. E-learning (self-directed) 3. Lectures / Classes 4. Tutorials
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Approved Countries	Ireland
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Physical Resource Requirements

This programme will require the access to NCI’s virtual desktop environment (via Citrix), which will provide access to all software resources required for this module (e.g. Java Development Kit, a suitable editor, etc.) and to all supporting resources via the NCI Student Portal (e.g., Moodle, Helpdesk, Library resources, student email, and timetables); a high-speed Wi-Fi network; laptop charging points; and library resources, both digital and physical as appropriate.

Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturer	Lecturers will have a Bachelor or/and Master’s degree in computing or cognate discipline with academic experience delivering modules in ICT at level 8 on NFQ and may have industry experience also.	1.5
Programme Director	The Programme Director 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 computing or a related discipline.	.5
Programme Coordinator	The Programme Coordinator will have previous experience in providing administrative support to faculty involved in the delivery of an academic programme.	.5

Approved Centres	Centre	Minimum Number of Learners per Intake per Centre	Maximum Number of Learners per Intake per Centre
	42522R National College of Ireland	90	400

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

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Online Learning Activities	1:60
	Small Group Teaching Activities	1:25

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

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Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation