



CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

New validation

Validation Process: **New**

Provider Name	National College of Ireland
Date of Validation	08-Apr-21

	Code	Title	Award	Exit
Principal Programme	PG24507	Certificate in Data Governance and Cybersecurity	Certificate (Special Purpose Award at NFQ Level 8) 8S21430 10 credits	N/A
Embedded Programme	N/A			

	First Intake	Last Intake
Enrolment Interval	May-21	Apr-24

Principal Programme

	Full Time	Part Time	Delivery Mode: full-time / part-time
Maximum Intakes per Annum:	3	3	Full Time, Part Time
Minimum Learners per Intake:	15	15	
Maximum Learners per Intake:	100	300	
Duration (months)	3	3	

Target Learner Groups

In line with the IFS Skillnet Tender specification, the aim is to offer the programme to a broad range of people within the international financial services sector from new/potential entrants to experienced practitioners.

The target learner profile remains unchanged from the validated principle programme, aimed at four core audiences:

- Learners graduating from a STEM degree that would like to consolidate their existing academic knowledge and progress into the emerging FinTech market.
- Learners that have graduated from a social science with strong numerical skills and are looking to migrate into a new discipline to increase their employment potential.
- Learners that have graduated from a Finance or Computing background and seek to professionally mediate the two domains.
- Learners who are currently working in the Financial sector and do not have the relevant academic or IT experience but have an appropriate RPEL application and are looking for a progression path in their current working environment or are looking to move to a new job.



Brief Synopsis of the Programmes

The aim of the Data Governance and Cybersecurity micro-credential programme is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and competence around security and data governance. The programme provides learners with data management and cyber skills to understand the current cyber landscape, identify common threats to data assets, and plan appropriate measures and controls to safeguard data assets. The Data Governance and Cybersecurity micro-credential programme aims to give learners a systematic understanding of key aspects and activities of the data lifecycle management including data classification, data quality, and data risk management. Finally, the programme will also introduce the learner to the regulatory frameworks surrounding financial technology and foundational activities such as security, data protection, and compliance.

The Data Governance and Cybersecurity micro-credential aims to develop students with a T-shaped profile; i.e., professionals that comprehend foundational elements of FinTech in conjunction with the security risks, security measures, and information practices needed for the successful implementation of real-world problems. It is also aimed at upskilling/reskilling learners from technical backgrounds on the fundamental skills needed to enter the fintech industry. This programme would also be relevant for technical staff working within companies to enhance their ability to work with and understand their colleagues in IT security teams. It also would enable those in non-technical roles to apply for opportunities within technical departments within their workplace. This micro-credential programme could also be considered as a 'taster course' for those that might wish to consider retraining or pursuing a career in fintech, cybersecurity, data management or exploring study opportunities within NCI or elsewhere. Its content spans features that are often listed within job descriptors for data-related roles such as analysts or data engineers, principally:

- Access Management
- Data protection
- Governance
- Threat/Vulnerability Assessment

Teaching and Learning Modes

1. Directed Learning
2. E-learning (directed)
3. E-learning (self-directed)
4. Self Directed Learning

Approved Countries

Ireland

Physical Resource Requirements

This programme will require the following physical resources:

1. Access to NCI's virtual desktop environment (via Citrix) – this will provide access to all software resources required for this module (e.g., Java Development Kit, a suitable editor, etc.), and supporting resources via the NCI Student Portal (e.g., Moodle, Helpdesk, Library resources, student email, and timetables)
2. Access to high-speed Wi-Fi network
3. Laptop charging points
4. Library resources (see further details below)

Classes and Tutorials will take place either in a state-of-the-art lecture theatre or computer laboratory. This includes projectors, whiteboards, audio-visual equipment, and portable document cameras (e.g., Ladibug) and/or online. When delivered remotely, this programme is considered a BYOD course, and students are provided with an up-to-date specification for personal devices in advance of the course.

In the main, printed material will not be provided as full use of virtual environments will be made. The NCI Norma Smurfit Library holds copies of the recommended reading list.



Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience	WTE
Lecturer	The lecturer should normally hold a PhD in a related discipline or, at a minimum, a Level 9 award with relevant professional experience.	1.0
Programme Director	The Programme Director will hold a PhD in a related discipline or, at a minimum, a Level 9 award with relevant professional experience. The Programme Director will also be a lecturer on the programme.	0.1
Programme Coordinator	The Programme Coordinator will have experience in relationship management and providing administrative support to faculty involved in the delivery in the programme.	0.1

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	400

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

Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity	Ratio
	Synchronous Online	1:100
	Directed Asynchronous e-learning	1:100

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

Programme Descriptor for Micro-Credentials (5-10 ECTS) leading to HET Special Purpose Award (One Module)

Summary Programme Schedule

Name of Provider:		National College of Ireland										
Micro-credential Programme Title:		Data Governance and Cybersecurity										
Award Class	Award NFQ level	Modes of Delivery (FT/PT, Both)	FT Duration (Weeks)	PT Duration (Weeks)	PEL Applies	Intakes p.a	Teaching, Learning and Assessment Modes (Face to Face, Blended, 100% Online)				ISCED code	
Special Purpose	8	Both	12	12	Yes	3	Face to Face, Blended, 100% Online				0613	
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)		ECTS Credits	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)				
			Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	Proctored practical demonstration %	Proctored written exam %	Other (Identify)
Data Governance and Cybersecurity		10	250	24	24	202		100				
Special Regulations (Up to 280 characters)												

Proposed new learner numbers over three years – all intakes (Per Annum)	Year 1 PA		Year 2 PA		Year 3 PA	
	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
Minimum total enrolment:	45	45	45	45	45	45
Maximum total enrolment:	300	900	300	900	300	900