



GENERATION APPRENTICESHIP

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IFS
Apprenticeships
Ibec



Financial
Services
Ireland
Ibec



National
College of
Ireland



International Financial Services Apprenticeships

Higher Certificate (Level 6)
in International Financial
Services

Higher Diploma (Level 8) in
Financial Services Analytics

Apprenticeship
Real-life Learning



IFS Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a programme of structured education and training, which formally combines on-the-job learning with off-the job learning in an education centre.

Developed by industry for industry, in partnership with the lead provider, National College of Ireland (NCI). Two new apprenticeship programmes have been developed:

- **IFS Associate Apprenticeship – Higher Certificate in International Financial Services (Level 6)**
- **IFS Specialist Apprenticeship – Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics (Level 8)**

These IFS Apprentice programmes are suitable for those interested in pursuing a career in the Financial Services sector including career changers/career movers.

Benefits for industry and the apprentice

- Developed by industry for industry
- Earn while you learn – get a salary and a contract
- Addresses and tackles skills shortage
- Gain a national qualification while working
- Improves staff retention and productivity
- Excellent industry experience and career progression
- Access to new talent pipeline
- Government subsidised training

Who is this for?

- **School leavers (who have attained relevant Leaving Certificate results)**
- **Career changers/Career movers**
- **Graduates of all disciplines (with relevant qualifications)**

Higher Certificate in International Financial Services (Level 6)

This is a two year, earn while you learn apprenticeship programme with an approved employer. It combines on the job training with academic study.

Course Structure

This programme is structured over two academic calendar years (September – May inclusive).

Off-the-job modules run over two 14 week semesters per academic year, while **on-the-job** modules are structured to run over the length of each academic year. Assessment of **off-the-job** modules comprises a combination of continuous assessment and exams.

On-the-job assessment is via an ongoing electronic portfolio of work-based evidence that is submitted in year 1 and in year 2.

Entry Requirements

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age to work in financial services.

Minimum entry requirements are 5 leaving certificate subjects including English and Maths. Holders of equivalent QQI Level 5/6 qualifications will be considered as will non-standard applications.

Year 1		
Semester	Off-the-Job Modules	On-the-Job Modules
One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Institutions and Markets Customer Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Professional Development 1 Regulation and Compliance
Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management and Behaviour in Organisations ICT for International Financial Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Product and Service Proficiency Client Communication and Relationships

Year 2		
Semester	Off-the-Job Modules	On-the-Job
One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Accounting & Reporting Introduction to Statistics for Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing Professional Development 2 Systems & Processes in International Financial Services
Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund Administration Economics for Financial Practitioners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprentice Reflection Work Based Project

Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics (Level 8)

This is a two year, earn while you learn apprenticeship programme with an approved employer. It combines on the job training with academic study.

Course Structure

This programme is structured over two calendar years (September to August inclusive). **Off-the-job** modules run over six 12 week semesters while **on-the-job** modules are structured to run over three semesters each with final deliverable submissions to coincide with the end of Semester 3 and Semester 6. Assessment of **off-the-job** modules comprises a combination of continuous assessment and terminal exams. **On-the-job** assessment is via an ongoing electronic portfolio of evidence in year 1 and a final project in year 2.

Entry Requirements

Learners graduating with a 2.2 honours degree at level 8 in any discipline are eligible to apply for this programme. Non-standard applications will be also considered on an individual basis.

Year 1		
Semester	Off-the-Job Modules	On-the-Job Modules
One	Programme for Big Data	Business Data Analysis
Two	Financial Markets I	
Three	Business Data Analysis	

Year 2		
Semester	Off-the-Job Modules	On-the-Job Modules
One	Financial Markets II	Work Based Learning
Two	Data Management	
Three	Data Mining & Machine Learning	

In conjunction with our education partners, the National College of Ireland (NCI), IFS Apprenticeships allow candidates to earn while they learn. IFS Apprenticeships provide nationally recognised qualifications and on-the-job experience.

International Financial Services

“At Fidelity International we deliver innovative client solutions for a better future. The investment in early learning is key to our long term talent strategy and the FSI apprenticeship program provides us with an additional pipeline of high calibre diverse talent.”

Carmel Mitchell

Head of HR Global Business Solutions, Fidelity International

“State Street is a strong advocate of this Apprenticeship programme and views it as a vehicle that helps attract a more diverse set of candidates that ordinarily would not be available to us. In addition, the apprentices receive an excellent education on the industry through their attendance at NCI as well as practical, on the job learning. It also provides a unique opportunity for our employees to further develop their own skills, through their involvement in supporting and mentoring these Apprentices.”

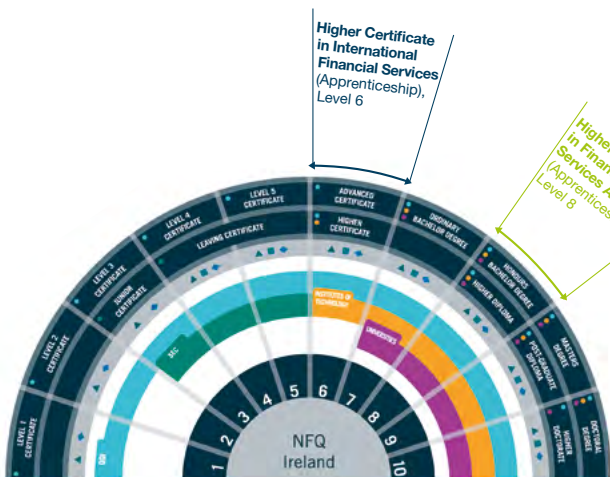
Bernadette Sexton

Head of HR, Global Services EMEA at State Street

“The IFS Apprenticeship is an exciting new development for the sector. The programme offers great opportunities to those wishing to begin a strong career in the financial services sector. Equally it also provides organisations access to a deep pool of new talent, coupled with a fresh approach to long-term talent development strategies.”

Paul Sweetman

Director of Financial Services Ireland, Ibec



AWARDING BODIES

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) makes awards in further and higher education and training.
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education and Skills)
- Institutes of Technology
- Universities

AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four classes of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards:** named in the outer rings, are the principal class of awards made at a level.
- Minor Awards:** are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award.
- Supplemental Awards:** are for learning that is additional to a Major Award.
- Special Purpose Awards:** are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement.



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