NATIONAL COLLEGE OF IRELAND

HIGHER DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE IN DATA ANALYTICS

FACTFILE

Application: Apply online at www.ncirl.ie

Spread the cost with our direct debit plan

Part-time Schedule

Start Date
Sept 2025

Duration
Part-Time (1-Year)
3 semesters delivered over 1 calendar year.

Delivery
Blended - Livestream with some on-campus stream classes, scheduled in advance.

Indicative Timetable
Three evenings per week, 18.00 - 22.00.

Fees
€4,900 total fee
(Fees revised annually)

Full-time Schedule

Start Date
Sept 2025
and Jan 2026

Duration
Full-Time (1-Year)
3 semesters delivered over 1 calendar year.

Delivery
Campus: Classes will take place face-to-face on campus.

Indicative Timetable
Students need to be available 09.00-18.00 Mon – Fri. (Class days and times can vary)

Fees
€4,900 total fee
(Fees revised annually)

Course Description

The objective of this course is to provide you a broad combination of themes around data analytics that creates valuable insight and professional expertise. The programme has been designed and developed with industry experts to ensure that graduates develop core theoretical and practical skills in specialist areas such as Statistics, Business Intelligence, Data Governance, Databases, Programming and Machine Learning. This course will equip you to enter the world of data and business analytics.

Who is the course for?

This programme is suitable for non-technical professionals and college graduates from non-technical disciplines, those with numeracy skills who wish to work as data analysts, business analysts or to enter into management roles across a range of sectors. You do not need to have previously studied programming. However, given the timeframe and the amount of technical and statistical content, applicants should be prepared to commit fully to the course.

Entry Requirements

Applicants holding an honours degree (level 8 or equivalent) in any discipline are eligible for direct access to the programme. In addition, applicants with level 7 degree in a cognate area (e.g. Computer Science/IT, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, Information Systems, Accounting) are also considered for direct access into the programme.

For other non-standard applications the College operates a Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme, meaning applicants who do not meet the normal academic entry requirements may be considered based on relevant work or other experience.

Typically, holders of more technical and numerate degrees or candidates that are able to demonstrate technical or mathematical problem-solving skills are likely to gain a higher ranking in the selection for the course. Non-English-speaking applicants must demonstrate fluency in English evidenced by an IELTS academic score of at least 6.0 or equivalent.

Laptop Requirement

This programme has a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy. Specifically, students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. A suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16 GB or more recommended); a 64-bit x86 processor (Intel i5 or superior); 250+ GB of hard disk; WiFi card; and a recent installed release of Windows operating system. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure their laptop is functioning correctly and that they have full administrator rights to the machine. NCI IT cannot provide support for personal devices.

Some students may be able to avail of the Student Laptop Loan Scheme, subject to eligibility. See page 87 for more information.

Award and Progression

Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics is awarded by QQI at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications. Students who successfully complete this course may be eligible to progress to a major award at level 9 on the NFQ.

Assessment

The course will be assessed with a blend of continuous assessments and/or project work and exams. This varies between modules but typically assessment is split 60:40 between exams and continuous assessment. Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime and at weekends.

COURSE CONTENT

- Statistics I
- Programming for Data Analytics
- Data Governance
- Statistics II
- Databases for Analytics
- Business Intelligence
- Machine Learning
- Project