

## Who is this for?

- School leavers (Leaving Certificate)
- Level 5 or Level 6 Graduates with relevant experience looking to upskill or retrain in the laboratory environment
- Mature students, or those returning to work.

## Target industry

Biopharma, chemical manufacturing, medical devices and diagnostics, food and drink, analytical testing laboratories.

## Timelines

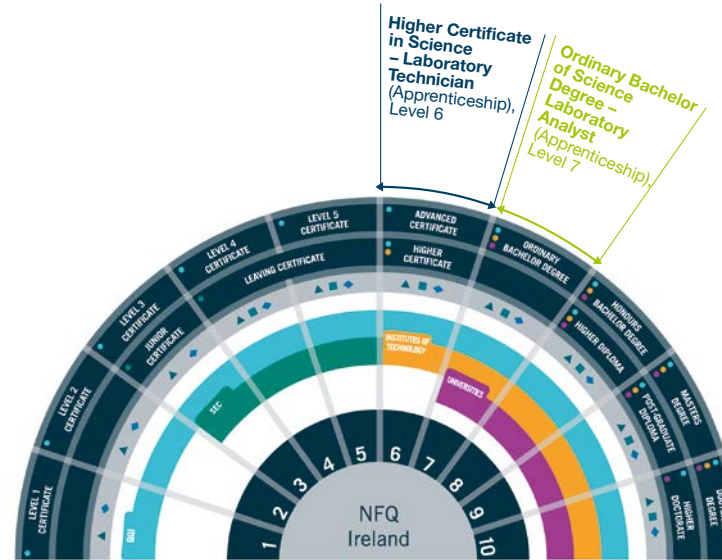
Two apprentice intakes per year. Apprentices will begin placement and academia in January and September.

“For many, a traditional college education can be undesirable or even unachievable for a variety of personal reasons. Our new Laboratory Apprenticeships provide a bona fide alternative pathway to gaining national qualifications that can kick start progressive careers in a booming and expanding industry, allowing apprentices to earn a healthy salary (on and off the job) while gaining valuable hands-on work experience and insights with some of Ireland's leading companies.”

Andrew Hayes, Helsinn Birex Pharmaceuticals Ltd  
Chair of Laboratory Apprenticeships

“This apprenticeship programme opens up a whole new route into the industry for school leavers keen to follow careers in this exciting sector. I look forward to seeing this vocational route bearing fruit for the sector and for its future employees.”

Matt Moran, BioPharmaChem Ireland Director



### 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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**Laboratory Apprenticeship**  
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**Laboratory Apprenticeship**

Higher Certificate in Science  
– Laboratory Technician (Level 6)  
Ordinary Bachelor of Science  
Degree – Laboratory Analyst  
(Level 7)



Apprenticeship  
Real-life Learning

# Laboratory Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a programme of structured education and training, which formally combines work place learning with learning in an education or training center. Our two new apprenticeships were designed with close alignment to the current needs of the Irish BioPharmaChem sector.

Developed by industry for industry, in partnership with lead provider, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, two new apprenticeship programmes have been created:

- **Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship**
- **Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeship**

These laboratory apprenticeships are suitable for those who are interested in pursuing a career in a laboratory environment in the biopharma, chemical manufacturing, medical devices and diagnostics, food and drink, analytical testing laboratories.

## 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

## Higher Certificate in Science – Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship, 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.

### Job Profile

The Apprentice will be responsible for carrying out basic laboratory duties that may include sample collection, equipment calibration, solution preparation, stock control and glassware maintenance while conducting basic physical and analytical testing methods on raw materials, in-process or finished product. All work to be conducted and recorded in accordance with good laboratory practices.

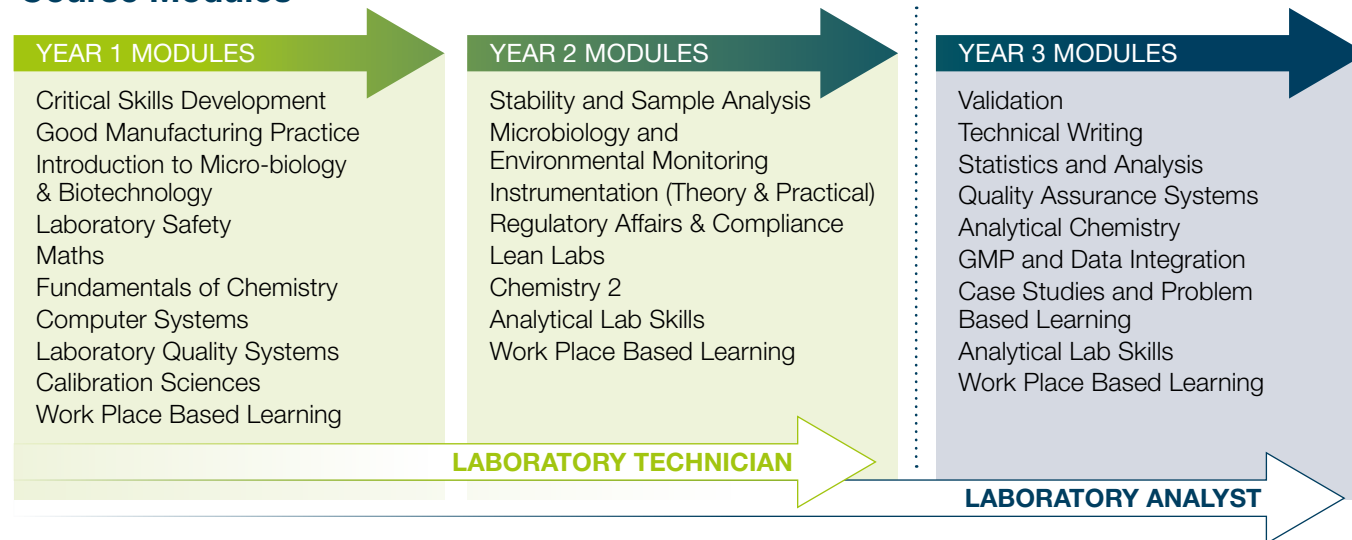
### Entry Requirements

Pass (Grade 06 or better) in five leaving certificate subjects, two of which must be maths and a science subject, 250 CAO points, relevant FETAC Level 5 or Level 6. This criteria does not apply to over 23's but all applicants will follow company and SOLAS recruitment procedures.

### Learning Structure

The Level 6 Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship supports the continuous learning and hands on work experience undertaken by the apprentice with a **three day on the job** (working) and **two day off the job** (academia) learning structure.

## Course Modules



## Ordinary Bachelor of Science Degree – Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeship, Level 7

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

### Job Profile

The Apprentice will be responsible for carrying out basic laboratory duties (as seen in Level 6) while progressing to conduct both basic and advanced analytical testing methods (e.g. chromatography, water and microbiological testing) on raw materials, in-process or finished product. In addition, the Apprentice will gain more working exposure to various Quality Systems. All work to be conducted and recorded in accordance with good laboratory practices.

### Entry Requirements

Pass (Grade 06 or better) in five leaving certificate subjects, two of which must be maths and a science subject, 250 CAO points, relevant FETAC Level 6, successful Level 6 Laboratory Technician apprentices. This criteria does not apply to over 23's but all applicants will follow company and SOLAS recruitment procedures.

### Learning Structure

The Level 7 Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeships supports the continuous learning and hands on work experience undertaken by the apprentice with a **three day on the job** (working) and **two day off the job** (academia) learning structure.