Higher Diploma in Financial Services Analytics (Apprenticeship), Level 8

International Financial Services Apprenticeships

Higher Certificate (Level 6) in International Financial Services
Higher Diploma (Level 8) in Financial Services Analytics

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

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.

## Course Structure

### Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Off-the-Job Modules</th>
<th>On-the-Job Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>• Financial Institutions and Markets</td>
<td>• Continuing Professional</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Customer Service</td>
<td>Development 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>• Management and Behaviour in Organisations</td>
<td>• Regulation and Compliance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• ICT for International Financial Services</td>
<td>• Product and Service</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proficiency</td>
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<td>• Client Communication and Relationships</td>
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### Year 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Off-the-Job Modules</th>
<th>On-the-Job</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>• Financial Accounting &amp; Reporting</td>
<td>• Continuing Professional Development 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Introduction to Statistics for Finance</td>
<td>• Systems &amp; Processes in International</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>• Fund Administration</td>
<td>• Apprentice Reflection</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Economics for Financial Practitioners</td>
<td>• Work Based Project</td>
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</table>
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Off-the-Job Modules</th>
<th>On-the-Job Modules</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Programme for Big Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Financial Markets I</td>
<td>Business Data Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Business Data Analysis</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Off-the-Job Modules</th>
<th>On-the-Job Modules</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Financial Markets II</td>
<td>Work Based Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Data Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Data Mining &amp; Machine Learning</td>
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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.
“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
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