# **Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics**

# (Online Directed E-Learning Delivery)

This is an online learning course that features Directed E-Learning activities such as live online classroom sessions and tutorials/ videos on the College's e-learning system. This allows for online class time to be interactive, practical, and focused, with theory based content being covered outside of class time with self-paced tutorials/videos, and practical content being covered in live online classes with support from lecturers.

# **Online Directed E-Learning Delivery** (1 Year)

#### Location: Online

Start Date: This course is expected to start in the week commencing 22nd September 2025.

Indicative Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday 18.00 - 22.00.

There will also be on average four hours self-paced learning per week on NCI's Learning Platform weekly. This will not appear on your timetable.

Career Bridge classes will be delivered one day per week in Semester one from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

Duration: September to December 2025, January to May 2026 and May to August 2026.

Applications: Apply online at https://springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €595 is applicable if you are in employment. No fees applicable if you are unemployed. The scheme does not cover any allowance for books and materials.

If a student contribution fee is applicable this must be paid in full no later than Friday 14th of November 2025.

## **Course Description**

The overall goal of the Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics programme is to provide learners with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to collect, analyse, interpret and present data effectively.

The programme aims to equip graduates with the competencies required to apply data analytics techniques across different domains, enabling data-driven decision making and problem solving.

It is designed to support career changers or upskill professionals seeking roles in data science, analytics, management and related fields.

Upon completion of this course, graduates will be able to:

- Ability to approach complex data problems and conduct substantial analysis in the field of Data Analytics.
- Implement novel ideas using current and emerging industry practices.
- Demonstrate expert knowledge and in depth understanding of data analysis, statistical techniques, machine learning and data-driven decision-making.
- Use different tools and platforms such as Python, R, SQL, Excel and data visualization tools like Tableau or Power BL
- Critically assess, evaluate, and communicate business and technical strategies related to Data Analytics.
- Critically assess and evaluate issues related to security, privacy, sustainability, and ethics in the storage, transfer, and processing of data for analytical purposes.

The course will be delivered using academic research, industry-defined practical problems, and case studies. This approach will naturally foster a deeper knowledge of the subject area and create transferable skills for work such as critical thinking, problem-solving, creative thinking, communication, teamwork, and research skills. The course is completely delivered by faculty and industry practitioners with proven expertise in data analytics.

# **Career Prospects**

Graduates from the previous 2 - 3 years leveraged the course to enhance their skills or secure positions such as Statistics Analyst (Central Bank of Ireland), Business Analyst (Commission for Communications Regulation), Data Scientist (Pfizer), Quality Analyst (Tik Tok), Digital Client Support (Citi), Senior Technologist (Enterprise Ireland), Data Analyst (VHI)

Employers who recruited graduates from the 2023 cohort of the Higher Diploma in Data Analytics include: Data Quality Analyst (Tik Tok), Credit Portfolio Manager (Google), Data Operations Analyst (TD Securities), QA Analyst (SEB Life International), Fund and Data Platform Analyst (Legal and General Investment Management), Technical Lead (IMGS), Data Analyst (Glovo).

# Who is the course for?

This course will appeal to non-technical professionals and college graduates from non-technical disciplines who wish to upgrade their skills or simply advance their https://www.ncirl.ie/English-Languagecareer in the domain of Data Analytics. The programme is particularly suitable for information. those with numeracy and analytical skills. You do not need to have previously studied programming. However, given the content and the timeframe you will need to have

a strong commitment to the course and willingness to fully engage with the technical content.

## **Award and Progression**

The 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 progress to a major award at level 9 such as the Masters of Science in Data Analytics.

# **Academic Entry Requirements**

Applicants are required to hold a level 8 honours degree or equivalent in any discipline. Candidates with level 7 degree in a cognate area (STEM) are also considered for direct access into the programme. The college operates a Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme meaning applicants who do not meet the normal academic requirements may be considered based on extensive relevant work and other experience. This may be assessed through a portfolio of learning, demonstration of work produced, interview and assessment (e.g. logic test).

Non-English speaking applicants must demonstrate fluency in the English language as demonstrated by an IELTS academic score of at least 6.0 or equivalent. Visit https:// <u>Requirements-International for more</u>

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#### Laptop Requirements

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 (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 processor (Intel i5 or superior); 250+ GB of available space in hard disk; WiFi card; and a recent version of Ubuntu, macOS or Windows. 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 does not provide support for personal devices.

This course requires internet access you will be required to ensure you have sufficient broadband speed and reliable connectivity from your place of study.

**Free Laptop loan for eligible students on this course:** Students who are eligible for HEA funding for this course may also be eligible for a free laptop provided on a loan basis for the duration of the programme.

This will be a suitable specification machine for completion of the programme but must be returned once you have finished your course. Overall numbers of laptops available are subject to maximum numbers and no other alternatives can be offered.

Visit https://www.ncirl.ie/Laptop-Loan-Scheme for updates on the next opening date for applications.

#### Assessment

The course will be assessed with blend of continuous assessments and/or project work and exams. This varies between modules but typically assessment is 50% continuous assessment and 50% exam.

Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime, evenings and at weekends.

Course Content (Online Directed E-Learning Delivery) (1 Year)

#### Semester 1

- Statistics I
- · Programming For Data Analytics
- $\cdot$  Data Governance
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 2

- · Statistics II
- Databases for Analytics
- · Business Intelligence

#### Semester 3

- · Machine Learning
- Project

Springboard Careers Advisors will proactively support you in finding relevant employment during the course or within 3 months following completion of the course.

