

LEADERS FOR CHANGE CERTIFICATE IN NON-PROFIT LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Special Purpose Award

Level 9 (15 ECTS Credits)

FACTFILE

Start Date

September 2026,
January 2027.

Duration

One semester.

Delivery

Blended - Livestream with some
campus and/or campus stream
classes, scheduled in advance.

Indicative Timetable

Two days per month: Attendance
(online or on-campus) for three
x 3-day blocks and one x 2-day
block (11 days total). These blocks
will be run over a 6-month or less
period, allowing students spend
time on applying the evidence-
based principles learned,
completing applied projects
as part of their assessment,
and focusing on independent
learning.

Fees

€1,575 (Fees revised annually)



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our direct debit plan



Quality Matters
supporting improvement in social services



Application: Apply online at www.ncirl.ie

Course Description

This level 9 Certificate in Non-Profit Leadership and Management is an applied programme, aimed at improving specific, managerial and leadership competencies for managers and executives in Irish non-profit organisations. The course combines academic, evidence-based practices with practitioner-led knowledge and skills. The faculty are drawn from academia and from qualified senior managers/CEOs who work within capacity building and research organisations within the non-profit sector in Ireland and internationally.

The course will focus on very specific and emerging managerial issues in the sector, which are not generally found in conventional MA/MSc/MBA programmes, other than those which focus exclusively on the non-profit sector. Learners receive very specific 360-degree feedback on their own leadership behaviours as seen by their peers, colleagues, direct reports etc. using a validated instrument.

The managerial portions of the programme (10 of 15 ECTS) addresses, in a foundational way, many of the contemporary issues faced by Irish managers in the non-profit sector. Topics and skills such as reflective practice, conflict management, emotional intelligence at work, non-profit governance, managing culture, HR and performance management, impact measurement, change management, influencing government and advocacy, information management, social media and personal presentation skills differentiate the programme from conventional management programmes. While the knowledge base is developed from an empirical perspective, the core focus is on helping learners migrate the knowledge base into a new set of competencies.

Award

Graduates will receive a Special Purpose Award (15 credits) awarded by QQI at level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to hold a minimum of a 2.2 honours degree at level 8 or equivalent on the National Framework of Qualifications. Applications may also be considered under the College's Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) policy, and this is likely to be particularly germane to the non-profit sector managers who do not hold an undergraduate degree but have substantive work and managerial experience. This programme requires applicants to have previous work and managerial/team leader experience.

Laptop Requirement

All students applying to NCI must have access to a laptop that will allow them to attend classes online and, where relevant, to participate in on-campus learning. Some students may be able to avail of the Student Laptop Loan Scheme, subject to eligibility. See page 83 for more information.

Career Development

Successful graduates of the programme are likely to emerge as future senior managers or CEOs of indigenous non-profit organisations, or develop further career progression in their current non-profit organisation.

COURSE CONTENT

- Non-Profit Change Management
- Emerging Management
- Ethical Leadership
- Outcome Measurement
- External Environment and Stakeholder Conflicts
- Model Leadership Behaviours
- Implementing Leadership Driven Changes