# Free National College of Ireland College Places

\*100% FUNDING FOR ALL APPLICANTS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED 90% FUNDING FOR ALL APPLICANTS WHO ARE IN EMPLOYMENT\*

National College of Ireland is now offering a limited number of funded places under the Springboard+ initiative, and the Human Capital Initiative (HCI) Pillar 1. All of these courses are available to eligible participants, regardless of employment status.\*

#### **COURSES FOR SEPTEMBER 2020**

#### **BLENDED DELIVERY**

- Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics (Level 8)
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Software Development)
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning)
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Blockchain)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Data Analytics (Level 9)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cybersecurity (Level 9)
- Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cloud Computing (Level 9)

#### ONLINE DELIVERY

- Higher Diploma in Science in Data Analytics (Level 8) 2yr
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Software Development) 2yr
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence)
- Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8) (Blockchain)

All applications must go through www.springboardcourses.ie

For more information check out www.ncirl.ie or call 1850 221 721 (then select option 4)

'Springboard+ is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014-2020'













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

This course comes in two delivery options. You can decide to do the blended option delivered in the IFSC over 1 year OR you can do the online version of the course over 1 or 2 years. All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

#### Blended Delivery Option (1 Year)

Location: IFSC Campus and Online

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020

**Indicative Schedule Evening:** 

Group 1 (Blended Delivery) will be scheduled Monday, Wednesday & Friday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00.

**Group 2** (Blended Delivery) will be scheduled Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters from September to December 2020, January to May 2021 and late May to August 2021.

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 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 20th November 2020.

# Online Delivery Option (2 Years)

Location: Online Version

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020

**Indicative Schedule Evening:** Monday and Wednesday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays per semester.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed. Duration: 2 year, 4 semesters. September to December 2020, Jan to May 2021, late May to August 2021 & September to December 2021

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

The analysis and interpretation of data to address the problems of business and society is an area experiencing massive growth. Diverse areas such as insurance, retail, sports, finance, pharmaceutical and government are all looking for people with skills in analysing 'big data' to help them make more informed decisions.

The course will furnish students with skills to enter the world of data analytics through building a foundation of strong statistical knowledge, developing problem-solving skills for business analysis, and helping you understand and use business data to deliver better decision making. This higher diploma will give you technical skills in statistics, programming, database management and web mining in addition to business skills such as business analysis that will help you make an impact in a wide range of roles. Students undertaking this course will be exposed to a variety of programming languages/tools that may include R, Python, SPSS, Excel, Weka and RapidMiner.

As a graduate of this course you will be able to:

- Develop statistical skills to carry out effective data analyses using descriptive and inferential statistics within a business context
- Solve real business problems using generally accepted practices in the field of business analysis supported by the choice and application of appropriate data analysis tools
- Develop technical skills to process multiple datasets using relevant modelling, programming, data storage, and computational techniques
- Communicate effectively the results of data analysis to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Apply analytical thinking techniques, communication, and interaction skills to support decision making and address business requirements

 Apply data-mining and knowledge discovery techniques to process datasets from multiple diverse data sources

#### **Career Prospects**

2019 Graduates used the course to upskill or gain employment in roles such as Data Analyst, BI/Data Specialist, Data Scientist, Business Operations Analyst, Data and Reporting Analyst, Match Analyst, Web Insights Analyst, Risk Analyst, Project Manager, Financial Reporting Supervisor, Associate BI and Analytics Consultant, Digital Audience Analyst, Global Sales Operations Director. 47% of graduates who were in employment successfully transitioned during or following the course. 3 graduates who were unemployed attained graduate level employment. 4 graduates went on to do the Postgraduate Diploma in Data Analytics.

Companies who hired NCI 2019 graduates included: Bank of Ireland (Data Analyst), Permanent TSB (Data Analyst), Gannon Homes (BI/Data Specialist), Irish Life (Data Scientist and Project Manager),

Intesa Sanpaolo Life (Business Operations Analyst), VHI (Data and Reporting Analyst), IRFU (Match Analyst), Ryanair (Web Insights Analyst and Digital Audience Analyst), Facebook (Risk Analyst), SEI (Financial Reporting Supervisor), Accenture (Associate BI and Analytics Consultant), AMCS (Global Sales Operations Director).

#### Who is the course for?

The programme is particularly suitable for those with numeracy skills. 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 fully commit to the programme.

#### **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 holding an honours degree (level 8 or equivalent) in any discipline will be considered. Candidates will be able to demonstrate technical or mathematical skills as part of previous learning. Typically holders of more numerate degrees in areas like maths, engineering, architecture. physics or economics are likely to gain higher ranking in selection for the programme. Candidates with other level 8 honours degrees will also be considered and will need to be able to demonstrate technical or mathematical skills in addition to their level 8 qualification. For candidates who do not have a level 8 qualification, 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.

Students apply for either blended or online (2 year course) options. It is not possible to transfer options post registration.

#### **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 portable computer (laptop/notebook) with a substantial hardware configuration. Its minimal suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 multi-core 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 each student to ensure her/his computer is functioning correctly and that she/he has full administrator rights. NCI IT cannot provide support for these personal devices

#### Course Content (Classroom or Online Delivery - 1 Year)

#### Semester 1

- · Introduction to Data Analytics
- Business Analysis and Communication
- · Business Data Analysis
- · Programming for Big Data

#### Semester 2

- · Data and Web Mining
- · Advanced Business Data Analysis
- · Data Visualisation
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 3

Project

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

#### Course Content (Online Delivery - 2 Years)

#### Year 1 / Semester 1

- · Introduction to Data Analytics
- · Business Data Analysis
- · Programming for Big Data

#### Year 1 / Semester 2

- Business Analysis and Communication
- · Advanced Business Data Analysis
- · Career Bridge

#### Year 2 / Semester 1

- · Data and Web Mining
- · Data Visualisation

#### Year 2 / Semester 2

- · Project
- · Career Bridge

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

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

#### **Assessment**

The course will be assessed with a blend of continuous assessment 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.



# **Higher Diploma in Science in Computing**

#### (With specialisation in Software Development)

The Software Development stream provides learners detailed knowledge, problem-solving and technical skills in the area of software development using a modern programming language, such as Java, and application development framework(s).

This course comes in two delivery options. You can decide to do the blended option delivered in the IFSC over 1 year or the other option is an online version delivered over 2 years. All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

# Blended Delivery Option (1 Year)

Location: IFSC and Online

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Blended Delivery will take place Monday, Wednesday & Friday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, Jan to May 2021 and late May to August 2021

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 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 20th November 2020.

# Online Delivery Option (2 Year)

Location: Online Version.

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Blended Delivery will take place Monday and Wednesday 18.00 - 22.00

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 2 year, 4 semesters. September to December 2020, Jan to May 2021, September to December 2021 & Jan to May 2022

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

This course will appeal to non-technical professionals or graduates with a level 8 degree from different backgrounds who would like to upgrade their skills in the computing domain, helping them to progress faster in their employment or to apply the gained knowledge in their current role.

The course teaches students the computing fundamentals, complemented with detailed knowledge, problem-solving and specialised technical skills required for designing, developing and deploying software.

The course offers a specialisation in Software Development, which brings the participants quickly to the graduate standard in this area.

The Software Development specialisation provides learners detailed knowledge, problem-solving and technical skills in the area of software development using, for example, the Java programming language and the Ruby on Rails framework.

Depending on your delivery choice you will take Career Bridge as either blended or online. It will help you to enhance your employability skills and improve your overall career prospects. Students will be assisted

in identifying relevant employment or a placement during or within three months of completing their course.

Graduates may avail of many entry-level jobs, such as Software Developer, Web Development Engineer and Software Engineer

#### **Career Prospects**

This course is designed to meet the needs of the IT sector and secure future employment for graduates. Companies who have hired 2018/2019 graduates include: SOLAS (Software Developer), Jaguar Land Rover (Senior Cloud DevOps Engineer), Version 1 (Java Developer), Ergo (Technical Account Manager), Dell (Graduate Programme, Enterprise Support), Civil Service (Software Developer), Fenergo (Java Developer), Openet (Graduate Software Engineer), Ding (Junior QA Engineer), Global Payments (Operations Analyst), Oracle (Senior Cloud Customer Operations Engineer).

#### Who is the course for?

This course will typically appeal to graduates with a level 8 degree from different backgrounds who would wish to change their non-ICT qualification into

the computer science field through a level 8 award in computing. Nonetheless, it is noted that the course is technical in nature and will entail a significant amount of independent study. Given the content and the timescale you will need to have a strong commitment to the course and a willingness to fully engage with the technical content.

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

A level 8 degree or its equivalent in a non-cognate discipline. Non-standard applications will be also considered on an individual basis.

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 extensive relevant work and other experience. This may be assessed through a portfolio of learning, demonstration of work produced, interview and assessment

Students apply for either blended 1 year or online 2 year options. It is not possible to transfer options post registration.



#### **Laptop Requirements**

Students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. A suitable configuration is 6GB of RAM (8GB or more are 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 to 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.

#### Assessment

The course will be assessed with a blend of continuous assessment and/or project work and exams. Please note that in some instances the exams may take place in the daytime, evenings and at weekends.

#### **Award and Progression**

For all streams regardless of specialisation your final award will be a Higher Diploma in Science in Computing as awarded by QQI at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Students who successfully complete this course may be eligible to progress to a major award at level 9 on the NFQ.

#### Software Development specialisation (Blended - 1 Year)

#### Semester 1

- · Software Development
- Object Oriented Software Engineering
- · Introduction to Databases
- Web Design and Client Side Scripting
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 2

- Computer Architecture Operating Systems and Networks
- · Data Structures
- · Algorithms and Advanced Programming
- · Distributed Systems
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 3

- Project
- · Career Bridge

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

Note: The prospective students are required to specify the specialisation they would like to follow when they apply for a place within the Higher Diploma in Science in Computing programme.

Note: Elective streams/ specialisations will run subject to student numbers.

#### Software Development specialisation (Online - 2 Year)

#### Year 1 Semester 1

- · Software Development
- Web Design and Client Side Scripting

#### Year 1 Semester 2

- Object Oriented Software Engineering
- · Data Structures
- · Introduction to Databases
- · Career Bridge

#### Year 2 Semester 1

- Computer Architecture
   Operating Systems and Networks
- Algorithms and Advanced Programming
- · Distributed Systems

#### Year 2 Semester 2

- Project
- · Work Placement

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

# **Higher Diploma in Science in Computing**

(With specialisation in Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning)

This course comes in two delivery options. You can decide to do the blended option delivered in the IFSC or the other option is an online version. All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online. \*Subject to QQI Validation.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

# Blended and Online Delivery Options

Location: Online and IFSC Campus

Start Date: The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Blended Delivery will be scheduled Monday, Wednesday & Friday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00

Career Bridge classes will be delivered one day per week 17:00 start - day to be confirmed.

Duration: 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, January to May 2021 and one final semester from late May to August 2021

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 is applicable if you are in employment. No fees applicable if you are unemployed. The scheme does not cover any allowance for books and

If a student contribution fee is applicable this must be paid in full no later than Friday 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

The course teaches students the computing fundamentals, complemented with detailed knowledge, problem-solving and specialised technical skills required for analysing, designing and developing technical software solutions. The second semester consists of a focused set of modules that are specific to the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning specialisation. The course aims to impart awareness and appreciation of relevant topics in the area of specialisation.

The Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning stream provides learners an understanding and application development of Al-powered products by leveraging expertise in machine learning and computational methods.

#### **Career Prospects**

This course is designed to meet the needs of the IT sector and secure future employment for graduates. Companies who have hired 2018/2019 graduates include: SOLAS (Software Developer), Jaguar Land Rover (Senior Cloud DevOps Engineer), Version 1 (Java Developer), Ergo (Technical Account Manager), Dell (Graduate Programme, Enterprise Support), Civil Service (Software Developer), Fenergo (Java Developer), Openet (Graduate Software Engineer), Ding (Junior QA Engineer), Global Payments (Operations Analyst), Oracle (Senior Cloud Customer Operations Engineer).

#### Who is the course for?

This course will appeal to graduates with a level 8 degree from different backgrounds who would wish to change their non-ICT qualification into the computer science field through a level 8 award in computing. It will also appeal to technical and nontechnical professionals who would like to upgrade their skills in one of the specialisations provided by this course, helping them to progress faster in their employment or to apply the knowledge in their current role.

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

A level 8 degree or its equivalent in a noncognate discipline. Non-standard applications will be also considered on an individual basis. 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 using a portfolio of learning, demonstration of work produced, and interview.

#### **Laptop Requirements**

Students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. A suitable configuration is 6GB of RAM (8GB or more are 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 to personal devices.

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

#### 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 50:50 or 60:40 between continuous assessment and/or project and exam. Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime and at weekends

#### Award and Progression

The Higher Diploma in Science in Computing is awarded by QQI at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Students who successfully complete this course may be eligible to progress to a major award at level 9 on the NFQ. As graduates from other disciplines and

with work experience, learners will have life skills and experiences that they will bring with them on the programme and into a new subject domain. Therefore, they are eligible for a number of roles. They could work in positions that are in-line with their skills but in the ICT sector, or apply ICT knowledge gained through this programme to their current role.

#### Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning specialisation

#### Semester 1

- · Software Development
- · Object Oriented Software Engineering
- · Introduction to Databases
- · Web Design and Client Side Scripting

#### Semester 2

- · Computer Architecture Operating Systems and Networks
- · Artificial Intelligence
- Statistics
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 3

- · Machine Learning Fundamentals
  - Block delivery
- · Project Block delivery

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline, or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

Note: The prospective students are required to specify the specialisation they would like to follow when they apply for a place within the Higher Diploma in Science in Computing

Elective streams/specialisations will run subject to student numbers.

# **Higher Diploma in Science in Computing**

(With specialisation in Blockchain)

This course comes in two delivery options. You can decide to do the blended option delivered in the IFSC or the other option is an online version. All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online. \*Subject to QQI Validation

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

# Blended and Online Delivery Options (1 Year)

Location: IFSC and Online

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Blended Delivery will be scheduled Monday, Wednesday & Friday 18.00 – 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 18.00

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, January to May 2021 and one final semester from late May to August 2021.

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €540 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

The course teaches students the computing fundamentals, complemented with detailed knowledge, problem-solving and specialised technical skills required for analysing, designing and developing technical software solutions. The second semester consists of a focused set of modules that are specific to the Blockchain specialisation. The course aims to impart awareness and appreciation of relevant topics in the area of specialisation.

The Blockchain stream provides learners an understanding and application development of Blockchain.

**Career Prospects** 

This course is designed to meet the needs of the IT sector and secure future employment for graduates. Companies who have hired 2018/2019 graduates include: SOLAS (Software Developer), Jaguar Land Rover (Senior Cloud DevOps Engineer), Version 1 (Java Developer), Ergo (Technical Account Manager), Dell (Graduate Programme, Enterprise Support), Civil Service (Software Developer), Fenergo (Java Developer), Openet (Graduate Software Engineer), Ding (Junior QA Engineer), Global Payments (Operations Analyst), Oracle (Senior Cloud Customer Operations Engineer).

#### Who is the course for?

This course will appeal to graduates with a level 8 degree from different backgrounds who would wish to change their non-ICT qualification into the computer science field through a level 8 award in computing.

It will also appeal to technical and nontechnical professionals who would like to upgrade their skills in one of the specialisations provided by this course, helping them to progress faster in their employment or to apply the knowledge in their current role.

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

A level 8 degree or its equivalent in a noncognate discipline. Non-standard applications will be also considered on an individual basis. 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 using a portfolio of learning, demonstration of work produced, and interview.

#### **Laptop Requirements**

Students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. A suitable configuration is 6GB of RAM (8GB or more are 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 to personal devices.

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

#### **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 50:50 or 60:40 between continuous assessment and/or project and exam. Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime and at weekends.

#### **Award and Progression**

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

As graduates from other disciplines and with work experience, learners will have life skills and experiences that they will bring with them on the programme and

into a new subject domain. Therefore, they are eligible for a number of roles. They could work in positions that are in-line with their skills but in the ICT sector, or apply ICT knowledge gained through this programme to their current role.

## Blockchain specialisation

#### Semester 1

- · Software Development
- Object Oriented Software Engineering
- · Introduction to Databases
- Web Design and Client Side Scripting

#### Semester 2

- Computer Architecture Operating Systems and Networks
- · Blockchain Foundations
- · Distributed Systems
- · Career Bridge

#### Semester 3

- Blockchain Application
   Development Block delivery
- · Project Block delivery

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline, or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

Note: The prospective students are required to specify the specialisation they would like to follow when they apply for a place within the Higher Diploma in Science in Computing programme.

Elective streams/specialisations will run subject to student numbers.

## Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Data Analytics

(Blended delivery) All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

Location: Online and IFSC Campus

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th of September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Monday and Wednesdays 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of saturdays 09.00 - 18.00.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, January to May 2021 and late May to August 2021.

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: A student contribution fee of €650 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

This course aims to produce technically competent, innovative graduates that will become leading practitioners in the field of data analytics. Upon completion, graduates will be able to:

- Conduct independent research and analysis in the field of data analytics
- Demonstrate expert knowledge of data analysis and statistics, and the tools, techniques and technologies of data analytics utilised in both technical and business contexts
- Critically assess and evaluate business and technical strategies for data analytics
- Develop and implement effective business and technical solutions for data analytics
- Critically appreciate ethical and data governance issues relevant to data analytics

The course is designed to accommodate those with specific interests in data analytics, whether that may be of a more technically focused or a more business focused nature. All learners will also gain exposure to pertinent legal issues and ethical issues associated with the data analytics field.

Students will gain exposure to product commercialisation issues associated with data analytics. The course is delivered by faculty and practitioners using academic research, industry-defined practical problems, and case studies.

Students undertaking this course will be exposed to a variety of programming languages/tools that may include R, Python, SPSS, Excel, Weka and RapidMiner.

#### **Career Prospects**

This course is designed to meet the ever-growing need for deep skills in Big Data/Analytics to fill a skills shortage in Ireland.

Companies who have hired 2019 graduates from this course include: Google (Investigations Analyst, Trust & Safety), Bank of Ireland (Risk Analytics Intern), An Pobal (QA Analyst), Electric

Ireland (Pricing Analyst), Storm
Technology Ltd. (Financial Reporting
Consultant), Dunnhumby (Applied
Data Scientist), St. Vincent's Hospital
(Data Analyst), Real World Analytics
(Trainee Data Analyst), ESB (Lead Data
Scientist), Version 1 (Managed Services
Consultant), City Wonders (Revenue
Analyst).

50% of graduates who were in employment successfully transitioned during or following the course. 5 graduates who were unemployed attained graduate level employment. 5 graduates went on to do the Masters in Data Analytics.

#### Who is the course for?

This course is for graduates who have substantial technical and mathematical skills. Graduates from non-STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) that have not developed these skills will need to be able to demonstrate an aptitude for technical and mathematical problem solving.

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

Applicants are normally required to hold a minimum of a level 8 honours qualification (2.2 or higher) or equivalent on the NFQ in a cognate discipline. Candidates will be required to demonstrate technical or mathematical problem solving in previous learning. Graduates from programmes without embedded technical or mathematical problem solving will need to demonstrate these skills in addition to level 8 qualifications (via certifications, qualifications, certified experience and assessment tests). All applicants must evidence prior programming experience (e.g., via academic transcripts or recognised certification). Standard applicants are holders of technical, numerate degrees who are likely to gain a higher ranking in order of merit for admission to this programme. Normally, these would be applicants who have gained a minimum of a Level 8 qualification in a numerate discipline, typically Computing or Informatics. Such applicants with a

level 8 qualification (2.2 or higher) or equivalent are eligible for direct entry. Following computing graduates, we next assign priority to candidates with a background in engineering, mathematics, physics and chemistry. Consideration of these applications is by detailed examination of the content, assessments and syllabi of applicants' primary degrees. Such candidates may also be assessed by interview.

Additionally, applications will be considered for those with a minimum of a Level 8 qualification in a programme with a significant IT and/ or numerate component which could include Management Information Systems, Accounting, Economics, Marketing Management, Sociology and Biology. Programmes in this category may vary greatly in mathematical and information technology content and applications would be assessed by detailed examination of programme content, assessments and syllabi. Candidates with qualifications in this category will be assessed by interview.

#### **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. Its minimal suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 multi-core 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 cannot provide support to personal devices.

#### **Assessment**

The course will be assessed with a blend of 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.

#### **Award and Progression**

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Data Analytics are awarded an NFQ Level 9 qualification can optionally complete the additional 30 credits required to upgrade their qualification to the MSc in Data Analytics (Not included under Springboard+ - additional fee would apply).

#### **Course Content**

#### Year 1 / Semester 1

- · Statistics for Data Analytics
- · Database and Analytics Programming

#### Year 1 / Semester 2

- · Data Mining and Machine Learning I
- · Modelling, Simulation, and Optimization
- · Business Intelligence and Business Analytics - Elective Modules Group 1
- · Data Intensive Architectures
- Elective Modules Group 2
- · Career Bridge

#### Year 1 / Semester 3

- · Data Mining and Machine Learning II
- · Data Governance and Ethics
- · Domain Applications of Predictive Analytics
  - Elective Modules Group 1
- · Scalable Systems Programming
  - Elective Modules Group 2

Note: Electives are designed to allow students gain specialised knowledge in Data Analytics related areas. Electives may have dependencies, by picking a particular elective in Semester 2, students may restrict themselves to a single choice of elective in Semester 3. For the current suite of electives, dependencies are:

- Elective Modules Group 1: Business Intelligence and Business Analytics -> Domain Applications of Predictive Analytics
- Elective Modules Group 2:
   Data Intensive Architectures -> Scalable
   Systems Programming

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline, generally 2nd or 3rd semester, or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

Note that all modules count towards the final award classification.



## Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cybersecurity

(Blended delivery) All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

Location: Online and IFSC Campus

Start Date: The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020.

Indicative Schedule: Monday and Wednesday 18.00 - 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 - 16.00.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, January to May 2021 and May to August 2021.

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

**Fees:** A student contribution fee of €695 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

Cybersecurity is an essential need for a modern society in which information technology and services pervade every aspect of our lives. The Cybersecurity field has the fastest growth rate while the labour market encounters a severe workforce shortage. As a graduate of the course you will be able to:

- Conduct independent research and analysis in the cybersecurity domain including secure application design, development and testing within a given context e.g. web, cloud computing, and forensic investigation
- Demonstrate practical skills and expert knowledge of technologies and tools that support cryptanalysis, application and service vulnerability detection and patching, security incidents detection and log file analysis
- Critically evaluate the design and implementation and evaluation of a research idea
- Analyse and evaluate the legal, ethical and economic ramifications of developing secure applications and services
- Communicate effectively to a range of audiences in both written and verbal media and undertake self- learning in order to acquire new knowledge

#### **Career Prospects**

Cybersecurity Ventures estimates that a business or consumer will be the victim of a ransomware attack every 5 seconds by 2021. As the world's data store grows over the next five years, more of it will be taken hostage by cybercriminals. The Irish government is seeking to fill the shortage of skilled cybersecurity personnel to protect companies against cybercrime as well as respond to security breaches.

Companies who have hired 2018 and 2019 graduates from this course include: Version 1 (Associate Consultant), Irish Aviation Authority (Project Management System Specialist), Amazon Web Services (Cloud Support Associate), AKKA Academy (Graduate Technology Consultant), Fidelity Investments (Senior System Analyst and Senior Software Quality Engineer), PwC (Technology Consultant), Dell EMC (Software Solutions Engineer), Kontainers (Business Analyst).

#### Who is the course for?

This course is ideal for ICT professionals or graduates with a level 8 degree on National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), in computing/ computer science or in a cognate area (STEM) that wish to develop a career as

a cybersecurity professional; to take a leading technical or managerial role; to progress faster in their exmployment or to apply the knowledge in their current role. Candidates who do not hold a computing degree and are currently working in the IT sector may be considered based on relevant academic qualifications or extensive work experience. Candidates are expected to have programming ability.

#### **Award and Progression**

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cybersecurity are awarded an NFQ Level 9 qualification can optionally complete the additional 30 credits required to upgrade their qualification to the MSc in Cybersecurity (Not included under Springboard+, additional fee would apply).

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

A minimum of a level 8 primary degree in Computing or a cognate area with a 2.2 award or higher or equivalent on the National Qualifications Framework in Computing or a Cognate area. Candidates are expected to have programming ability. Cognate area means a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) degree that also taught programming/application development related modules. An assessment and/or interview may be conducted to ascertain suitability if necessary for candidates who do not meet the normal academic requirements.

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 relevant work and other experience. This may be assessed using a portfolio of learning, demonstration of work produced, and an interview. The programming ability of the applicant will also be assessed. Non-English speaking applicants must demonstrate fluency in the English language as demonstrated by IELTS academic score of at least 6.0 or equivalent

#### **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 portable computer (laptop/notebook) with a substantial hardware configuration. The minimal suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 multi-core 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 each student to ensure their computer is functioning correctly and that they have full administrator rights. NCI IT cannot provide support for these personal devices.

#### Assessment

The programme is assessed by means of continuous, in-semester, assessment and final examination. http://courses.ncirl.ie. Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime and at weekends.

#### **Course Content**

The course offers two specialisations: Forensics and Cloud Security. Learners must select one specialisation.

#### Year 1 / Semester 1

- · Security Fundamentals
- · IT Law and Ethics
- Network Security and Penetration Testing

#### Year 1 / Semester 2

- · Secure Programming for Web
- · Cryptography
- · Malware Analysis
- · Career Bridge

#### Year 1 / Semester 3

- · Research in Computing
- Secure Programming for Application Development
- Cloud Security
- Cloud Security Elective
- Incident Response and Analytics
- Forensic Elective
- · Forensics and eDiscovery
  - Forensics Elective

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline, generally 2nd or 3rd semester, or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

\*Note that all modules count towards the final award classification.

# Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Cloud Computing (Blended delivery)

All classes in Semester 1 due to Covid 19 Restrictions will be delivered online.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

Location: Online and IFSC Campus

**Start Date:** The course is expected to start in the week commencing 28th September 2020

Indicative Schedule: Tuesday and Thursdays 18:00 – 22.00 and a number of Saturdays 09.00 to 18.00.

Career Bridge will be delivered one day per week in Semester 2 from 17.00 to 18.00. Day to be confirmed.

**Duration:** 1 year, 3 semesters. September to December 2020, Jan to May 2021 and late May to August 2021.

Applications: Apply online at www.springboardcourses.ie

Fees: a student contribution fee of €650 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 20th November 2020.

#### **Course Description**

The worldwide public cloud services market is projected to grow 17.5 percent in 2019 to total \$214.3 billion, up from \$182.4 billion in 2018, according to Gartner, Inc. Furthermore, according to the IDA, Ireland is rapidly becoming a dominant force in Cloud Computing, building on its international reputation as a leader in ICT. Many key players have already been attracted to Ireland while a wide spectrum of technology companies with Irish operations are actively expanding into and researching the Cloud.

Aligned with our comprehensive academic strategy at NCI, we have embedded digital, transversal, and management and leadership skills in the Postgraduate Diploma in Cloud Computing. It's contents provide digital skills that are up to-date and relevant to the needs of industry in cloud-related areas such as virtualisation, storage management, programming for data analytics, software development and engineering, application services, and cloud security. Transversal, management, and leadership skills are provided via modules related to utility computing, research in computing, and business strategies for cloud computing. The programme is focused on addressing a range of core cloud technology skills assembled into two different sub-areas of specialisation:

- Development: Enables learners to get practical experience not only in the SaaS delivery model, but also in programming for data analytics.
- Infrastructure: Focuses on the foundations of the laaS delivery model with links to storage and data governance concepts.

#### **Career Prospects**

Research shows that cloud computing will transform every aspect of business, from logistics to customer relationships to the way teams work together, and today's organizations are preparing for this seismic shift. This Irish government has developed a comprehensive strategic approach to develop the sector in recognition of Ireland's potential to become a world leader in Cloud Computing. This focus has already attracted world leaders, such as EMC, Citrix and Dropbox. (IDA, 2019). The skills in demand today are: Java, Linux, Amazon Web Services(AWS), Software Development, DevOps, Docker and Infrastructure as a Service (laaS), included in roles such as: Cloud Architect, Cloud Software Engineer, Cloud Sales, Cloud Engineer, Cloud Systems Administrator, Cloud Consultant, Cloud Network Engineer, Cloud Product Manager.

Through the Cloud Competency Centre at NCI, this programme has been actively engaged with

major cloud multinationals (AWS, IBM, and Microsoft). Additionally, we have received support from indigenous cloud-intensive companies. Recent graduates from this course have gone on to fill roles in Susquehanna International Group (Citrix Engineer), Paddy Power Betfair (Associate Java Developer), 888spectate.com (Frontend Developer), Hertz (Data Engineer), Tickets.ie (.NET Developer), Citi (Technology Analyst), SAP (Support Engineer), HP Enterprise (Network Engineer), Asavie (Site& Reliability Engineer), IBM (Operations Engineer), Workday (Operations Engineer).

#### Who is the course for?

This computing course will appeal to computer science or engineering graduates, ICT industry practitioners, system administrators, and those with an interest in gaining practical experience in cloud computing.

As a graduate of this course you will be able to:

- Create and deploy commercial multi-tier applications onto multiple (public/ hybrid) cloud platforms
- Plan and architect highly-scalable computing/data analytics solutions for business and scientific needs
- . Design pattern-based application code to run efficiently in a cloud environment
- . Evaluate security strategies associated with cloud computing and apply them to ensure the technical sustainability of an organisation
- Perform a migration from a traditional ICT environment to a cloud-based platform
- . Manage the process of running an IT department from a cloud environment.

#### **Award and Progression**

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Cloud Computing are awarded an NFQ Level 9 qualification and can optionally complete the additional 30 credits required to upgrade their qualification to the MSc in Cloud Computing.(Not included under Springboard+, additional fee would apply).

#### **Academic Entry Requirements**

To be admitted as a student, an applicant must have earned an honours (NFQ Level 8) primary degree in Computing or a cognate area with a 2.2 award or higher. Candidates are expected to have programming ability. Cognate area means a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) degree included a significant number of computer programming modules.

An assessment and/or interview may be conducted to ascertain suitability if necessary for candidates who do not meet the normal academic requirements. Non- English speaking applicants must demonstrate fluency in the English language as demonstrated by IELTS academic score of at least 6.0 or equivalent.

#### **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 portable computer (laptop/notebook) with a substantial hardware configuration. Its minimal suitable configuration is 8GB of RAM (16GB are recommended); a modern 64-bit x86 multi-core 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 each student to ensure her/his computer is functioning correctly and that she/he has full administrator rights. NCI IT cannot provide support for these personal devices.

#### **Course Content**

Year 1 / Semester 1

- · Cloud Architectures
- · Cloud Platform Programming

Year 1 / Semester 2

- · Cloud DevOpsSec
- · Scalable Cloud Programming
- · Blockchain Concepts

#### Year 1 / Semester 3

- · Fog and Edge Computing
- Data Governance, Compliance and Ethics
- · Cloud Machine Learning

Relevant Employment / Placement can be undertaken within the course timeline, generally 2nd or 3rd semester, or commenced within 3 months of course completion. \*

Note that all modules count towards the final award classification.

#### **APPLICATION AND ELIGIBILITY**

#### Why Choose NCI

NCI has almost 70 years' experience working with part-time students. All programmes under Springboard+ are accredited by QQI, so they are recognised nationally and internationally.

The College provides a supportive environment and tailored facilities for students returning to education after a number of years. In particular for Springboard+ a dedicated programme leader will look after the organisation of your course and make sure all your needs are met.

All our programmes are practical and are delivered by industry experts.

We benefit from a convenient location with the LUAS just outside the door and we are minutes from Connolly Station. Career Bridge, Work Placement, industry based projects and a dedicated team of career development professionals will work with you to help you gain the most from your qualification and get back into the workforce, or develop your career.

#### **Laptop and Internet Access Requirements**

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they have a computer device of sufficient specification to complete their course and adequate internet connectivity where appropriate.

### Restrictions Regarding Previous Participants

- 1. Participants who enrolled in more than one Springboard+ course since the inception of Springboard in 2011, and did not complete any course, or their most recent course, are not eligible to apply in 2020. This criteria applies to all categories of applicant.
- 2. Participants who enrolled in just one course, since the inception of Springboard+ in 2011, but did not complete, are eligible to apply in 2020.
- 3. All applicants must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Springboard+ 2020 Call and any additional requirements as outlined by the course provider.

#### **Eligibility for Funding**

Fees: The Springboard+ scheme allows for 100% funding of the tuition cost of these programmes if you fall into one of the below categories;

- Unemployed and in receipt of an eligible DEASP payment or signing for credits
- Returners

For those in employment a student contribution fee is required. This is payable by the participant and must be paid in full by 20th November 2020. The fees quoted are the student contribution for the full course. These can be paid on the NCI website, see www.ncirl.ie/NewStudents for details. Applicants can also have their employer fill out a sponsorship form indicating the employer's commitment to pay the student contribution element. Completed sponsorship forms should be returned to fees@ncirl.ie within two weeks of accepting your place on the course.

Returners and employed applicants: In addition to the academic entry requirements, returners and employed applicants, will be required to meet nationality and residency requirements for Springboard+ courses.. Please see 'Springboard+ Participant Eligibility' at www.springboardcourses.ie/faq for more information. 'Returners' are defined as people that have been out of the work environment for a number of years due to childcare or other caring obligations and have a previous history of employment but may require upskilling, reskilling or cross-skilling to transition back to the workforce. More information can be found at 'Am I Eligible for a Springboard+ Course' at

www.springboardcourses.ie/eligibility

Two year part-time courses: If you are unemployed and in receipt of a jobseekers payment (including Farm Assist and Qualified Adults of Working Age) you are not eligible for the two year ICT Conversion Courses. Please see www.springboardcourses.ie/eligibility.

Students with an unemployed status have limitations on our Higher Diploma ICT programmes. Unemployed students are not eligible to undertake 2 year programmes.

Our ICT 1 year programmes are full time and students must be in receipt of an eligible DEASP payment for 9 of the previous 12 months.

ICT 1 Year full-time mode of study programmes: NCI's 1 Year Higher Diploma programmes are delivered in the evening with a full time mode of study. If you are unemployed and in receipt of a jobseekers payment (including Farm Assist and Qualified Adults of Working Age) you are not eligible if you have been in receipt of this payment for less than 9 of the previous 12 months from your course commencement.

Level 9 Postgraduate Courses: This year these courses will be opened to both the employed and the unemployed however NCI must prioritise those in receipt of a social protection payment and and those categorised as 'returners' so that they can upskill and reskill and re-enter the workforce. Therefore, a number of places will be reserved for these on our Level 9 postgraduate courses. Please note that to participate in NFQ Level 9 (postgraduate) course, a period of at least one year must have elapsed since completing a full time undergraduate degree course leading to a major award at level 8 on the NFQ.

Unemployed applicants must be Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP) customers and in receipt of an eligible DEASP payment, signing for social insurance contribution credits or be previously self-employed to be eligible for a funded place on a Springboard+ programme.

#### **Application**

Please feel free to contact us on 1850 221 721 (Option 4) to enquire about an application. Alternatively you can email springboard@ncirl.ie. We are not permitted to accept applications directly from candidates as all Springboard and ICT Skills applications must be made online through www.springboardcourses.

Please note that all applicants must meet NCI's academic admission criteria for any courses and as per previous years all courses and specialisations run subject to numbers. Eligibility for funding does not infer eligibility for this course.

#### **Places Available:**

Demand for these courses is expected to exceed the number of available places. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis for eligible applicants. Decisions are communicated through www.springboardcourses.ie. If you do not meet the normal academic entry requirements please do not delay in applying as you may be required to submit additional documentation and/or participate in an interview. A cut-off date for applications will also apply and this will be posted on the www. springboardcourses.ie website when you make an application to NCI.

## Department of Social Protection Payments

We advise that all payment queries should be addressed to your local Intreo, Social Welfare Office to confirm continuation of a Social Protection payment.

More information can be found at 'Social Protection FAQs' www.springboardcourses.ie/faq

#### Course Funding in the Event of Obtaining a Job

Should you obtain a job during your course of study the funding will remain in place for the duration of your course. The timing of the classes is aimed to allow people to work and study at the same time. If you do gain employment during the course please contact us to see how we can best facilitate you completing your course. If you do not qualify under Springboard+ you may apply directly to National College of Ireland for our fee paying courses at admissions@ncirl.ie

#### **For Further Information Contact**

Tel: 1850 221 721 (Option 4) Web: www.ncirl.ie Email: springboard@ncirl.ie

# Career Bridge and Relevant Employment / Placement

NCI Career Development & Employability Office won the AHECS "Excellence in Employability Award" for 2013, 2014, 2016, and 2018.



**Órla O'Sullivan MSc** - Órla has worked for over 5 years as an NCI Careers Advisor, advising Springboard and ICT skills students who are upskilling or changing career. She has an MSc Guidance & Counselling from DCU where she also worked as a Career Advisor. With skills in Life Coaching (QQI Level 6) and a Postgrad in Learning & Teaching she brings a student-centred approach to her role.



**Dale Ayers** - Dale works as a Careers Advisor with Springboard and MSc programmes. His background as a Tech Recruiter with Robert Walters in Dublin allows him to bring valuable insight into the recruitment process in Ireland. His long list of engagements with a wide variety of Irish-based, industry-leading, organisations gives him the 'inside track' on what different organisations look for in new hires and why.

#### **Career Bridge**

79% of graduates from the 2019 cohort were in employment within 3 months of completing their course, this included 18 students who were unemployed at the start of their studies. Through workshops and targeted interventions, this module complements the technical skills of the overall course with the skills employers seek such as career self-management, the ability to identify and address competency gaps, matching skills with appropriate career opportunities, developing a successful online brand, networking effectively and promoting themselves successfully.

#### A sample of services the Career Development and Employability office provide include:

- · Individualised career counselling and development.
- · Individualised, strategic career planning addressing advancement and transition.
- · Professionalised, targeted CVs and high impact applications.
- · Expert interview coaching.
- · Career networking and personal branding strategies.
- · Practical skills workshops and one to one consultations.
- · Online effective career resources available 24/7.
- · Access to the NCI Jobs board updated daily.

We collaborate and work in partnership with employers to support students in both identifying and achieving their future ambitions. Our career service has won the National AHECS award for Employability for 5 out of the last 8 years. We are front-line, we innovate and we promote experiential learning.

#### In partnership with employers we host events such as;

- · Interview marathons
- · Sector-specific mock interviews with key employers
- · Targeted On-Campus Careers Fair
- · Alumni networking events
- · Technical and whiteboard simulations
- · Employer presentations
- · Skill- and competency-focused workshops

Embedded into each programme schedule, the Career Bridge module is delivered in Semester 2 to both one-year and two-year courses and results are included on final transcripts. Students are required to engage with Career Bridge by completing module assignments. These are practical and aimed at enhancing students career prospects. Students will also have opportunities to engage with employer events, CV Clinics, mock interviews, and one-to-one consultations with their Careers Advisor, across all Semesters.

#### **Employment and Placement**

A key piece of Career Bridge is the placement requirement which provides a pathway to develop your new skills in a real-world experience. We work with industry partners and students who are unemployed or in unrelated work to identify suitable relevant employment / placement opportunities. We work proactively and collaboratively with these students to help them search for, identify and secure relevant employment or placement. The reality is that placements, in today's environment, are usually paid and lead to more permanent roles. Relevant Employment / Placement can be completed within the course timeline, generally 2nd or 3rd semester, or commenced within 3 months of course completion.

Active engagement with your Work Placement Advisor and with the Career Bridge module markedly increases the likelihood of successful career transition or progression.

# What springboard students say...

I really like the fact that the college offers a service to help you find work after you're finished your course. The classes help you to build an employable version of yourself and the personal help you get improves your chances of getting a job.

Student of HDip in Science in Computing (Software Development)

Career Bridge is a great resource to have in the college. Even though you won't feel like using it until the second semester, it's a really good idea to engage with the service early on to take advantage of the services they offer. All in all, highly recommended...

Barry, Postgrad in Data Analytics

The student must be proactive and take accountability for their own job search and if they do the staff in the careers section are genuinely fantastic.

Student of HDip in Science, Data Analytics

Thanks to a great career advisor, ...... I was able to get on the internship within the IT company and at the end of the internship was offered a job in that company.

Joanna, HDip in Science in Web Technologies

The course was really enjoyable and the emphasis on careers rather than just exam results sets NCI apart from any other institutions I've attended.

Student of HDip in Science in Computing (Software Development)

Students should develop themselves technically but also awareness of what prospective employers look for should help you adapt your approach to a job application accordingly.

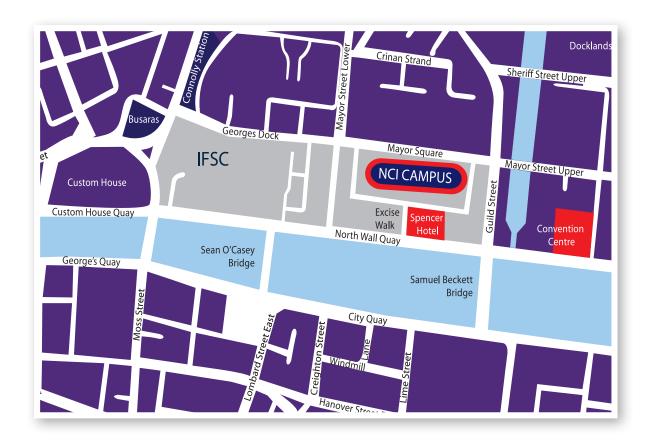
Student of HDip in Science in Computing (Cloud stream)

Participate in full. The course is very rewarding and there is great support. NCI listens and is willing to change if things are not working out. Career Bridge is excellent and you should attend the classes even if you have a solid iob.

Toby, HDip in Science Data Analytics

I believe that it was this kind of integration between course and career guidance that led to my success at NCI. I was a gardener by trade and now I'm a Software Test Automation Engineer in Java. I get well paid and now I have a well-paid career ahead of me

Robert Rusk, Software Development graduate





## **Information Evenings**

Speak to the lecturers at one of our Online Open Evenings

Wednesday 10th June 5 -7pm
Thursday 16th July 5 -7pm
Wednesday 12th August 5 -7pm
Saturday 29th August 11am - 2pm
Thursday 2nd September 5 -7pm

All events will be highlighted on our website so register for your chosen event at www.ncirl.ie.

#### Springboard taster class for:

Higher Diploma in Computing (all streams)

Tue 28 July - Online Sample Class

Higher Diploma in Data Analytics
Thu 30 July - Online Sample Class

Higher Diploma in Data Analytics
Tue 01 Sep - Online Sample Class

Higher Diploma in Computing (all streams)
Thu 03 Sep - Online Sample Class

National College of Ireland Mayor St. IFSC, Dublin 1

Tel:1850 221 721 (then select option 4)

Web: www.ncirl.ie

Email: springboard@ncirl.ie

