



**PEOPLE
DEVELOPING
PEOPLE**

....a not for profit, community based, charitable trust engaged in the design, development and delivery of accredited education and training programmes.

We aim to provide new and affordable education and training opportunities to those people who, for whatever reason, missed out on earlier chances, or who are re-engaging with their development after some time or who are engaged in career change or transition.....

**EMPLOYMENT POTENTIAL for
EQUAL Ireland GRADUATES**

"What kind of a job will I get with this qualification?" is one of the most frequent and persistent questions asked at EQUAL Ireland Information Sessions

The first thing to be said in response to this question has to be that this Degree imparts generic business, leadership and management skills to the learner. It is neither a Law, Nursing or Engineering Degree for example, so the type of work, which can be successfully obtained, is of a broader nature and includes a wider range of job types. Our programmes are aimed at developing your skills and knowledge so that you can compete effectively for the available jobs, whether they be in leadership and management roles in business, social enterprise or the community or voluntary sectors.

The need for good business and entrepreneurial practices to serve as the basis of business and community development initiatives is critical. Indeed most community development initiatives have or will have a social/community enterprise dimension. These programmes prepare graduates for career opportunities in planning, supervision and business development, administration, management and leadership within business, and in the social/community enterprise sector.

Graduating from this programme will enable a graduate to engage in any of the following career options:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| REGIONAL YOUTH WORKER | ACCOUNTS MANAGER |
| PROGRAMME WORKER | DEVELOPMENT WORKER |
| CASE MANAGEMENT WORKER | FUNDRAISING OFFICER |
| JOBS COACH | HR OFFICER |
| PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR | MARKETING OFFICER |
| PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WORKER | OPERATIONS CO-ORDINATOR |
| OFFICE MANAGER/ADMINISTRATOR | PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR |
| DIRECTOR OF SERVICES | PROJECT LEADER |
| SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR | SUPERVISOR/MANAGER |
| MABS MONEY ADVISER | TEAM LEADER |
| FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER | TRAINER |
| SHOP MANAGER | TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR |

All international and local research shows higher levels of education increase your employability as well as your salary so the higher your standard of education, the more chance you have of getting a job and of being paid well in it. That's a very strong argument in favour of continuing your educational journey. Business (and increasingly Social Enterprise) Education, health and welfare programmes show very high levels of employment.

EQUAL Ireland

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**Higher Certificate
in Business
Enterprise &
Community
Development**



**PEOPLE
DEVELOPING
PEOPLE**

HIGHER CERTIFICATE in BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

This is stage 1 of the 3 stage BA (Hons) in Business, Social Enterprise, Leadership and Management. This course is a part-time distance learning programme, designed to provide learners with the opportunity to achieve a Level 6 award via flexible delivery methodologies and incorporating Work and Community based learning.

Learners will have the opportunity to explore and develop their interest in the fields of business, enterprise and community development and to enhance their competencies towards becoming effective administrators in these areas. A particular objective of EQUAL Ireland is the development of our participants so that they become accomplished self-directed, independent learners.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Completion of this programme will be of particular interest to the following people:

- Graduates of EQUAL Ireland's Essential Skills Certificate programme
- Learners who would like to attain a BA (Hons) in Business, Social Enterprise, Leadership & Management
- Business Manager/Owners
- Community Activists or Workplace Representatives
- Entrepreneurs or Innovators who want to establish a successful private or social enterprise
- Volunteers in Community Groups or Organisations whose prospects for employment within these organisations would be enhanced through acquiring this qualification.

NB The reader should refer to Entry Requirements below.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

We operate a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) system which allows us to recommend acceptance of people who have a relevant and appropriate work, life and educational experience but who do not have the formal qualifications required.

Please ask us about this process and we will give you the necessary information and advice.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

Learning & Development for Business, Community & Higher Education 10 Credits

The aim of the module is to equip participants with the skills and knowledge required to enable them to appreciate their prior learning and become effective, self directed & independent lifelong learners

Office and Financial Management 10 Credits

The aim of this module is to introduce the learner to the fundamentals of Business and Financial Administration.

Campaigning and Media Skills 10 Credits

This module aims to provide the learner with introductory skills in media communications, campaigning, lobbying and public relations.

Ireland and EU Governance 15 Credits

The aim of this module is to provide the participant with an understanding of the development, governance institutions, structures, decision making processes and funding arrangements of the Republic of Ireland and the European Union and how these may interact.

Organisation Management 15 Credits

The aims of this module are to familiarise the participant with the nature and evolution of management thought; the management systems, policies and procedures that are required in the modern enterprise or community organisation; the main components of the development of the Irish economy and enable the student to acquire the key skills involved in business accounts and business finance.

Introduction to Psychology in the Workplace (Elective)

10 Credits

The aim of this module is to provide the student with a firm grounding in the perspectives and applications of psychological theory in organisational settings in enterprise and/or community settings

Information & Communication Technology 10 Credits

This subject aims to introduce the student to the concepts of computer hardware and software and the networking of computers and commonly used computer applications.

Community Development 10 Credits

This module aims to develop an understanding of community and the role and work of the community development official.

Communications 15 Credits

The aim of this module is to enhance the learner's development of interpersonal communication skills and to enable the learner to apply communications strategies and solutions in a variety of community and business contexts.

Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Market Orientation 15 Credits

The aim of this module is to introduce the participant to entrepreneurship, innovation and related marketing theory and practice in business, social enterprise and community

settings.

The programme typically will be delivered locally, on the basis on an average engagement of two days per month, over a 12 month period, at an EQUAL Ireland Workshop convened in a Local Learning Centre.

PROGRAMME DELIVERY & SUPPORTS

In addition to the workshops our learners are supported by:

- Acquiring self directed independent learning skills and knowledge
- The EQUAL Ireland Moodle Learning Platform
- Access to Tutor and other support staff between workshops
- On Line learning materials for each subject
- Summary Video Presentations
- Organised study groups, where appropriate

GENERAL MATTERS

Assessment

The criterion for successful completion of this course involves satisfactory engagement and performance in all elements of the programme. Learners' academic progress is based on project submissions, both individual and group projects.

Award

Participants who successfully complete the programme will receive a Level 7 Award from the Athlone Institute of Technology

Programme Fees

€2,000 (A Phased payment system is available if necessary)

Entry Requirements

People are required to have successfully completed either:

- The EQUAL Ireland Essential Skills Certificate or its equivalent
- Successful completion of an Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process.

Support will be provided by EQUAL Ireland to participants who wish to enter the programme using this means.

