



Workplace Safety

HDip in Safety, Health and Wellbeing at Work

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

STUDYING AT UCD

1. Is there a benefit to studying the Higher Diploma in Safety, Health and Wellbeing at Work at UCD, as opposed to other universities in Ireland?

- State of the art facilities
- Curriculum is designed by the UCD Centre for Safety and Health at Work (CSHW), an award-winning educational centre that has long been regarded as the leading provider of OSH education in Ireland, with circa 9,500 students graduating since its inception
- Lectures are given by leading experts in each topic, from various Schools and Colleges within UCD, other universities, the Irish Health and Safety Authority and public and private sector industries.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

2. I hold a Level 7 degree; is this enough to get me a place on the Level 8 Higher Diploma programme?

- Yes, you should have educational qualifications of at least matriculation standard (Leaving Certificate with two honours, or equivalent) including demonstrable knowledge of Physics, Chemistry or Biology
- You must be at least 23 years of age and have as a minimum three years work experience at the time of application
- Priority is given to those active in Occupational Safety and Health (OSH).

3. I do not have a Leaving Certificate; can I apply for this programme?

In exceptional cases, applicants who do not meet the matriculation requirements, but who have relevant work experience, may be considered on mature grounds. Such candidates will be asked to include a mature applicant portfolio to support their application. A portfolio would normally include evidence of successful completion of a course, which may approximate matriculation, and/or experience and training in

OSH, and evidence of a good understanding of the basic sciences. Applicants applying on mature grounds must be working in the area of OSH. If you are considering submitting a portfolio, please contact the programme coordinator at cshw@ucd.ie

4. Is the programme professionally accredited?

The UCD Higher Diploma in Safety, Health and Wellbeing at Work is accredited by the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) as the academic requirement for graduate membership. Subject to experience and other entry requirements, diplomates may become a chartered member of the Institute (CMIOSH) and use the title Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner. There is also an opportunity to apply for IOSH student membership. Further information about applying for both IOSH student and graduate membership is available at iosh.com.

THE COURSE

5. Typically, how many students are taken onto the Higher Diploma programme each year?

We take between 15 and 25 students each year; selection is based on the quality of the application. We recommend an early application. Applications are open from 1st October to 31st July each year.

6. What is the nature and structure of classes?

Learner knowledge and understanding will be imparted by on campus lectures, interactive workshops and seminars. A number of lectures will be delivered by academics from other Institutions and industry experts with an established reputation. A vibrant teaching and learning environment will incorporate active student engagement, discussion and debate, student-centred and problem-based learning, with an emphasis on reflection and peer-to-peer learning.

7. What is the timetable?

The Higher Diploma programme is designed to be completed over two years (6 trimesters). Lectures are normally held on

Fridays (9am to 5pm) in Year 1 and Tuesdays (9am to 5pm) in Year 2.

8. Is the Certificate in Safety and Health at Work a pathway onto the Higher Diploma?

No, the Certificate and Higher Diploma are standalone programmes. The Certificate is designed for those who are interested in the area of OSH, but it is not their main job. However, if you complete the Certificate and do well on that one-year blended online programme, it will enhance your application for the Higher Diploma.

9. How much time should I commit to be successful in this programme?

A total of 36 hours of lectures are delivered throughout the trimester for each module. We advise that at least an equivalent number of hours of autonomous activity towards the module are required to succeed. This could be in the format of directed or independent reading, engagement with Brightspace (our virtual learning environment), practice for assessment tasks, completion of assessment tasks, etc.

ASSESSMENT

10. How is the Higher Diploma programme assessed?

Programme assessment strategies are normally work-related and include continuous assessment, assignments, projects and

examinations. Assignments, project work and self-directed learning will be required during the summer trimester between the two academic years of study and in the final summer trimester at the end of the programme.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

11. What career opportunities are presented by this programme?

There is currently an abundance of richly rewarding opportunities for those qualified in health and safety management. On completion of this programme, successful candidates will have met the academic competency requirements to manage OSH in a variety of workplace settings. Work experience and additional professional qualifications will determine the level of competency for any individual professional. Successful completion of the programme qualifies candidates to apply for graduate membership of IOSH, and subject to experience and other entry requirements, diplomates may become a chartered member of the Institute (CMIOSH) and use the title Chartered Safety and Health Practitioner.

12. Can I use my Higher Diploma qualification to work abroad?

Yes. The Higher Diploma in Safety, Health and Wellbeing at Work is professionally accredited by IOSH and as such is recognised internationally.



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