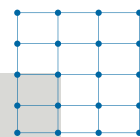




MSc in Cybersecurity

Frequently Asked Questions

MSc in Cybersecurity Frequently Asked Questions



► What is the course schedule?

Online classes are delivered two evenings per week from 18:00–22:00, with an indicative schedule of Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

In addition to the core module classes in Semester 1, the National College of Ireland provides additional student supports in the form of “Bootcamps”. These take place during the first three weeks of Semester 1 only and may include some Saturday sessions.

This is a two-year part-time programme delivered over four semesters, commencing in January (Semester 1) and September (Semester 2) annually.

► What is blended online and are there on campus days?

This main course content is delivered entirely online, with no requirement for on-campus attendance, with optional invitations to attend extra sessions in NCI should the opportunity arise (This is the reference to blended, the optional days) and the Graduation ceremony, which can be attended either in person or online.

► When is payment due?

The programme lead will advise on payment dates for the course.

Year 1 fees must be paid prior to course commencement, and Year 2 fees must be paid before the start of Year 2. The course commences in January each year.

Once an offer of a place has been issued, please note that a limited number of subsidised places are available. Due to high demand, places cannot be held without payment.

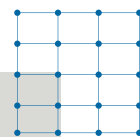
To ensure fairness, priority for subsidised places will be given to applicants who have completed full payment of the subsidised fee and who are deemed eligible by the College or training provider.

► What is the National College of Ireland (NCI) refund policy?

NCI operates a strict policy of not refunding deposits or fees, except in cases where the college is not in a position to comply with its obligations to the student. [Click here to read the NCI Policy](#)

Deferral requests must be made directly to NCI and can only be assessed and approved by NCI. Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet has no role in the decision-making process. Once a deferral has been approved by NCI, you must notify Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet.

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► Are there specialisations?

Learners will be asked prior to course commencement by NCI to elect one of the two specialisations:

- Investigation specialisation (S1)
- Secure Development specialisation (S2)

Note that there are dependencies between secure development specialisation electives. To study Secure Application Development in Year 1 Semester 2, learners must have studied Secure Web Development in Year 1 Semester 1. However, all learners can elect to study Malware Analysis in Semester 2.

Specialisations will run subject to a minimum number of learners. Learners will be asked by NCI to choose their specialisation before programme commencement.

► What are the academic requirements?

Candidates must hold an honours (Level 8) primary degree in Computing or a cognate discipline with a minimum 2.2 award or higher. A cognate discipline refers to a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) degree that includes taught modules in programming and/or application development.

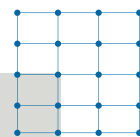
Applicants are expected to demonstrate programming ability, evidenced through academic transcripts, recognised industry certifications and/or relevant professional experience.

Applicants who do not meet the standard academic requirements may be considered under the National College of Ireland's Recognition of Prior Experiential Learning (RPEL) scheme. This allows relevant work experience and other prior learning to be assessed in place of formal academic qualifications. Assessment may include a portfolio of work, examples of prior learning and an interview. Programming ability will also form part of the evaluation process.

► What are the laptop requirements?

This programme is delivered online and as such, students are expected to successfully participate in lectures, laboratories, and projects using a laptop computer with a substantial hardware configuration. This programme has a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) policy. 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. Learners must also ensure they have sufficient broadband speed and reliable connectivity from their place of study. It is the responsibility of each learner to ensure their laptop computer is functioning correctly and that they have full administrator rights. NCI IT cannot provide support for these personal devices.

MSc in Cybersecurity Frequently Asked Questions



► Is there tax relief and, if so, can you claim back any tax?

You may apply for tax relief however it is the responsibility of each applicant to contact the tax office. We can provide a receipt for fees paid if needed,

► What will the diploma state?

The diploma will indicate the completion of a Master of Science in Cybersecurity. However, it will not specify that the course was completed online.

► What is the final award?

The final award is a Level 9 NFQ qualification, equivalent to 90 ECTS credits.

► How is the course assessed?

The course will be assessed with a blend of continuous assessments and/or project work and/or exams. This varies between modules but typically assessment is 40% continuous assessment and 60% project or exam. Please note that in some instances exams may take place in the daytime, evenings and at weekends.

► Do you provide Visa support?

All students must meet the eligibility criteria for funding, which includes working in a private or commercial semi-state organisation and currently residing in Ireland.

Please note that NCI and Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet do not provide visa support services for this course. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they have the necessary visa in place prior to application.

Offer of a place on this course does not qualify as a means to obtain a VISA.

► Who manages class schedules and academic support?

Once you have enrolled on the course, the National College of Ireland (NCI) will contact you before the course begins with your class timetable, online links and relevant contact details.

Please note that Technology Ireland ICT Skillnet does not have access to NCI's internal systems. If you have any queries after the course has commenced regarding your timetable, online access, exams, results or deferrals, you must contact NCI directly.



No matter what stage you are at
in business or your career,
there is always more to learn.



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