



Higher Diploma in Further Education September 2024 - May 2026 (part-time)



The Higher Diploma in Further Education (part-time) is a post-graduate programme for anyone working in, or seeking to work in, an environment where Further Education (FE) awards (QQI or equivalent) are offered. These include, but are not limited to, FE Colleges, Community Education, Youthreach Centres, Charities and private providers. You will attend Maynooth University one day per week from 10am-4pm. Successful applicants must also complete a placement that incorporates 130 hours teaching practice.

Graduates are eligible to register with the Teaching Council of Ireland (route 3).

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

You need to fulfil one of the following criteria: an honours degree (level 8); or an ordinary degree (level 7) with relevant experience; or another professional qualification (equivalent to 180 credits at level 7) with a minimum of three years' relevant experience in vocational or instructional settings¹. Applicants should have an interest in, and ideally experience of, adult learning in groups

How will we work?

A key feature of the programme is its participatory, dialogic approach. Together, and with the support of facilitative lecturers, you will explore the educational philosophies that will underpin your work and your experiences of education. You will also learn about a variety of approaches to practice and the technicalities of curriculum and assessment design. There is a strong emphasis on the socio-cultural and political dimensions of education structures and on becoming, what we call, reflective practitioners. For a full list of modules, see our website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education>

What are my career and progression options?

This course is open to existing practitioners already working in FE but who are not registered with the Teaching Council. We also accept applications from those who are new to the field but our experience suggests there are few permanent jobs for new entrants. Typically, graduates will work in a number of centres and locations for a period of time until they become more established in their work setting.

How do I apply?

The only way to apply is online through a system called PAC <https://v2.pac.ie/institute/2> and use the course code **MHA91**. Your application will be assessed, and you will be called for interview. We are accepting applications now so please get in touch as soon as you can. The final date for applications is 30 June 2024.

Please contact the course team if you have any questions:

Maggie Noone (Course administrator) 01-708 3752 or maggie.noone@mu.ie

Jerry O'Neill (Course Coordinator) 01 – 708 2683 or Jerry.ONeill@mu.ie

¹ Applicants via this criteria will be reviewed on a case-by case basis and will be subject to successful progression through a recognition of prior learning process.