

Higher Diploma in Further Education September 2024 - May 2025 (Full Time)



The Higher Diploma in Further Education (full-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 two days per week (Tuesday and Friday) 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).

Am I eligible to apply?

You need to fulfil one of the following criteria: An honours degree (level 8); or an ordinary degree (equivalent to 180 credits at level 7) with relevant experience; or another professional qualification with a minimum of three years' relevant experience in vocational or instructional settings ¹. Please note preference will be given to those with previous experience facilitating/teaching an adult learning group. This can be accredited (where the students are receiving certification) or non-accredited.

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 educational 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 particularly suited to those already working with adult learning groups, particularly where this is in a setting that delivers QQI awards. If this is you, it may help to stabilise and advance your career prospects. It also allows you to take some space to reflect on your practice and the ideas that underpin it.

How do I apply?

The only way to apply is online through a system called PAC (Postgraduate Applications Centre) <https://pacapply.com/> and use the course code **MHA90**. Your application will be assessed, and you may 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 30th May 2024. PLEASE NOTE PLACES ARE LIMITED

Please contact the course team if you have any questions:

Course administration hdfc@mu.ie

Jerry O'Neill (Course Coordinator) 01- 7083683 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.