

CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

ReValidation

Provider Name	Independent Colleges
Date of Validation	05-Dec-19

	First intake	Last intake	Intakes per annum
Enrolment Interval	Feb-20	Jan-25	2

	Code	Title	Award	Duration (Months)	Intakes per annum
Principal Programme	PG24236	Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution	Master of Arts (Major Award at NFQ Level 9) 9M20860 90 credits	1 year	2
Embedded Programmes	na	n/a			

Principal Programme

5 Year Plan: Planned total enrolment i.e. aggregated across all intakes and all approved centres

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum Intake into first year	30	30	30	30	30
Maximum Intake into first year	180	180	180	180	180

Target Learner groups

Law graduates
Non-law graduates
Other candidates who meet the approved entry requirements

Brief Synopsis of the programmes

Independent College describes the programme as a specialist postgraduate degree that provides a solid grounding in the main Alternative Dispute Resolution methodologies. It facilitates learners to examine and understand conflict and its effects, what interventions and methodologies are available to address conflict and how to manage and administer these methodologies at the highest levels. The programme is aimed at learners who are interested in working in conflict and dispute resolution. Examples provided of potential roles for graduates include mediation, change management, social and community work and management. Students can also progress to higher levels of research.

Delivery mode: full-time / part-time

Full-time

Teaching and Learning Modes

Classroom lectures
Computer lab
Practical sessions
Workshops
Tutorials
Individual work

	Group work		
Approved countries	Ireland		
Physical resource requirements	Teaching rooms with whiteboards, projector screen, computer with audio-visual equipment (projector and speakers), internet access and the library. Computer lab with MS Office access.		
Staff Profiles	Qualifications and Experience		WTE
	Administration: Programme administration management, student experience, exams and similar activities.		.75
	Qualification – LLB – BCL or above Experience – Teaching in Higher Education		1.9
	Based on 550 hours as 1FTE and 90 learner intake (2 groups)		2.65
Approved Centres	Centre	Minimum per intake per Centre	Maximum per intake per Centre
	Independent Colleges, Dublin	15	90
Learner Teacher Ratios	Learning Activity		Ratio
	Workshops		1:24
	Lecture sessions		1:24
Programme being replaced by this programme	Prog Code	Programme Title	Validated To Close
	PG21927	Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution	15-Jul-15

Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

Part 1: Statutory Conditions of Validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

- 1.co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
- 2.establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
- 3.continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
- 4.provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

- 1.Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

- 1.The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

1. Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
2. Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.
3. Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
4. Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
5. Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.
6. Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.
7. Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).
8. When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.
9. Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.
10. Notify QQI in writing without delay of:
 - a. any material change to the programme;
 - a. anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards;
 - b. anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or
 - c. anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.
11. Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)).
12. Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria

1. n/a

Part 2.5 Special Conditions of Validation

1. n/a

Approved Programme Schedule(s)

Name of Provider:			Independent College Dublin					
Programme Title			Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution					
Award Title			Master of Arts					
Stage Exit Award Title ³			N/A					
Modes of Delivery (FT/PT):			Full Time					
Teaching and learning modalities			FT Face to Face, Online Support					
Award Class ⁴	Award NFQ level	Award EQF Level	Stage:	Stage NFQ Level ²	Stage EQF Level ²	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject code
Major	9	7	Award	9	7	90	1 st February 2020	0429

Module Title	Semester	Module		Credit Number	Total Learner Effort Module (hours)						Allocation of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)			
		Status	NFQ level where specified	Credit Units	Total Hours	Class (or equiv.) Contact Hours	Directed elearning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based Learning Effort	Other (research, interviews, etc.)	C.A.%	Supervised Project %	Proctored Practical Demonstration %	Proctored Written Exam %
				HET Credits										
Understanding Conflict, Causes, Analysis & Dynamics	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			50			50
Principles of Mediation Theory	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			30			70
Principles of Mediation Practice	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			30		70	
Principals of Negotiation Theory	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			30			70
Applied Negotiation Practice	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			30		70	
Theory & Practice of Arbitration	1	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			40			60
Advanced Mediation Theory	2	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			40			60
Advanced Mediation Practice	2	M	9	5	125	30	15	80					100	

Restorative Practice	2	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			30	70		
Research Methods	2	M	9	5	125	30	15	80			100			
The Role & Application of Mediation in the Community	2	E	9	5	125	30	15	80			10		30	60
The Role & Application of Mediation in the Family	2	E	9	5	125	30	15	80			10		30	60
Theory & Practice of Workplace Dispute Resolution	2	E	9	5	125	30	15	80					50	50
Commercial Dispute Resolution	2	E	9	5	125	30	15	80					50	50
Dissertation	3	M	9	30	750	10		240		500	100			

Special Regulations: Learners are unable to progress to the dissertation stage until they have successfully passed all of the taught elements.