

Now Enrolling
for October

Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality 2023-2024



Is this Programme for You?

The Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality is a one-year, part-time programme that was developed in conjunction with the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. It seeks to give public servants and others a better understanding of the place that human rights and equality occupy in public management and administration. The responsibility to devise policy, deliver services, and follow processes that protect human rights and further equality has become explicit since the introduction, via legislation, of the public sector duty in this area. This programme provides instruction in the most relevant laws and in their implications for the civil and wider public service.

This programme is suitable if you would benefit from education in how human rights and equality influence contemporary public policy and service delivery. Students come from all parts of the wider public service, NGO sector and beyond and work at various grades. They are keen to understand how the laws and policies around human rights and equality have become intrinsic to the day-to-day delivery of services and to obtain an informed perspective on the challenges that human rights and equality developments have for the workplace. No prior knowledge of the law in this area is required.

Application Process

Application Deadline: **End-September 2023**. Application forms can be downloaded from the IPA website www.ipa.ie. Completed applications should be submitted by email to undergrad@ipa.ie and will be acknowledged by email upon receipt. Course confirmations will issue by email to confirmed students in early October. Applications must be accompanied by the requisite fee (see pages 2-3).

Programme Delivery

The programme is delivered through a blended learning model. Students attend in-person seminars at the IPA on eight selected weekdays, study bespoke course material, and access a range of online resources. They may also attend an online evening webinar in each term that focuses on assignments/exams. The seminars are delivered in two-day blocks or sets. In-person teaching facilitates student-lecturer interaction, and the programme, since its inception, has provided a forum for lively debate. Seminars involve group-work and discussion and provide an opportunity for networking. *The below seminar/examination dates may be subject to change.*

Event	Date
Seminar Set 1	October 18-19, 2023 (Wed & Thurs)
Seminar Set 2	November 22-23, 2023 (Wed & Thurs)
Seminar Set 3	January 24-25, 2024 (Wed & Thurs)
Seminar Set 4	February 28-29, 2024 (Wed & Thurs)
Examination	12 April 2024

Seminar Times

Seminars start at 10.00am and finish at approximately 4.30pm.

Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate. Applicants who are 21 years of age or over may qualify for entry as a mature student(s). Applicants who do not meet the entry requirements may apply for a Special Case Application Form.

Accreditation

National University of Ireland (NUI).

Level on National Framework of Qualifications

NUI, Level 8 (Special Purpose Award, 20 credits).

Course Fee

€2,500 (includes NUI matriculation fee, tuition fee, library, examination fee and membership of the IPA).

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(01) 2403600



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Undergraduate Office, Whitaker School of Government and Management
Institute of Public Administration, 57-61 Lansdowne Road, Dublin D04 TC62

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Course Content

The PDHRE programme has four modules.

Philosophical and Political Perspectives on Human Rights and Equality

This module introduces students to the historical and conceptual foundations of contemporary human rights and equality law. Students will learn about the major historical developments in this area, the key theories that have been advanced in support of the universality of human rights and equality, and the current debates about the application of these theories in national and international contexts.

Human Rights and Equality in the Irish Legal System

The main aim of this module is to introduce students to the protections around human rights and equality provided by the Constitution of Ireland and to the very considerable body of legislation and case law that has developed in Ireland, particularly in recent years.

The International and European Frameworks for Human Rights

Students will be introduced to the United Nations human rights system, the Council of Europe human rights mechanisms (including the European Convention on Human Rights), and the European Union human rights and equality framework. The module is essentially concerned with the international legal framework within which Irish laws and policies sit.

Human Rights and Equality in Public Management

This module will give students the knowledge, resources, and skills they need to apply what they have learned about human rights and equality to their working lives and to their organisations. It will use case studies from different sectors to provide guidance on the human rights and equality issues that regularly arise in the working lives of public servants and those charged with managing and delivering public services of all sorts. This module includes detailed coverage of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty.

Tutors

The programme is directed by the IPA's PDHRE Programme Coordinator and modules are delivered by expert practitioners, including barristers and senior lecturers in the field of Human Rights & Equality.

Course Materials

Students are supported in their studies by bespoke course material, a selection of essential textbooks and online resources available via Moodle.

Assessment

Assessment on the Professional Diploma is a mix of continuous assessment (40%) and end of year examination (60%).

Progression

Students who successfully complete the Professional Diploma in Human Rights and Equality may progress to Year 2 of BA (Hons) on completion of a Bridging Studies Programme.

Payment Arrangements

Fees are payable in one or two instalments: the first on registration and the second by 19 January 2024. Fees can be paid directly into our bank account (preferred method), or by debit or credit card, by cheque or by postal order/bank draft. Please contact the undergrad office to arrange payments.

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Where employers are paying fees directly to the IPA, students, when enrolling, must submit a letter from their training or HR officer confirming that fees will be paid directly, and detailing a Purchase Order number (where necessary), and invoice addressee details. Note: A letter stating that fees will be refunded to students at the end of the year will not suffice.

Please note the following “Discontinuing the Course: Refund Policy” as per the **Admissions Policy and Criteria** from the Institute’s [Quality Assurance Policies and Procedures](#).

For students who decide to discontinue a programme within one month of the start date* the IPA will retain 20% of the *total* tuition fee due (not 20% of a deposit or instalment) and refund the remainder to the student or their employer as appropriate. For students who decide to discontinue a programme within 6 weeks of the start date, the IPA will hold 40% of the *total* tuition fee due and refund the remainder to the student or their employer as appropriate. There will be no refund subsequent to these dates. Applications for such refunds must be made via email to undergrad@ipa.ie and be received no later than the cut-off dates above.

*The official start date is when the class is granted access to the course via Moodle (normally one/two weeks prior to the first event).

Tax Relief

Students who pay their own fees are eligible under the 1996 Finance Act for tax relief at the standard rate, as the IPA is an appointed institution under the Act. Courses must be longer than one year in duration for students to qualify for tax relief.

Recording

In general, in-person seminars on this programme are not recorded. Over the eight days of in-person attendance on the PDHRE only some specific elements of classes may be recorded. Where any recording does take place, cameras will be fixed on the lecturer/screen. Any recorded material is stored and may be available for release on Moodle at a later point. Therefore, you should not rely on any specific recordings being made available or consider recordings as a substitute for in-class attendance and participation. Attendance at seminar events is central to the PDHRE and to the student learning experience.

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