



Diploma in Professional Legal Studies

KEY INFORMATION:

COURSE TYPE:

Professional Diploma

DELIVERY:

In-person/Flexible/Distributed Learning

COURSE DURATION:

20 Weeks (Part-Time)

NFQ:

Level 6 Equivalent

ACCREDITED BY:

Chartered Institute of Legal Executive UK (CILEX)

COURSE FEE:

€ 1850



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EMAIL: profcourses@independentcollege.ie

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Diploma in Professional Legal Studies is the second stage of our Professional Legal Studies programme and has been designed for students who wish to practice as a legal executive in the Republic of Ireland.

This is an advanced diploma programme and progresses students' understanding of the Irish legal system from the Certificate course. The Diploma programme covers four key areas of law and offers students an elective route to choose their most preferred pathway (number dependent).

This course is endorsed and accredited by the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives UK (CILEx), a professional association of over 21,000 chartered legal executive lawyers, paralegals and other legal practitioners in Ireland, England, and Wales. For more than 50 years, CILEx has been offering pathways to a flexible career in law. Many students successfully pursue roles as legal executives in Ireland, while others use the qualification as a pathway to becoming a solicitor.

Students may only progress to the Diploma stage after successful completion of the Certificate in Professional Legal Studies, or where they can demonstrate prior learning equivalent to the Certificate modules.

ACCREDITATION:

This course is endorsed and accredited by the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives UK (CILEx).

COURSE DETAILS:

The Diploma in Professional Legal Studies has been specifically tailored for the Irish legal system and covers four key areas:

- **Unit 1:** Law of Wills & Succession; Probate Practice
- **Unit 2:** Family Law & Practice
- **Unit 3:** Employment Law & Practice
- **Unit 4 (elective):** Criminal Law & Procedure
- **Unit 4 (elective):** Company and Partnership Law & Practice

Each Unit comprises four to six lectures, while the Saturday workshops provide an opportunity to review and discuss each Unit in detail.

A comprehensive revision class is provided per Unit prior to the commencement of the examination period, providing students with an opportunity to refine exam technique, as well as an overview of the core concepts and principles.

COURSE DURATION:

We run this 20-week course once a year in October.

The course is delivered via three-hour lectures, one day a week from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

There are two Saturday workshops within the 20-week period, which run from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are required to have passed the Certificate in Professional Legal Studies for entry into the Diploma programme.

In some cases, we can accept direct entry to the Diploma programme if the applicant can demonstrate prior legal/academic qualifications and/or experience that sufficiently covers the same modules as the Certificate in Professional Legal Studies.

LOCATION:

Our classes take place online and on-campus at Independent College, Block B, The Steelworks, Foley Street, Dublin 1, D01 X997.

DELIVERY:

The course is delivered both in class and via flexible and distributed learning (FDL).

Class lectures are live-streamed, recorded and posted online for students to access via our Moodle platform.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

Many of our students successfully pursue roles as legal executives in Ireland, whilst some use the qualification as a pathway to becoming a solicitor. Our alumni have also gained employment in varied areas such as the civil service and regulatory bodies.

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HOW TO APPLY:
independentcollege.ie/courses/