

# FAQs

Facilitating Inclusion & Disability  
Studies | Higher Diploma



### **How do I apply for the Course?**

Applications to the programme can be made through the online system which you will find on our [website HERE](#).

Once you click on the 'Apply now' button you will need to set up an account and be logged in to submit your application.

### **What does it cost?**

The cost of the programme is €2,500 per academic year. The payment is made in two installments per year: the first half of the fee (€1,250) is requested at the application stage. The second half is payable in January. In Year two the first fee installment is due in August with the second in January. All payment-related requests and information will come from our colleagues at ACE Finance. Unfortunately, we do not accept payment in installments.

We like to inform candidates that we have an agreement with the Lough Credit Union, which will offer very good loan rates for individuals who wish to take out a student loan and pay that back in installments.

Also of note is the Part-time Financial Aid Fund which is now available to part-time students so for anyone who is accepted onto the programme, this is also an option available to you. Full details are available at <https://www.ucc.ie/en/saf/>

Upon payment of the first half of the fee and acceptance onto the programme you will be registered as an official UCC student and receive a Student ID card.

### **What job opportunities arise from completing the course?**

This module is attractive to people working in the public-facing roles with service users; educators particularly Inclusion Support Assistants (formally SNA); professionals who engage with community/interest groups that address social exclusion or marginalisation. It may also be of interest to people working in industry with an interest in enhancing equality and inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace. This course also attracts professionals working in The Arts & Creative Expression, Architecture & Design.

One of our students recently secured a post in UCC's Disability Support Service and is now working as an Employability Project Advisor at the Access Office UCC. Prior to returning to college, she worked for twenty years in Supply Chain in the pharmaceutical and biotech industry. She says "The course gave me a strong foundation in disability-related issues and opened my mind to different career paths. It gave me practical knowledge that I can now apply to the various strands of the project I work on. I now look forward to continuing with my studies, possibly at the postgraduate level, and developing my knowledge in the areas of Neurodiversity and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the workplace. "

### **What can I study after the Diploma?**

The Higher Diploma offers a natural progression route for graduates of the QQ1 Level 7 Diploma in Disability Studies, Diploma in Autism Studies (and other courses) as well as an opportunity for anyone working in disability in either a paid, voluntary, or caring capacity, to enhance their knowledge and skills.

Graduates of the Higher Diploma are eligible to apply for the QQ1 Level 9 Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Awareness (10 credits) Micro credential and the MSoc in Social Policy and Social Justice. However please note that this progression may also depend on relevant work experience.

### **What topics will I be studying?**

The Higher Diploma in Facilitating Inclusion & Disability Studies (HDFIDS) is a two-year part-time Programme. It incorporates the twin aims of lifelong learning – active citizenship and employability. It offers participants a strong foundation in disability-related issues. It facilitates the development of skills, understanding, awareness, and knowledge to better support the fuller participation of people with disabilities in education, training, employability, and leisure. The course includes an introduction to sign language, inclusive media, and the skills required to successfully design a course that maximises the inclusion of people with disabilities. It also looks at the social context of mental health and autism. Accessibility to sport and leisure, the creative arts, and culture also form part of this course and you will be encouraged to contribute constructively to the ongoing debate around disability and inclusion locally, nationally, and internationally.

These objectives are met through the delivery of five modules as follows:

<b>Year 1 Modules (30 Credits)</b>	<b>Year 2 Modules (30 credits)</b>
<b>AD5835:</b> The Social Context of Mental Health (5 Credits)	<b>AD5834:</b> Introduction to Assistive Technologies (5 Credits)
<b>AD5832:</b> Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Inclusion (Disability Studies) (10 Credits)	<b>AD5837:</b> Design Training & Inclusion (10 credits)
<b>AD5847:</b> Disability, The Arts and Creative Expression (5 Credits)	<b>AD5833:</b> Introduction to Deaf, Deaf Blind, Vision Impaired Awareness & Communication (5 Credits)
<b>AD5836:</b> Autism, The Social Context (5credits)	<b>AD5838:</b> Disability & Development (5 credits)
<b>AD5848:</b> Accessibility & Universal Design (5 credits)	<b>AD5839:</b> Dis/ability, Sports & Inclusion (5 credits)

**When will I have to attend lectures?**

The course is delivered mainly online with live interactive lecture sessions taking place either on Mondays and/or Friday evenings from 6.00pm – 10.00pm and some Saturday Workshops. There is one on-campus workshop requirement at programme commencement in Year One.

Year Two is also delivered mainly online with 3 on-campus workshops throughout the duration. Course material is released via our VLE CANVAS which you can peruse and engage with in your own time. Therefore, the course is offered with a mix of self-paced study and live lecture sessions. Students have full access to UCC Library both online and on campus.

All of the live lecture sessions are recorded and made available on the VLE. However, I strongly recommend that you schedule the live sessions on your calendar as they are very interactive and a great learning experience—something that isn't quite the same as watching the recorded version, which will only contain the delivered content.

**Will I have to complete exams?**

The good news is No! You will be awarded your Higher Diploma through various interesting and engaging assignments. There are 5 modules per year on the Higher Diploma and, therefore, many different kinds of assignments to complete. These range from essays, reflective practice, presentations, group work, case studies, programme design. There will be plenty of structured and unstructured support available to help you develop competencies around the skills of academic reading, writing and referencing according to the Harvard System so there is no need to fear this aspect of the programme.

**What is the course timetable?**

The course commences on the third Saturday in October with an on-campus delivery of the accredited WRAP Wellness Recovery Action Plan Programme.

Virtual lectures will be held Monday or Friday evenings with some Saturdays. Please contact the Programme Coordinator for a timetable.

**Who teaches the course?**

Our experienced teaching team together combines extensive academic, practice and lived experience of disability related issues and inclusive praxis, incorporating a unique contribution of academic and experiential learning into the classroom. This model of diversity in teaching and learning enhances the learning experience, demonstrating effective co-working of people awhile offering different perspectives and experiences on topics of disability and inclusion.

Thank you!