



## EDUCATION PROSPECTUS

Irish Institute of Pensions Management  
& Griffith College

Taking pensions education to a new level



GRIFFITH COLLEGE

# President's Welcome



On behalf of the Irish Institute of Pensions management (IIPM), I am delighted to present you with details of our education courses which are delivered in partnership with Griffith College. We are immensely proud of remaining at the forefront of providing the highest possible educational standards and promoting professionalism for those involved in the pensions industry in Ireland. The evolving regulatory landscape in both Ireland and the European Union, coupled with a changing workplace environment, ensures that technical pensions expertise has become more relevant and required than ever before.

All courses outlined in this prospectus continue to enjoy accreditation from Quality and Qualifications Ireland and are on the National Framework of Qualifications. Our full Diploma in Pensions Management and Policy consists of eight modules in total with students who complete the first five modules receiving the exit award of Certificate in Pensions Investment and Insurance and are accredited a Member of the IIPM and may use the designation MIIPM.

Running over two college semesters from September to May, this Certificate award will also satisfy the Minimum Competency Regulations of the Central Bank of Ireland

in 3 key areas – Pensions, Life Assurance, and Savings and Investments. Upon successful completion of all eight modules graduates will have attained Level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications, become an Associate of the IIPM and entitled to use the highly desired AIIPM designation.

The IIPM also offer a Law and Governance Programme for Trustees which continues to receive acclaim in the industry. Touching on the many aspects of DB and DC pension schemes, the programme will focus on the building blocks for implementing robust scheme governance and risk management. Increasingly, employers are recognising educational achievement as a key requirement for their staff to progress along a career path and the Central Bank is also keen to ensure that the highest competency standards are continuously being maintained and enhanced in the pension and financial services industry.

The IIPM are confident that our courses outlined in this prospectus will advance your educational and professional achievements in Irish pensions and we wish all our students success in their endeavours.

**Davin Spollen**, President  
*Irish Institute of Pensions Management.*

# Higher Diploma in Pensions Management

The course provides learners with comprehensive knowledge and competence relating to pensions and retirement planning, including pensions legislation, taxation, insurance and investment, long-term financing, regulation and government policy. The course also develops the employees' softer skills in the areas of communication, written and oral, active listening, relationship management, problem solving and business awareness.

## Course Highlights

Excellent  
industry  
reputation

Superb  
networking  
& mentoring  
opportunities

Blended  
Learning

Endorsed by  
the pensions  
regulator

A proven career  
stepping stone

**The course is offered in conjunction with Griffith College Dublin**



### Griffith College

Established in 1974, Griffith College is Ireland's largest independent third level institution with 7,000 students at its campuses in Dublin, Cork and Limerick. Griffith College enjoys national and a growing international reputation for student success. The College has gained an enviable, award winning reputation for providing students with first class lectures and excellent study material.



### Blended Learning

Blended learning combines the traditional classroom teaching methods with independent study techniques supplemented with online learning. It represents a more modern style of learning by utilising the convenience of online technology with the discipline and rigour of a conventional classroom environment. Recognising the work commitments of the students in the course, the online learning element provides some flexibility in assisting students in completing the requirements of the course.

# Course Details

Location	Griffith College, South Circular Road
Start Date(s)	Autumn and Spring Semesters
Indicative Schedule	Weekday evenings & some weekend course work
Delivery	Mixed between in-class and online, Lectures and Workshops
Duration	Each semester is a total of 13 weeks including a reading week
Exams	January & May
Class Size	Limited to maximum 35



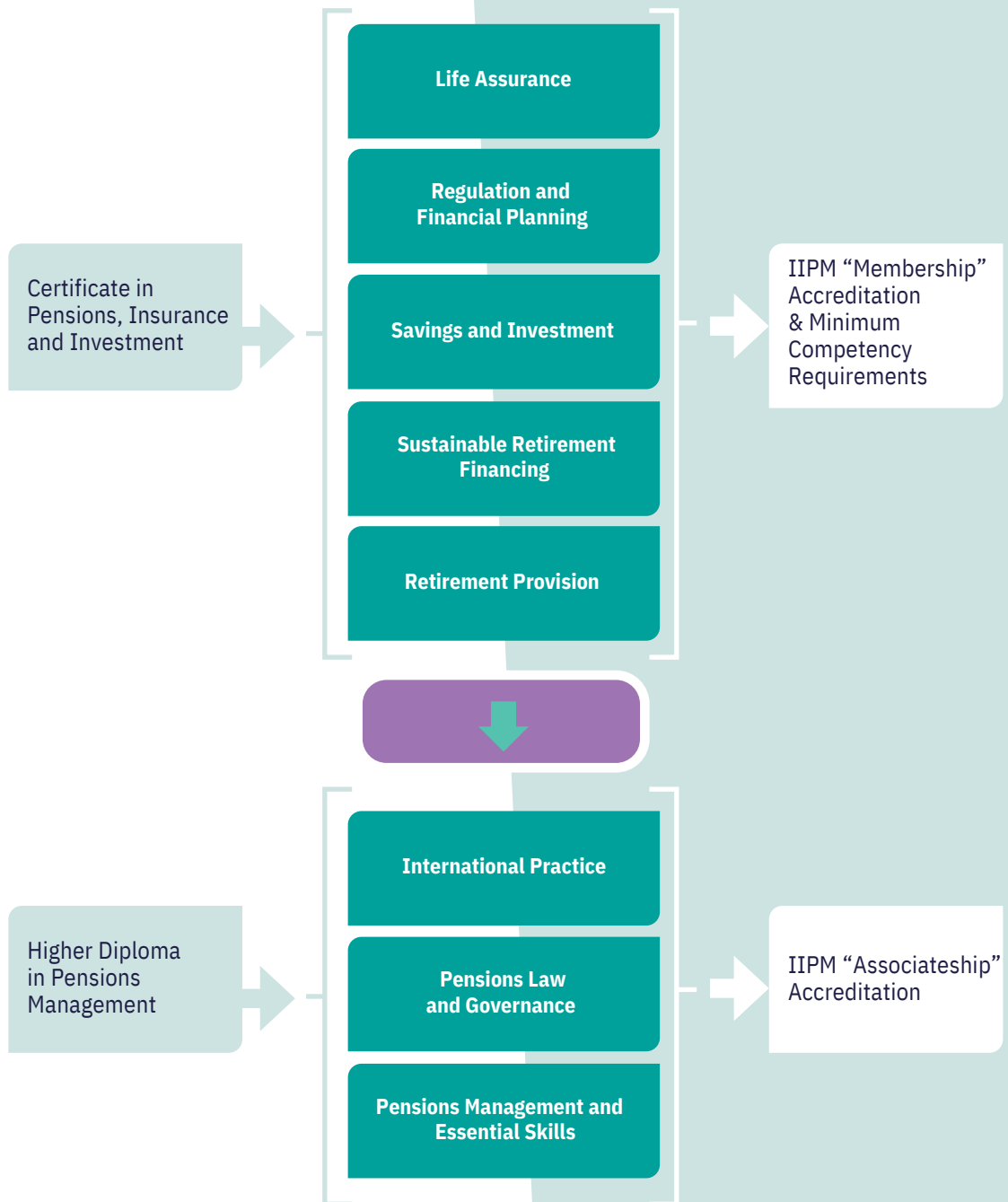
# Course Fee Structure

Course	Fee
Higher Diploma in Pensions Management (all modules)	€5,500*
Certificate in Pensions, Investments and Insurance (all modules)	€3,500*
Higher Diploma in Pensions Management (post-Certificate)	€2,000*
Credit for Exemptions	€350 discount per module**
Calculated Example:	
Certificate in Pensions, Investments and Insurance (where two exemptions have been granted on enrolment)	€2,800

\* Quoted fee inclusive of Griffith College registration and PEL (Protection for Enrolled Learner) fees

\*\* This discount fee applies where learners are exempted from modules at the certificate stage, and applies where exemptions are granted for up to and including the first three modules on the certificate stage of the programme.

# Course Progression Pathway



# Individual Certificate Modules

## Module 1:

### Life Assurance

This module aims to develop an enhanced understanding of life assurance protection products available in the market and corresponding regulation pertaining to this field. It will equip learners with the necessary skills to identify client protection needs, compare insurance products and determine the appropriate recommendations to meet these needs.

## Module 2:

### Regulation and Financial Planning

This module provides a detailed understanding of the regulatory framework pertaining to financial services and intermediaries and the application of the conduct of business provisions to real life financial planning situations.

## Module 3:

### Savings and Investment

This module provides learners with a comprehensive understanding of the investment environment, the different types of investment classes and corresponding risks and returns associated with different types of assets. It provides a practical applied knowledge of the range of financial securities and products available in the Irish marketplace. It develops corresponding analytical skills to critique each type of financial security the requisite skill set to identify, critically analyse and select financial products which are appropriate to individual client risk profiles and meet their investment objectives

## Module 4:

### Sustainable Retirement Financing

The module provides the learners with an in depth knowledge of financing of retirement. It develops the skills to carry out the appropriate funding calculations and ability to recognise the impact of the underlying assumptions on Sustainable Retirement Financing. Learners understand funding methods used in funding defined benefit schemes and the corresponding implications. The module builds on knowledge gained in previous modules by analysing key factors for consideration in the determination of an investment strategy and on the implementation of appropriate selection and control processes.

## Module 5:

### Retirement Provision

The aims of this module are to provide learners with an enhanced & current understanding of the retirement provision framework in Ireland, in particular the mechanisms for private retirement provision in Ireland. Key to the module will be the ability to research, interpret and apply the underpinning legislative provisions, developing the learner's independent learning skills, and skills of enquiry and research.

# Testimonials

“

At Aon, we place huge emphasis on professional standards and strongly encourage our Consulting and Administration staff to partake in educational courses so as to achieve Associate status with the Irish Institute of Pensions Management.”

Rachael Ingle, CEO Aon Ireland and Head of Nordics & Ireland subregion

“

I highly recommend the IIPM Diploma Course. As a recent AIIPM graduate this course has enabled me to bring a far greater level of nuance and valuable information into my discussions with clients and to my approach overall. For anyone who is career focused and looking to be more than just competent in this field then this course is a must do! “

Vincent Boyle, Chief Executive of Allied Pension Trustees

## Student Profile

“

The pensions course allowed me to specialise in my chosen career. Along with industry backing it provided an excellent boost to my career. Having completed the course myself anyone thinking of returning to college on a part-time basis, whilst it does require hard work and commitment, you will see the benefits in your career...”

Austin Foley, Willis Towers Watson

“

We found the Certificate in Pensions Administration an excellent first level platform as it covers all aspects of pensions legislation in Ireland. We were happy to sponsor our staff to complete the Certificate. Our staff also found it a very worthwhile qualification to hold.”

Mary P Burke, FIIPM, CIF Pension Administration Services Ltd (Administrators to the Construction Workers Pension Scheme)

“

I would like to congratulate the IIPM on achieving the standard needed for accreditation under the National Framework of Qualifications for their pension programmes. The work achieved by the IIPM to increase the quality and standard of education in the pensions industry is a positive move that will benefit all concerned. These programmes give those working in the important area of pensions administration, the opportunity to achieve professional recognition and I would encourage all members of the industry to pursue formal qualifications.”

Brendan Kennedy, Chief Executive, The Pensions Authority

“

“In my experience working on behalf of pension scheme and with co-trustees and employers we have had very professional and positive experience when working with IIPM Qualified members. They bring a level of knowledge and understanding of the issues that schemes face that enhances the service and solutions they provide and very importantly how these explained to stakeholders. These capabilities are of increasing importance as trustee boards and employers deal with higher governance and compliance standards and an increasingly complex pensions landscape.

Elma Fox, Professional Trustee, LawDeb

# To register for the course

*For enquiries please email:*  
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@pensions\_irl

Founded in 1990, the primary objective of the Irish Institute of Pensions Management (IIPM) is to promote professional standards amongst those working in the field of pensions, with education being central to the achievement of this objective. Today, we pride ourselves on the high quality and relevance of our qualifications and services. In turn, employers recognise the value of the IIPM's qualifications and have benefited from the increased expertise of their staff.

