

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How do I apply & what do I need?

Please apply through the link on the website: [CIT - Cork Institute of Technology - Professional Diploma in Education – Home Economics](#)

You will need to upload the following:

- Letter of Interest: Applicants are required to express their passion for Home Economics Education through a letter of interest (max one A4 page).
- An honours undergraduate degree at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), or equivalent. Please upload award title and academic transcripts.
- Proof of full current registration as a post-primary teacher
- Leaving Certificate Results or equivalent Desirable:
- Written support from the school (if employed) allowing you to undertake this programme, if accepted. Please note that this is not a requirement, and will not impact you being offered a place, but should be uploaded if available.

### 2. How does the application process work?

This programme will remain open to applications until May 23rd 2022. It may be extended if places remain on the programme. All required documentation must be submitted before the application can be reviewed. Interviews (online) will take place in early June. Having accepted an offer of a place, you will be given information on further procedures, including registration. Those who wish to accept a place will be asked to reply within a specified period and pay a deposit of 10% (i.e.€650). If vacancies remain after the First Round of offers, the application deadline will be extended.

### 3. Can I claim back fees?

Successful participants should be eligible for a fee refund under the Teacher Fee Refund Scheme, through the Department of Education. The purpose of this scheme is to provide funding towards the cost of course participation and examination fees on successful completion of professional development courses. As the course duration is longer than one year, funding is provided on successful completion of each year of the course.

Funding is available for courses that are directly relevant and of benefit to schools and that are subject to certification/award by an appropriate accreditation authority recognised by the Department. The maximum refund is €5,000 per year and the level of refund depends on the volume of eligible applications that are received.

Circular 0001/2022 sets out the general details of the scheme.

(<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/0c7a3-teacher-fee-refund-scheme-2021/> )

Circular 15/2021 sets out how funding will be prioritised for those commencing courses from September 2021, including upskilling for post primary teachers leading to registration with the Teaching Council in an additional subject, to support teacher supply.

(<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/66d9f-update-to-the-teacher-fee-refund-scheme-prioritisation-offunding/> )

### 4. When do I have to pay my fees?

To accept a place on the programme, you must pay 10% of the programme fee i.e. €650. The following is the fee structure:

- Year 1 Semester 1: €850 (€1500 fee for semester - €650 deposit paid) (15 ECTS)
- Year 1 Semester 2: €1500 (15 ECTS) • Year 2 Semester 1: €1500 (15 ECTS)
- Year 2 Semester 2: €2000 (20 ECTS)

5. Am I required to purchase equipment?

Yes, you will be required to purchase a uniform that must be worn for entry into the kitchens and a knife set. You will also be required to purchase some textile and design materials, as well as a lab coat for use in the science labs. Upon successful acceptance onto the programme you will receive a detailed list outlining what is required. These will also be available to purchase on campus by various suppliers on a selected date on week one of Semester one. The cost is approximately €350-€400.

6. I studied abroad and have been identified as having shortfalls to receive full Teaching Council registration, can I take some modules to make up my shortfalls?

We may be able to help you. We will assess each applicant on a case by case basis and hope to aid you in making up these shortfalls. This will be dependent on factors such as our resources but where possible we will work with each individual to facilitate a favourable outcome. Please apply through the website [CIT - Cork Institute of Technology - Professional Diploma in Education – Home Economics](#)

You will need to outline the shortfalls that have been identified and we will be in touch in due course. Please upload the letter you received from the Teaching Council outlining your credit shortfall. The cost of each 5 ECTS module is €500 (there is one 10 ECTS module on the programme which costs €1000).

7. Is Science a prerequisite for entry onto the programme?

Science is not required for entry onto the programme. Semester 1, year 1 of the programme allows you to gain a scientific background which will be applied as you progress through the programme.

8. How much of the programme is delivered online?

The majority of theory based components of the programme will be offered online but mandatory attendance is required for all practical skilled based modules.

9. What will I study?

All modules have been developed around the discipline areas of

- a) Food Studies (including the integration of theory and practice)
- b) Textiles, Fashion Design and Home Design (including garment construction and practical craft work)
- c) Family Resource Management and Social Studies (including Home Economics Studies and consumer studies)

Modules include:

- Home Economics Studies
- Science for Home Economics
- Applied Culinary & Food Safety
- Sociology for Home Economics
- Human Nutrition for Home Economics
- Applied Nutrition
- Applied Food Preservation & Food Science
- Fashion, Design and Craft
- Garment Design & Construction
- Designing Sustainable Homes
- Financial & Consumer Studies
- Home Economics Pedagogy

10. Will the Teaching Council recognise this qualification?

This programme is not accredited by the Teaching Council but designed in line with the Teaching Council's curricular subject registration requirements 2023 <https://www.teachingcouncil.ie/en/newsevents/latest-news/curricular-subject-requirements.pdf>

Once a candidate has achieved a minimum of a pass grade in all components of the programme, they will then be eligible to add Home Economics to their Teacher registration. Each candidate is responsible for applying to the Teaching Council to update their registration status.

11. Can I still keep on my full-time teaching post?

This is a part time programme so allows you to maintain your full-time hours in a school. This however will be to the discretion of the principal. Commitment to the programme is also required.

12. I have studied science before, do I need to take this module again?

You may be eligible for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). RPL is when formal recognition is given for what you already know prior to starting on a programme or module. With recognition of prior learning the focus is on learning and not on experience as such. More information is available at <https://www.cit.ie/rpl>

13. I really want to be a Home Economics teacher but I am not a teacher, can I apply for this programme?

A requirement for this programme is that candidates are already registered with the Teaching Council when applying. In order to be registered with the Teaching Council, you must have this teaching qualification, so without it, you will not be eligible to apply for this course.

14. Is School Placement part of the programme?

Formal School Placement is not a part of this programme, however we strongly encourage that candidates would observe Home Economics classes (both theory and practical) where feasible. This will ensure a more holistic experience and align with the programme learning outcomes. If a candidate is not in a position to do this, we have supporting schools who are in a position to facilitate this.

15. Is Micro-Teaching part of the programme?

Yes, Micro-Teaching is a critical part of the programme. This ensure that graduates are ready and feel ready to take on the complexities and challenges in delivering a practical based subject to the highest level at post primary school level.

16. How will I be assessed?

Over the duration of the two years, you will be assessed through a variety of modes. This includes continuous based assessment in practical classes, portfolios, reflective journals, MCQ's, micro-teaching, skill-based exams, reports etc.