

COMPLIANCE

LEVEL

9

Professional Certificate in

Data Protection

A programme of IOB for members
of Compliance Institute

2026-2027

EMPOWER

ENABLE

EDUCATE

Who we are

IOB

IOB is a professional community of over 31,100 members who work in areas such as banking, financial planning and wealth management, investment funds and international financial services. Professional development of our members through education is at the heart of what we do. IOB provides university level programmes to enable our members achieve and sustain their professional qualifications and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) – essential in meeting customer and regulatory expectations.

Excellence in education – a recognised college of UCD

As a recognised college of UCD and the standout banking industry educator, we offer qualifications of the highest standard. We currently offer more than 40 programmes ranging from Professional Certificates and Diplomas (level 7) on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) to Masters Degrees (level 9). We design our programmes to be practical and relevant, but grounded in academic rigour.

Compliance Institute

Compliance Institute was established to provide opportunities for compliance professionals to develop their network, qualifications, and their skills.

With just over 3,850 members, the Compliance Institute is the premier provider of education and professional development in compliance, providing a balanced and authoritative voice on matters relating to regulatory compliance and business ethics in industry in Ireland. It is one of the largest global associations of compliance professionals and offers the largest suite of compliance programmes anywhere in the world.

The Compliance Institute's focus is on bringing the compliance community together and facilitating an effective network which helps our members build a contact base that can support them in their role and career. Our evolving professional development training and accredited graduate and post graduate education in the various fields of compliance and business ethics delivered by us and our educational partners have set the standard for compliance in Ireland.

Being part of the Compliance Institute means that our members are part of a diverse global network of compliance professionals. Compliance Institute is connected with international associations, providing members with the opportunity to connect with professionals from all around the world.

IFS Skillnet

The IFS Skillnet is co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and member companies. The IFS Skillnet programme is dedicated to providing training and networking opportunities for the international financial services sector.

The Network aims to support the sector in maintaining Ireland's position as a top international financial services centre through investment in the specialist skills and expertise of its workforce. The Network is led by a steering group which includes member companies and the leading financial services industry associations.

The IFS Skillnet was established in mid-2009. Since then we have delivered over 2,000 courses to 15,000 plus participants from 430 companies operating in the international financial services sector in Ireland. We support our members to upskill in areas such as digitalisation, ESG, leadership, people skills, project management and regulatory compliance.

Why get involved

- Avail of a comprehensive range of specialist courses designed for the international financial services sector
- Opportunity to significantly reduce training costs through the availability of grant funding
- Provides the opportunity to work with education and training providers to update and amend course content in line with market developments
- Ensure your employees acquire the latest skills to maintain your organisation's competitiveness
- Opportunity to network and collaborate with other member companies.

How to get involved

- Sign up for free at: www.ifsskillnet.ie
- Email: info@ifsskillnet.ie
- Tweet us: [@ifsskillnet](https://twitter.com/ifsskillnet)
- LinkedIn: [@ifsskillnet](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ifsskillnet)

Professional Certificate Data Protection (CDPO)

NFQ: Level 9

Academic credits: 10 ECTS

Modules: 1

Delivery: Online

Awarding body: UCD

Designation: CDPO



"This comprehensive programme delivers a coherent and practical knowledge of the GDPR. Its implications on data subjects is imparted, ensuring those who go on to take up the CDPO designation are well equipped to deliver in their role and ensure compliance with the legislation. I highly recommend this qualification for anyone who is interested in pursuing a career as a DPO."

Mary McDonald

About the programme

The complexity and volume of regulation underpinning compliance in data collection, use and management continues to be an area of focus in organisations. As well as a thorough understanding of the regulatory and legislative framework, professional practice in data protection requires judgements and decisions to be made for many scenarios.

The primary motivation underpinning the Professional Certificate in Data Protection is to provide a learning opportunity for compliance professionals, and those managing personal data, to develop the necessary skills to ensure that their organisation meets their current and future data protection responsibilities.

The programme was designed in consultation with the office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

How you will benefit

This programme will support your personal and professional development. It will enable you to:

- Interpret domestic and European data protection legislation
- Develop a data protection framework within your organisation
- Design, complete and report on major data protection projects, which will enhance your firm's governance of personal data
- Justify the rationale behind recommendations concerning data protection
- Apply professional best practice and contribute to a personal ethos of life-long learning and self-improvement.

Professional designation

Members who complete the Professional Certificate in Data Protection, will be invited to apply for the designation CDPO – Certified Data Protection Officer and must meet CPD requirement.

Curriculum

You study one module:

1. Data Protection Policies and Procedures

This module carries 10 ECTS (academic credits).

Award

When you successfully complete this programme, you will be awarded a Professional Certificate in Data Protection from UCD.

This is a level 9 qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Professional Certificate in Data Protection forms part of the MSc in Compliance. Further information is available at iob.ie/programme/compliance-msc

Delivery and Assessment

IOB programmes are largely delivered and assessed online. IOB provides excellent learning supports during your studies, however students should ensure they have appropriate equipment and software to participate in the related assessments and exams. Please see the **Terms and Conditions** for further information.

Entry requirements

The minimum entry requirements to the Professional Certificate in Data Protection are as follows:

- An Honours degree (min. 2.2 L8 NFQ)
- or
- Admission may also be considered for experienced professionals who do not meet the admission requirements as set out above, where they can demonstrate knowledge through their work.

IFS Skillnet

Part funding may be available for eligible applicants through IFS Skillnet. For more information see iob.ie/info/supports-and-scholarships

Professional body membership

You must be a current member of the Compliance Institute, or become a member, to apply for this programme.

How to apply

For further information, including module content, fees, exam dates, closing dates and to apply online, visit iob.ie/programme/data-protection

If demand from applicants exceeds the number of available places, a waiting list will apply.

Contact us

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IOB Learn

Your personalised learning platform and mobile app

Access exclusive content

Review the latest industry insights and thought leadership on financial services. Follow content channels in topics such as risk, compliance, digital innovation and ESG to stay up to date with sector trends and best practices.

Learn at your own pace

Learn at a time and pace that suits you with the full library of archived IOB events and webinars. IOB Learn is your ticket to the conversations that matter.

Explore your module and CPD resources

Find your module materials, resources and CPD content for professional designations on one dedicated platform.

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A recognised
college of UCD

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An Roinn Breisoidreachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
Department of Further and Higher Education,
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