Compliance in the Funds Industry: A Practical Overview

Certified Short Program

Program Overview

1. Program Overview

a. Program Aims

This short program provides a structured, practical overview of the compliance obligations applicable across the main entity types in the Irish funds industry. It is designed to give participants the knowledge and practical frameworks they need to operate confidently and effectively in a funds compliance role.

The program takes the perspective of the Compliance Officer (“CO”) throughout: for every topic, the lens is on how the CO ensures compliance in practice - how they obtain and review reporting, test controls, manage breaches, oversee outsourced functions and engage with the regulator.

Specifically, this program aims to:

- Provide participants with a clear picture of the Irish funds regulatory landscape - who does what, and which rules apply to which entity.
- Equip participants with practical knowledge of fund entity compliance, ManCo/AIFM compliance and the CP86 framework.
- Build understanding of compliance obligations for MiFID firms and investment intermediaries operating in the funds space.
- Develop knowledge of the compliance role within fund service providers - administrators, depositaries and transfer agents.
- Give participants practical tools for regulatory reporting, marketing compliance and managing the relationship with the CBI.

b. Who This Program Is For

This program is aimed at compliance professionals working across all levels of the Irish funds industry, including:

- Compliance officers working in fund management companies, AIFMs or ManCos
- Compliance professionals in MiFID-authorised investment firms with a funds focus
- Compliance and risk professionals in fund administration, depositary or transfer agency functions
- Compliance professionals new to the funds sector who need a structured overview
- Professionals considering a move into funds compliance

The program assumes a working knowledge of financial services and compliance generally. It is not an introductory program to compliance as a discipline, but participants do not need to be specialists in every area covered - the program is designed to be accessible to generalist compliance professionals while remaining relevant for specialists.

2. Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this program, participants should be able to:

Learning Outcomes
Describe the structure of the Irish funds industry - fund types, entity types and the regulatory architecture underpinning them.
Identify the key compliance obligations applicable to UCITS and AIF fund entities, including investment restrictions, breach management and fund documentation requirements.
Explain the compliance framework for fund management companies and AIFMs, including the CP86 regime, delegation oversight and the design of compliance monitoring programmes.
Outline the regulatory obligations applicable to MiFID firms and investment intermediaries in Ireland, including product governance, suitability and the IFR/IFD own funds framework.
Describe the compliance responsibilities of fund service providers - depositaries, fund administrators and transfer agents - including AML/KYC, NAV oversight and DORA obligations.
Apply knowledge of regulatory reporting, marketing compliance and the breach notification framework to practical scenarios, including engagement with the Central Bank of Ireland.
Distinguish between the compliance obligations and day-to-day CO role across different entity types in the Irish funds industry.
Demonstrate an understanding of current regulatory developments affecting the funds sector.

3. Program Topics & Schedule

The program runs for consecutive weeks, with one two-hour session per week. Sessions are delivered live on Zoom from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Each session is recorded and made available on Moodle the following day.

The table below sets out the program schedule & session topics. Please note that dates are subject to confirmation and may be updated by the Compliance Institute.

Session	Date	Time	Topic	Key Topics
Session 1	Wed 16th September	6:00–8:00pm	The Irish Funds Landscape	Fund types and structures; entity types (ManCos, AIFMs, MiFID firms, depositaries, administrators); CBI authorisation; EU passporting. The role of the Compliance Officer across different entity types.
Session 2	Wed 23rd September	6:00–8:00pm	Fund Entity Compliance: UCITS, AIFs and Investment Compliance Monitoring	Fund documentation and prospectus requirements; investment restrictions under UCITS and AIF rules; pre- and post-trade compliance monitoring; breach identification, escalation and remediation. Practical tools for the CO.

Session	Date	Time	Topic	Key Topics
Session 3	Wed 30th September	6:00–8:00pm	Management Company and AIFM Compliance	CP86 framework; designated persons and their practical obligations; delegation and oversight of outsourced functions; conflicts of interest; remuneration policy compliance; building and running a compliance monitoring programme. Fund distribution and marketing compliance.
Session 4	Wed 7th October	6:00–8:00pm	MiFID Firms, IIA-Authorised Firms and IFR/IFD	Regulatory perimeter for MiFID and investment intermediaries in Ireland; product governance (MiFID II); suitability and appropriateness obligations; best execution; IFR/IFD own funds requirements.
Session 5	Wed 14th October	6:00–8:00pm	Fund Service Provider Compliance: Administrators, Depositaries and Transfer Agents	Depositary safekeeping and oversight duties; NAV calculation controls and error handling; TA operations and AML/KYC in investor onboarding; DORA and operational resilience; role of auditors and law firms in the compliance ecosystem.
Session 6	Wed 21st October	6:00–8:00pm	Regulatory Reporting, Marketing Compliance and Regulatory Engagement	Annex IV reporting (AIFMD); SFDR entity and product disclosures; CBDF marketing notifications; PRIIPs KIDs; CBI inspection readiness; breach notification obligations; managing the regulatory relationship - case studies.

A facilitator will be present for each live session to manage recording and polling. All sessions are recorded and made available for on-demand access.