

Leading
Healthcare
Providers

Skillnet

Free programme
for jobseekers

Certificate in Healthcare Support

QQI Level 5 Major Award

Introducing the Certificate in Healthcare Support Programme



The population of older people in Ireland is increasing, as are the numbers who require residential care. This growth has to be matched by an increase in competent, caring Healthcare Assistants, in order to meet the demands of our ageing population.

According to the independent regulatory body HIQA, all staff employed by nursing homes or home-care organisations "must have the necessary skills, appropriate to their role, to provide care and support to residents and to coordinate care effectively with other organisations and professionals."

The Certificate in Healthcare Support (QQI Level 5, Major Award) has become the industry-standard qualification for anyone wishing to work as a Healthcare Assistant in the Republic of Ireland. This qualification can only be conferred upon a student who has completed 8 modules from a list specified by the national awards body Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI).

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Duration: Approx 6 months part-time (1 class day per week)

Delivery: Live online through Microsoft Teams

Programme Dates: Multiple start dates throughout the year. Contact us for details.

Price: No fees apply for eligible jobseekers . This programme is 100% funded by Skillnet Ireland through their Skills Connect Initiative.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAMME FOR?

This programme is for eligible jobseekers who have a genuine interest in working in the healthcare sector as a Healthcare Assistant.

It is suitable for both school leavers and more experienced adults.

Graduates of the programme can progress to Level 6 programmes on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Programme Aim

The purpose of this programme is to enable the learner to acquire the knowledge, skill, and competence to work in a variety of healthcare settings.

Possession of this qualification will also enables progression to further, higher education and training.

Programme Outline

The programme, delivered over approximately 6 months, consists of eight modules. Modules are delivered with one class day per week. 100% attendance at all class days is required.

Learners must successfully complete eight modules to be awarded the Certificate in Healthcare Support Major Award.



THE EIGHT MODULES - LHP SKILLNET

- Communication
- Safety & Health at Work
- Care Support
- Care Skills
- Care of the Older Person
- Palliative Care
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Work Practice

An essential component of the programme is a work placement as a Healthcare Assistant. Students are required to complete 300 hours of voluntary work placement in order to receive the Major Award certificate. Students are required to organise their own work placement with guidance given by the programme tutors.

ASSESSMENT

Learners will be assessed in each module of the programme. Assessment takes the form of assignments, skills demonstrations, portfolios, examinations, learner records and projects.

CERTIFICATION

Learners who successfully complete the programme will be awarded a Certificate in Healthcare Support from QQI (Level 5, Major Award)

Entry Criteria

Skills Connect training is free and is open to most jobseekers, subject to eligibility criteria below.

Eligible Unemployed Individuals:

If you are in receipt of one of the following social welfare payments, you are eligible:

- Jobseekers Allowance (JA)
- Jobseekers Benefit (JB)
- Back to Work Enterprise Allowance
- Jobseeker's Credits only
- Blind Pension
- Disability Allowance
- Farm/Fish Assist
- Illness Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- One-Parent Family Payment
- Rural Social Scheme
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance
- Adult Dependants (of listed schemes)

If you are not in receipt of a welfare payment but one of the following circumstances apply, you are eligible:

- Former sole traders and business owners
- Recent graduates who are unemployed
- Homemakers
- Retirees seeking to return to the workplace
- Individuals who fail to qualify for social welfare payments because of a spouse's income
- Individuals signing on for credits but in receipt of no social welfare payment
- Individuals who have recently accepted redundancy payments
- Non-European Economic Area (EEA) nationals holding immigration Stamp 4

Ineligible Unemployed Individuals:

Skillnet Ireland, under its current mandate, does not provide training to unemployed people who fall into any of the following categories:

1. Current participants on Jobs Initiative (JI) Schemes
2. Non-European Economic Area (EEA) nationals holding immigration Stamp 1, 2 or 3
3. Full-time students engaged in second or third-level education.

Please note that the criteria are subject to change. Please visit the link below for the most up-to-date criteria for Skills Connect programmes

<https://www.skillnetireland.ie/developing-irelands-future-workforce/#eligibility-criteria>

Other Criteria:

The application process for this programme includes an interview and Garda vetting.

To undergo the programme, learners will be required to have use of a laptop or desktop computer. Learners can not use a smartphone and/or tablet to undergo this programme.



Skills Connect is designed in partnership with enterprise to enhance cross-sector employability and support people who have lost their jobs. It offers a suite of bespoke upskilling and training solutions, designed by enterprise, aimed at supporting re-entry into the workforce.

Skills Connect offers free online training programmes and enterprise-led virtual job placements to jobseekers looking for new jobs and careers. This valuable initiative offers individuals the opportunity to develop new skills or reskill, build confidence and access practical on-the-job training.

FOR INDIVIDUALS

Upskilling and reskilling are a vital part of an effective workforce, helping strengthen ongoing employability and career development. Skills Connect aims to equip you with the skills and confidence to avail of new job opportunities and adapt to the changing jobs market.

FOR BUSINESS

Maintaining a highly skilled workforce is essential for our national competitiveness. Skills Connect aims to develop the skills and capacity of the workforce. Enabling businesses to address skills gaps and supporting the career development of people impacted by COVID-19.

About LHP Skillnet

Established in January 2008, Leading Healthcare Providers (LHP) Skillnet is a not-for-profit Learning Network co-funded by Skillnet Ireland and our member companies. Skillnet Ireland is funded from the National Training Fund through the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. Of the 70+ Skillnet Ireland Learning Networks, we are the only Network dedicated exclusively to supporting the private healthcare sector. We do this through the provision of high-quality, sector-led, subsidised training and education.

Leading Healthcare Providers

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An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais,
Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta
Department of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science

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