



Certificate in Payroll Techniques

The Certificate in Payroll Techniques (CPT) course provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of PAYE, PRSI, USC, ASC and Employment legislation and practices as they relate to both employers and their employees. The topics covered have been identified as the most important issues which affect employers today. Many of these topics can lead to employers having substantial liabilities because of the incorrect manner in which they are dealt with.

This course clarifies some of the most common misconceptions in relation to the operation of PAYE, PRSI and USC. If you work in payroll, if you want to work in payroll, or if you are responsible for payroll, you won't find a better course for your needs and you will also find that this course is extremely interesting, practical and relevant to you.

PAYE, PRSI and USC are the largest tax liabilities which most companies incur and one of the largest sources of tax recovered on Revenue audits. The best payroll software cannot compensate for the payroll operator's lack of expertise in the operation of PAYE, PRSI and USC. Yet the people responsible for the management and payment of their employer's PAYE, PRSI and USC liabilities often have to do so without the benefit of specialist training and with little or no practical support.



The Certificate in Payroll Techniques (CPT) is accredited by QQI as a Higher Education, Level 6 Special Purpose qualification on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The course is extremely interesting and practical and it provides all of the essential information required to work in payroll.

The benefits of graduating with a Certificate in Payroll Techniques

Students who graduate will:

- Hold a QQI Higher Education, Level 6 Special Purpose qualification
- Become an invaluable member of their employer's financial team, by being aware of their employer's compliance obligations in a highly technical area
- Greatly enhance their career prospects by providing certification of their expertise in payroll and employment law
- Enhance their payroll skills, technical expertise and confidence
- Develop their professional skills and abilities through the application of advanced training
- Develop a network of contacts in a range of businesses working in the same specialist field as themselves.

Benefits for Employers

Employers will:

- Have a highly skilled individual with a unique technical knowledge of every employer's compliance requirements in relation to payroll
- Know that their largest tax liabilities are being managed by a person who holds a specialist professional payroll qualification
- Gain an improved service which will bring real financial, organisational and practical benefits to the organisation
- Enhance your staff development by assisting them to obtain a valuable qualification
- Recognise the need to have a truly professional payroll working environment
- Reduce the potential of incurring penalties and other charges from the Revenue Commissioners, Department of Social Protection and the Workplace Relations Commission.

Who should enrol on this course?

- Anyone who works in payroll or who is seeking to work in payroll
- Anyone who is responsible for maintaining an employer's PAYE, PRSI and USC records
- People responsible for the completion of PAYE,
 PRSI and USC Returns
- People working in a finance department
- Accountants and Accounting Technicians
- HR Personnel
- People who wish to improve their knowledge of Irish Payroll and Employment Legislation
- Anyone who wants to obtain a recognised qualification.





Course Material

Students will receive comprehensive course manuals, updated twice yearly which are written by some of the country's most experienced lecturers and consultants. In addition, students will be provided with:

- Sample Exam Papers and Suggested Solutions
- Telephone Access to a Tutor
- Online Lectures which can be accessed at any time via a laptop and desktop
- Online Quizzes
- Past Exam Papers

CPT Qualification Requirements

- It is a requirement that learners enrolling on this course whose first language is not English must have a minimum of B2 in English under the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) programme. A full list of assessment providers and grades required is available on our website.
- In order to graduate with a Certificate in Payroll Techniques, students must successfully pass both Stage 1 and Stage 2 examinations for this course
- Prior knowledge of PAYE, PRSI and USC or employment Law is an advantage but not essential.

Classroom Learning

Classes Nationwide will commence in September 2024, subject to numbers in each venue. We will additionally run classes in February 2025. Classes will run 1 night a week, 3 hours per night, for 10 weeks for both Semester 1 and Semester 2. Classes will be held on a specific day and will run from 6.30pm – 9.30pm. All students will also have access to pre-recorded lectures through the online learning portal.

Online Learning

Online learning is also available. Studying online means you have the opportunity to attend a live online lecture or view a recorded lecture at a later time that suits you. Live Online classes will be held on a specific day from 6.30pm – 9.30pm.

Student Fees

Student fees must be paid before the course commences unless prior arrangements have been made with IPASS. Students who have outstanding fees on the first night will not receive their course manual and will not be able to attend any further classes until their fees have been paid.

This will not apply to students who have made alternative payment arrangements with IPASS or whose employer has agreed to pay their fees. Student fees can be paid by installments. To avail of this scheme or find out further information, please contact IPASS on 01 - 408 9100.

Student Registration - valid for the academic year in which you enrol | €200

Course Fee (Classroom Learning) includes student registration | €1,350

Course Fee (Online Learning) includes student registration | €1,050

Revision Day (Optional – per stage) | €100

Payment Options

- 1. Pay in full on enrolment.
- 2. Pay by Instalment. An admin fee of €25 will be added to your total fees payable. You must pay €500 on enrolment and the remaining balance will be deducted via Credit/Debit Card over 5 months.

Additional Information

Student Registration is valid for the year the student is registered to complete the course and any student who falls outside this period will be required to pay the student registration fee at a reduced rate before continuing with the course or completing examinations. This will only occur where a student defers their examination or does not successfully complete their examinations within the initial year of study. Additional study (outside of classes) will be required for students to successfully complete this course. Students should aim for a minimum of 3 hours of study a week, which my increase in the weeks prior to the exam.

Exam Information

Examinations are held on a Saturday in May & December with repeat/ deferral examinations being held in February & August. Students who are unable to sit their examination at the May or December sitting may opt to sit in February or August by submitting an Examination Deferral Form accompanied by the Examination Deferral Fee in advance of any deadline specified before the examination.

Students will be required to attend an examination centre and complete a hand written exam under exam conditions. Exams centres will be in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Athlone. Exam time is 9.30am - 11.30am.

Students can progress from one semester to the next without having completed their examinations; however, no certificate will be issued until all examinations have been successfully completed.

Revision Course

An optional Revision Day is also available and will be held on a Saturday prior to the examination. Details of the Revision Day will be communicated to all students. A separate fee is payable if you wish to attend.





Irish Payroll AssociationCertificate in Payroll Techniques



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