



Sólás Building, Institute of Technology Tralee



**Are you Nursing in a Specialist Area?
Have you got a professional (e.g. ABA/ENB)
specialist qualification?
Would you like to turn this into a
Clinical Specialist Higher Diploma?**

HIGHER DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE IN NURSING

INTERESTED?

*Contact the Admissions Office
at the Institute of Technology,
Tralee 066 7145638 for further
details and an application form.*

Pathway: Specialist Transition Structure

The Department of Nursing and Health Care Studies at IT, Tralee delivers a course that:

- Gives you credit for your professional qualifications and experience;
- Provides the top up to allow you to achieve a Higher Diploma in your field of clinical specialism;
- Is approved by An Bord Altranais;
- May be supported by Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit;
- Is in partnership with health care service providers and the Kerry Centre for Nurse Education.

For further information contact:

**The Admissions Office,
Institute of Technology, Tralee,
Clash, Tralee, Co. Kerry.**

Tel: 066 7145638

Email: info@ittralee.ie

Web: www.ittralee.ie



Introduction

This Higher Diploma in Science in Nursing focuses on specialist fields of nursing practice. This course design is based on the National Council for Nursing and Midwifery guidelines for Clinical Nurse Specialists and aims to provide an academic pathway to help you to achieve a Higher Diploma.

This course is approved by An Bord Altranais and will commence in September in the Department of Nursing and Health Care Studies at the Institute of Technology Tralee.

The course may be supported by the Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit and will be delivered in partnership with health care service providers and the Kerry Centre for Nurse Education.

Modules

Participants will undertake three modules in total:

- > Specialist Transition Structure
- > Research Skills in Nursing Practice
- > Contemporary Issues in Nursing or Applied Social and Behavioural Sciences.

Academic Level

This course is set at academic level 8 on the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland Marks and Standards Framework.

Structure

Classes will be held in the Department of Nursing and Health Care Studies on Thursday each week. These classes take place during the months of September to May inclusive.

Entry to the Higher Diploma Programme

Entry to this programme is based on the following criteria:

- > Prospective participants must demonstrate successful completion of a full time professional An Bord Altranais/English National Board specialist nursing course of six months duration (or equivalent).
- > Prospective participants must be able to demonstrate at least three years of work experience within their identified specialist nursing environment.
 - *At least six months minimum of this experience must be current at the time of application and successful learners must remain working in the area of specialisation throughout the length of the course.*
- > prospective participants must demonstrate successful completion of a programme in nursing or cognate discipline of study to NQAI level 7.
 - *Registered nurses who are unable to demonstrate level 7 study will be required to complete the Access Studies Programme.*
- > Support from health service managers is necessary to participate in this Higher Diploma. When you request an application form for this programme, you will also receive an information pack for your manager. This pack contains a declaration of support form which must be completed and signed by your manager and returned by you with your application.
- > Prospective learners work areas of specialisation will be audited for suitability by the Institute of Technology Tralee placement auditing process. Previous educational audit may suffice.
- > Learners will be involved in selecting and working with an approved practice mentor.

Progression

Candidates who successfully complete the Higher Diploma programme will be eligible, with an award level of 2.2 or higher, to continue their studies to Masters level or other NQAI level 9 studies at the Institute of Technology, Tralee.