



upGrad GSP Ireland Agent Toolkit

For Recruitment Partners



Why Ireland

90%+

Graduates in employment or further study within 9 months

1,000+

MNC headquarters in Ireland

24 months

Post-study work visa (Stamp 1G)

English-taught:

European-recognised degree

Ireland is home to over 1,000 multinational corporations, including the European and EMEA headquarters of Apple, Google, Meta, Pfizer, and Boston Scientific. For international students, this is not just a study destination. It is a direct line to the world's most recognised employers.

As of 2024, over 90% of Irish graduates were in employment or further study within nine months of completing their degree. The post-study work visa, Stamp 1G, allows graduates to remain and work in Ireland for up to 24 months.

English-taught. European-quality degree recognition. Lower tuition fees than the UK, US, or Australia. Ireland offers your students a competitive return on a postgraduate investment.

Dublin City University (DCU)

Ranked number one in Ireland, and 19th in the world for graduate employment rate.

#1

Ireland – Graduate
Employment Rate (QS)

19th

World – Graduate
Employment Rate (QS)

Top 350

2026 THE World
University Rankings

Top 95

Business Schools
in Europe



The only Irish university ranked in the global top 20 for graduate employment outcomes (QS Graduate Outcomes Survey).



Top 350 globally and number one in Ireland for Research Quality in the 2026 Times Higher Education World University Rankings.



DCU Business School ranks in the top 95 Business Schools in Europe — a credible credential for students targeting postgraduate business programs.



Industry partnership model with built-in placement access. Practical, career-connected learning is embedded across all programs.

Key programs

Business, Computing, Engineering, Communications, Science, Law. Strong postgraduate portfolio across all faculties.

Key employers recruiting DCU graduates

Google, Meta, LinkedIn, Accenture, Pfizer, Deloitte — all with significant Dublin operations.



Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin)

Named Dublin's number one university for graduate employability for the second consecutive year.

#1

Dublin – Graduate
Employability, UG & PG
(HEA 2025)

70%

UG graduates
employed within
9 months

77%

PG graduates
employed within
9 months

800+

Active industry
partnerships



Ranked number one in Dublin for graduate employability at both undergraduate and postgraduate level – two years in a row (HEA 2025).



70% of undergraduate and 77% of postgraduate taught graduates in employment within nine months of graduation.



Top 100 young universities in the world. 27,000+ students from over 100 countries across five Dublin campuses.



800+ industry partnerships embedded across program design, delivery, and assessment.

Key programs

Computing, Engineering, Business, Data Analytics, Architecture, Tourism and Food.
Strong in applied technology.

Key employers recruiting TU Dublin graduates

Accenture, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Dell, Intel.



National College of Ireland (NCI)

Consistently ranked best for jobs in Ireland – with a 2% graduate unemployment rate, the lowest in the country.

87–96%

Graduate employment
within 6 months

2%

Graduate
unemployment rate

93

Student nationalities
on campus

#1

Sunday Times Good
University Guide



Ranked 'Best for Jobs' in the Sunday Times Good University Guide – consistently, across multiple years. Graduate unemployment rate of 2%, the lowest of any Irish higher education institution.



Specialist focus on business and computing, with curriculum designed directly with industry and professional bodies. Programs stay current because industry helps write them.



Located in the IFSC – Dublin's international financial and technology hub. Major employers are within walking distance of campus.



Small class sizes and one-to-one lecturer access. TrustEd Ireland International Education Mark, awarded by QQI, confirms NCI's standards in international student support.

Key programs

Business (BA Hons), Marketing, HRM, Accounting and Finance, Computing (BSc Hons), MSc in: Data Analytics, Cloud Computing, International Business, AI for Business.

Key employers recruiting NCI graduates

Accenture, Google, IBM, Microsoft, Dell, Intel.



Dublin Business School (DBS)

Ireland's largest independent college – career-ready programs in the heart of Dublin, backed by Kaplan Inc.

9,000+

Students enrolled

70+

Countries represented

50 years

Established 1975

960+

Accounting prize winners (ACCA, ICAI)



Ireland's largest independent college, part of Kaplan Inc. with nearly 50 years of operation and graduate outcomes in Irish higher education.



Professional body exemptions for graduates: ACCA, ICAI, PSI, & IACP. A direct pathway to professional qualifications alongside the academic degree.



Full academic ladder from certificate (Level 6) to masters (Level 9) within one institution. Students build their pathway at DBS without needing to transfer.



Prime city centre location, 2 minutes from St Stephen's Green. Students from over 70 countries, with access to Dublin's full employer base.

Key programs

MBA, MSc Business Analytics, MSc Marketing, MSc HRM, MSc International Accounting and Finance, MSc Data Analytics, Law, Psychology.

Key employers recruiting DBS graduates

KPMG, Deloitte, PwC, Bank of Ireland, AIB, Google, Accenture.



University College Cork (UCC)

94% of UCC graduates are in employment or further education within nine months.

94%

Graduates in employment or further study within 9 months

6

Employability Award pathways

5

Graduate attributes developed in every student



94% of graduates in employment or further study within nine months.



Named employers actively recruiting UCC graduates: Apple, Dell (European HQ in Cork), Pfizer, Eli Lilly, Boston Scientific, KPMG, Kerry Foods, Danone, Pepsi.



Dedicated career services team preparing students for the Irish job market: CV redesign, interview technique, and specific coaching on Irish hiring culture.

Key programs

Medicine, Pharmacy, Law, Commerce, Engineering, Science, Food Science, IT. New programs in Pharmacy and IT built directly from employer feedback.

Key employers recruiting UCC graduates

Apple, Dell (European HQ), Pfizer, Eli Lilly, Boston Scientific, KPMG, Kerry Foods, Danone, Pepsi.



Independent College Dublin

A specialist Dublin city college where graduates sit their final exams opposite professional actors – and leave with a professionally accredited qualification.

90.9%

Graduates outcome within 9 months (2024)

80.2%

employment within 9 months (2024)

Accredited

Irish Professional Mediators Organisation

5 years

QQI re-validation cycle



90.9% positive graduate outcome rate within nine months – 80.2% in employment and 10.7% in further education.



Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policy – professional work experience counts toward entry and can allow students to enter at a later point in the program.



Practical learning taken to its logical conclusion: the college hires professional actors for final exams, placing students in live mediation scenarios before they graduate.



MA Dispute Resolution accredited by the Irish Professional Mediators Organisation. Graduates can qualify as certified professional mediators – a specific credentialed outcome, not a generalist postgraduate degree.

Key programs

MA in Dispute Resolution (flagship – accredited by Irish Professional Mediators Organisation), Bachelor of Business Studies.

Ideal student profile

Strong communication skills and active listening. Backgrounds in law, business, HR, government, or any sector requiring negotiation and conflict resolution. Also suited to working professionals via RPL pathway.



Interview series with Independent College and University College Cork



Jennifer Hellis, Director of Admissions at Independent College Dublin, has been in Ireland for 14 years. **She arrived as a student. She is now an Irish citizen.**

That personal journey is the backdrop to a compelling case she made to Namita Nath during her visit: Ireland's return on investment for international students is one of the strongest of any English-speaking destination in the world. Ireland is home to over 1,000 multinational corporations. Many of those headquarters are within a 15-minute walk of the Independent College Dublin campus.

This is the ROI conversation your students and their families need to hear. Ireland is not just an English-speaking study destination. It is a career launchpad with a concentration of global employers that very few cities in the world can match.

[Watch here](#)



94%. That is the graduate employment rate at University College Cork, measured nine months after graduation, covering students in active employment or further education.

upGrad GSP's UK & Europe Partnerships Manager, Namita Nath talks to Michael O'Sullivan, International Agent Manager at UCC to break down what exactly drives that number.

Three factors. The quality of education that employers in Ireland already recognise and trust. A dedicated career services team that supports students throughout their entire journey, not just at the end of it. And a university that is, in Michael's words, "very outward-looking" - deeply connected to the industries that are actively hiring graduates.

[Watch here](#)

Student success story

Benjamin Uchenna from Nigeria
Bachelor of Business Studies,
Independent College Dublin

Ireland was not Benjamin Uchenna's first choice.

When he began researching international study destinations, Canada and Australia were at the top of his list. It was only after comparing his options that Ireland moved to the front.

"I was looking for a destination that offered a recognised degree, affordable tuition fees, and a welcoming environment. Ireland stood out because it is safe, peaceful, and allows students to work part-time while studying. I also found accommodation options to be more accessible and affordable compared to some other destinations I was considering."

Benjamin enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Studies at Independent College Dublin. His first month was an adjustment — his first time living abroad. He settled in quickly.

"The lecturers were extremely friendly and approachable, and the curriculum is structured in a way that breaks complex topics into manageable sections, making it easier to learn and succeed."

On the support he received from upGrad GSP:

"The guidance I received was excellent from the very beginning right through to my visa approval. The team followed up regularly, kept me informed at every stage, and continued supporting me even after I arrived in Ireland. My counsellor was particularly helpful in arranging my homestay accommodation, which made my transition to Dublin much smoother."

Benjamin's journey reflects what upGrad GSP is built to deliver:
the right institution, the right destination, and the right support at every step of the way.



Our Irish institution partners



Ready to send students to Ireland?

upGrad GSP partners with recruitment agencies across India, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, and beyond to **connect students with leading Irish universities.**

As an upGrad GSP recruitment partner, you get:

- Access to leading Irish university partners through a single platform
- On-ground support from the upGrad GSP team at every stage of the student journey
- Visa progression rates that consistently outperform industry benchmarks
- Dedicated marketing support to help you promote Ireland to your students
- Commission tracking and transparent payment terms

Becoming a partner is free.

Visit upgradgsp.com to register, or contact your upGrad GSP regional representative to get started.