

# TRANSFORMING TERTIARY EDUCATION

NTO

: Nurturing Talent and Opportunitites



Transitioning pathways from Further Education to Higher Education



tÚdarás um Ard-Oideachas e Higher Education Authority



## Policy Context



Education to Higher Education





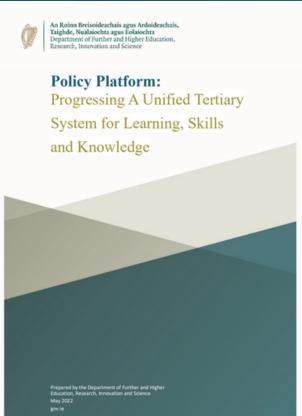


#### **Funding the Future**

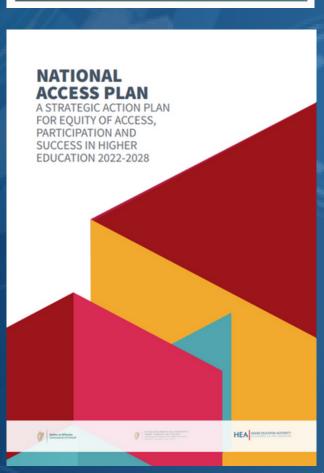
An annual options paper on the cost of higher education

Prepared August 2023











### **National Tertiary Office**

The NTO facilitates thematic engagement between Education and Training Boards (ETB) and Higher Education Institutions (HEI) to underpin the development process of tertiary degrees.

The tertiary degree pathway is developed by ETB FET colleges and HEIs, working in partnership with the NTO and profession regulator/s.

The final Bachelor or Bachelor (Hons) awards are awarded by the HEI.



### **Key Drivers & Priorities**

Progressing a More Unified Tertiary
System for Learning, Skills and Knowledge.

2 Inclusive education promoting widening of access and diversification of learners.

Focusing on acknowledging the applicant's full talent and potential looking beyond the points and grades.

Promoting flexibility and lifelong learning pathways.





## WHAT is a Tertiary Bachelor's Degree?

A tertiary degree is one that commences in an Education and Training Board (ETB) and continues in a Higher Education Institution (HEI), culminating in the award of a degree that supports strategic and inter-disciplinary collaboration and specialisms that meet local/regional skills need.

Courses agreed by NTO for inclusion will support the diversification of professions, have a geographical need and meet a recognised skill need for that area.



Guaranteed and seamless transition

## **Tertiary Degree**

Features

Co-developed by ETB and HEI with input from Regulatory body and NTO

Same quality of learning and pedagogy

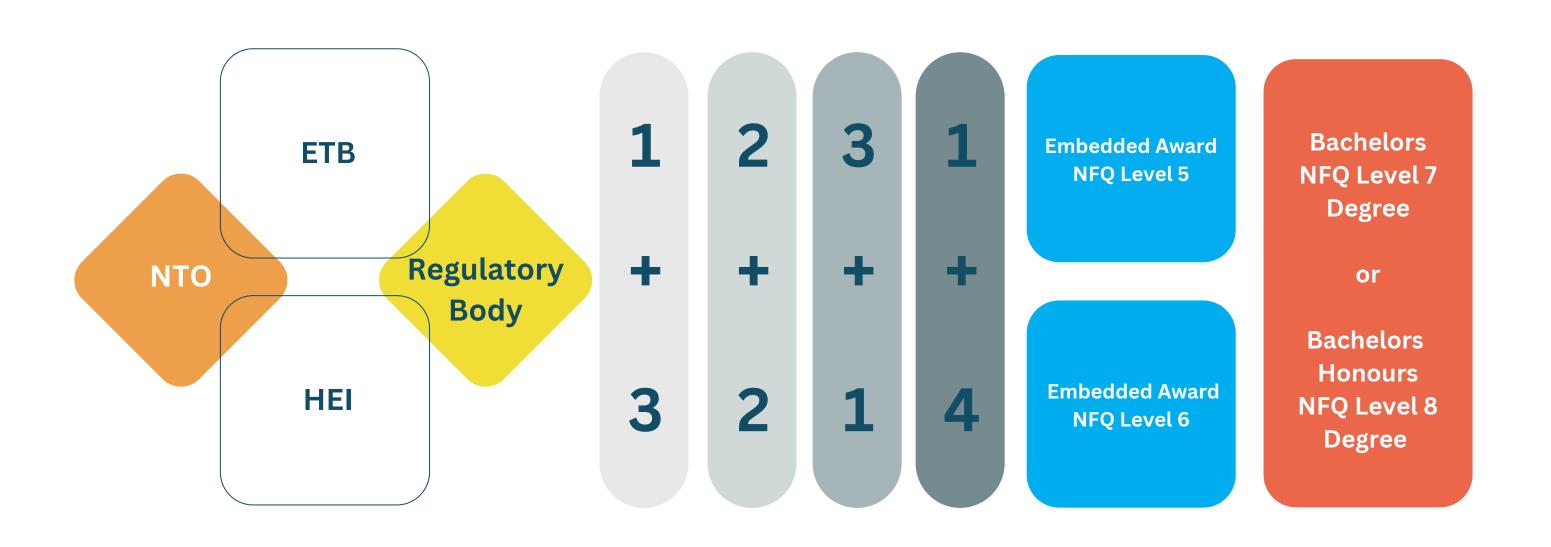
Entry requirements are not based on points system

**Embedded Awards** 

Learner financial, academic and wellbeing supports



### **Tertiary Degree Model**



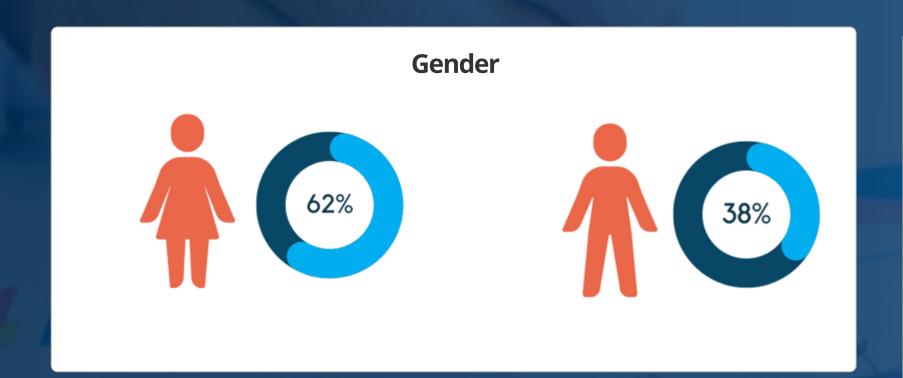
- Integration of theory and practice through further education, university and placement-based learning.
- Competencies and learning outcomes alined to ensure that proficiencies required by a regulator are achieved.
- Same quality and vocational pedagogy
- Same quality of the final award

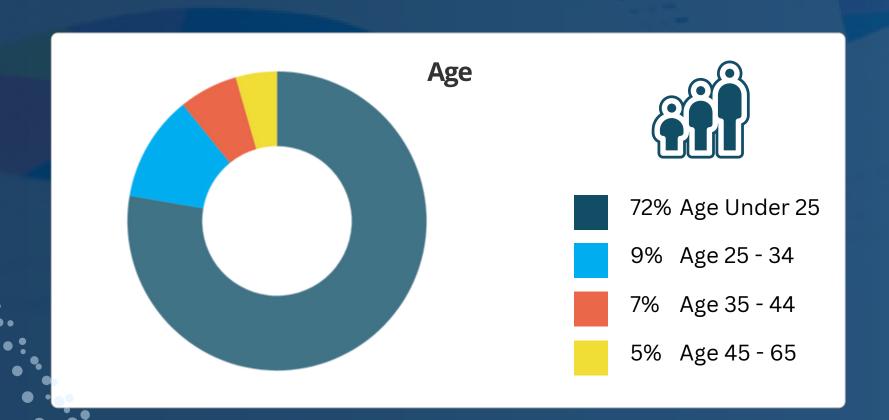
## Tertiary Degrees 2023-2024

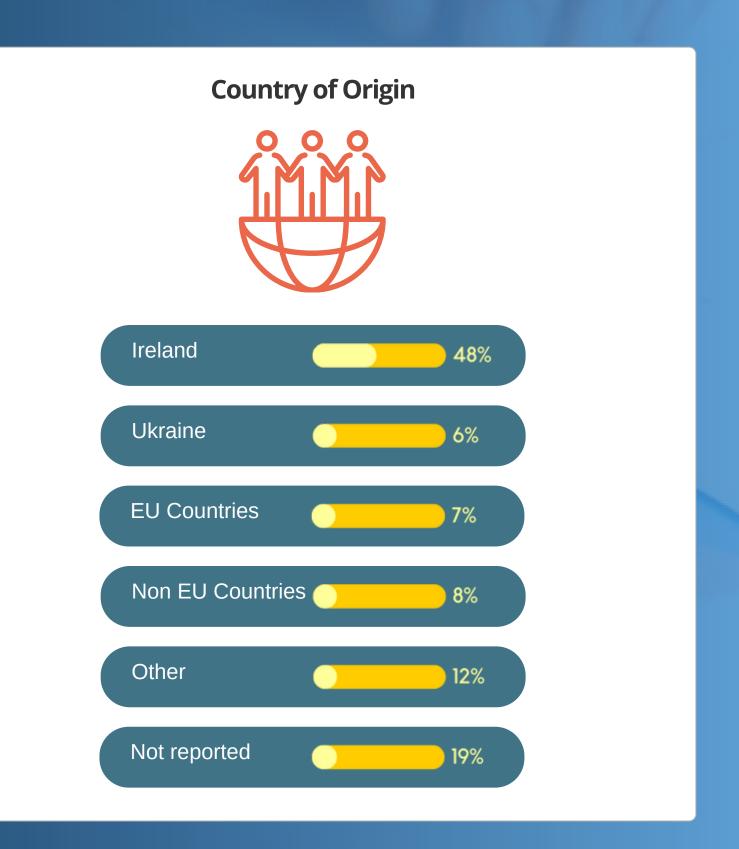
- FET partners 14 Education and Training Boards across 19 locations
- HE Partners 11 Higher Education Institutions across 14 Campuses
- 13 Degree Programmes



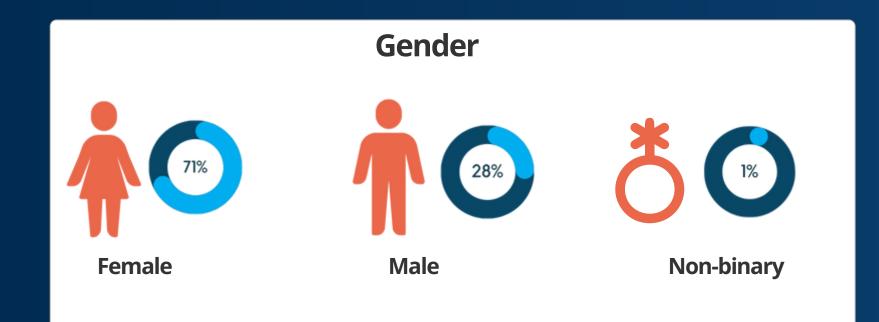
#### **National Tertiary Student Profile**

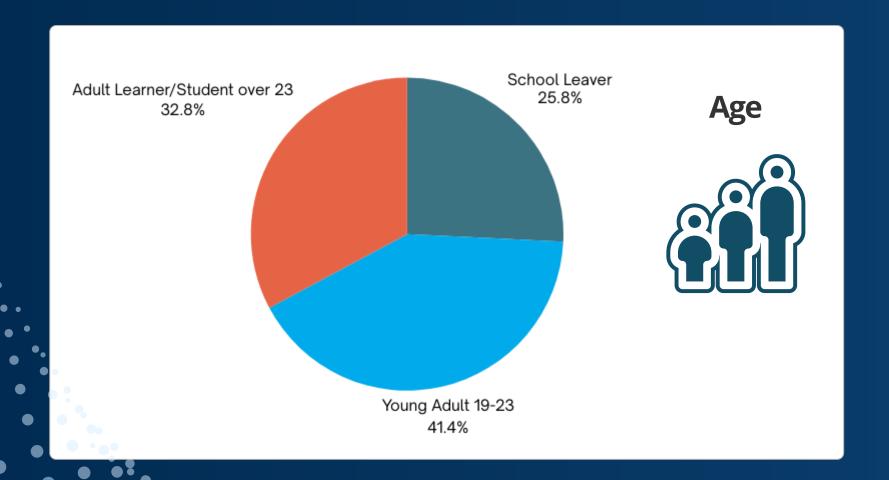


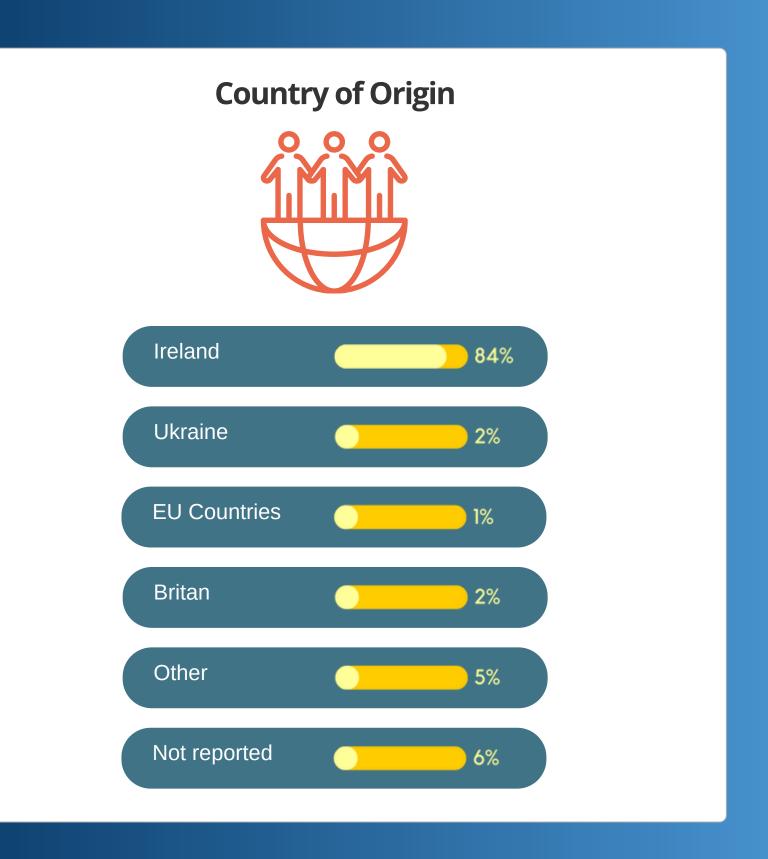




#### **National Tertiary Student Profile**







## Tertiary Degrees 2024-2025

- 19 Degree Programmes
- 47% increase in Student Numbers
- New HEI partners
- New ETB Partners



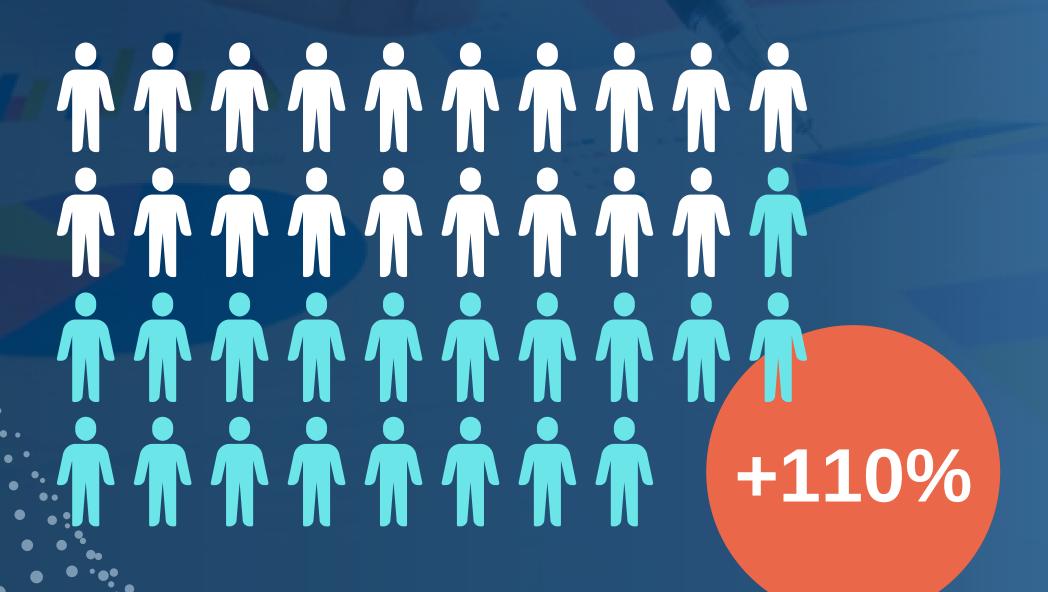
+47%

New Tertiary Degrees are offered in:

- Mental Health Nursing
- Social Work
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Public Health
- Mobile and Web Computing

## Tertiary Degrees 2025-2026

- 38 Degree Programmes
- 110% increase in Student Numbers
- New HEI / ETB partners



2025 INTAKE

471

#### BSc (Hons) Digital Arts

- BA (Hons) Immersive Media Production
- BSc (Hons) Software Development
- BA (Hons) Digital and Business Skills
- o BA (Hons) Animation, Visual Effects & Motion Design

## IT & Technology

#### BSc (Hons) in Information Technology Management

- BSc (Hons) in Mobile & Web Computing
- BSc (Hons) in Software Development
- BSc in Process Manufacturing Practice & Technology

#### BSc (Hons) in General Nursing

- BSc (Hons) in Mental Health Nursing
- Bachelor of Social Work (Hons)
- BSc (Hons) in Occupational Therapy
- BSc in Applied Health Care
- o BSc (Hons) in Public Health and Health Promotion
- BSc (Hons) Intellectual Disability Nursing
- BA (Hons) Social Care Practice

## )ther

- BBs in Tourism and Hospitality Services
- Bachelor in Business (Hons); Bachelor of Business; BB (Hons)
   in Business
- BA (Hons) in Business Studies with Beauty and Spa Management
- BSc (Hons) Applied Sports Science
- BBs (Hons) Business and Psychology
- o BA (Hons) Politics, Society and Media

\*Availability of all courses is subject to approval and validation

## Tertiary Degrees 2026 +

#### HSE TERTIARY PATHWAY - Nursing and wider healthcare

- •Working with HSE on supporting resourcing in the priority areas Occupational Therapy Radiography.
- •Building pathway for progression with access to employment at different points of a learner journey.
- Assist with addressing retention issues.

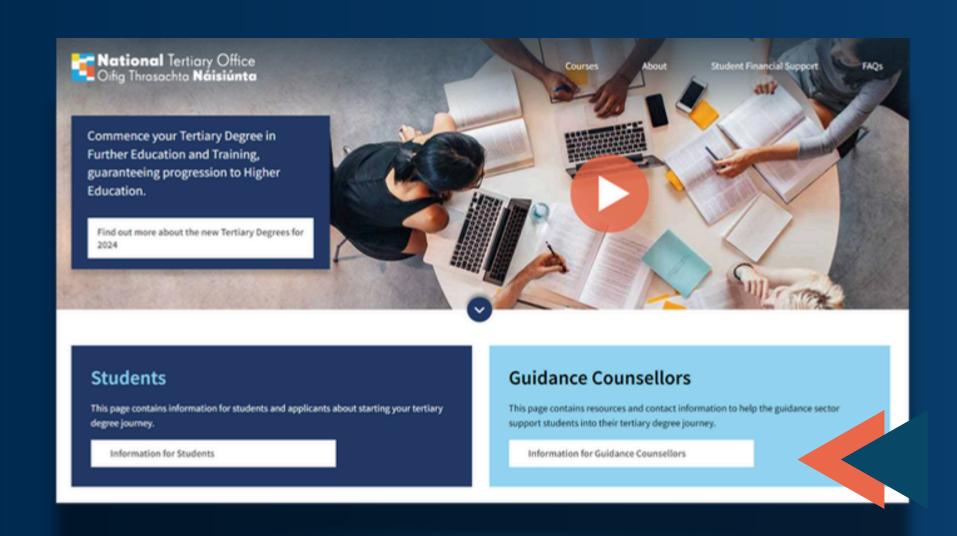
#### PRIMARY TEACHER TRAINING TERTIARY PATHWAY

- Opens opportunity to diversify the profession.
- •Collaborative development by ETBI and HEIs in partnership with NTO, DoE, DFHERIS and Teaching Council.
- •Removing existing structural barriers to access the degree.
- •Ensuring that high standard of ITE continue to be deliveed.

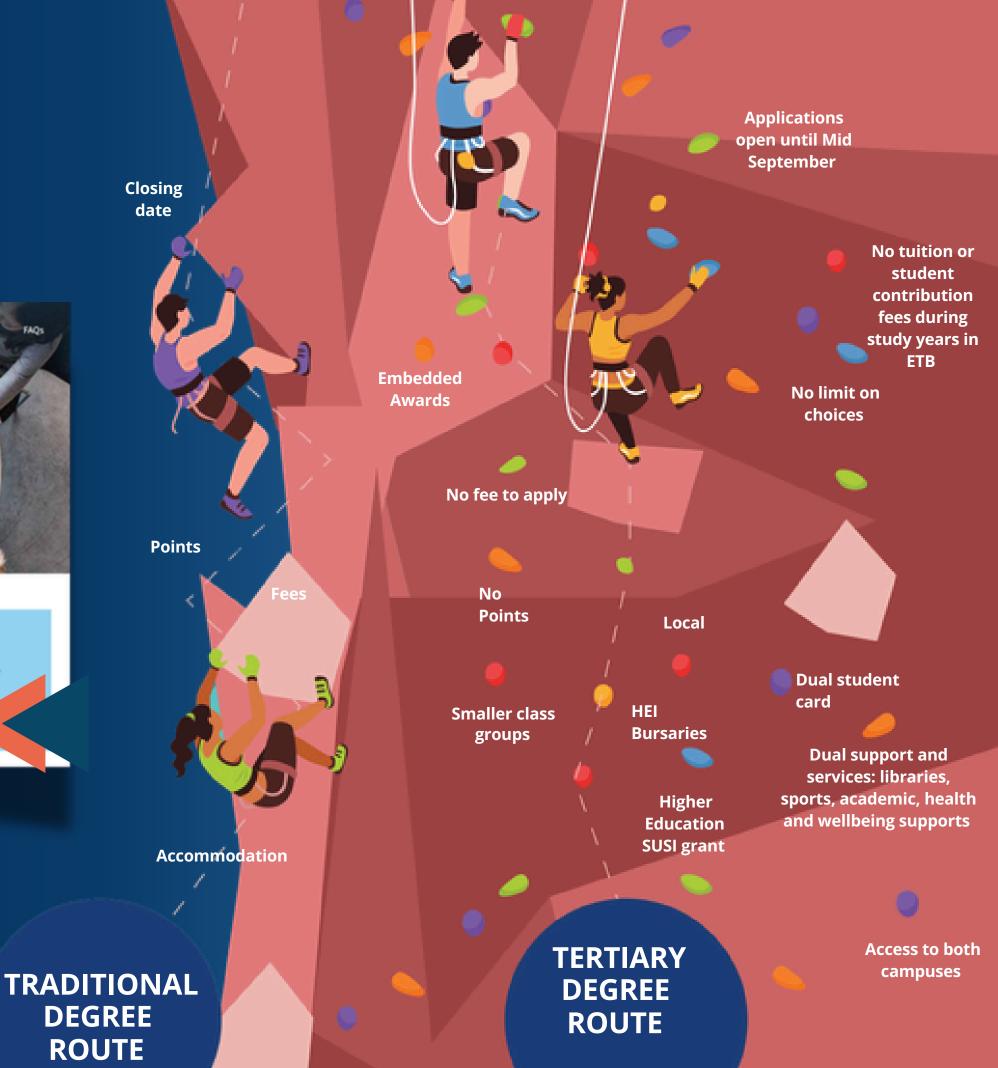
#### OTHER AREAS OF PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT

- Radiography
- Veterinary Nursing
- Sport
- Supply Chain
- Community Development
- Other

## Tertiary Guidance Toolkit



https://nto.hea.ie/information-for-guidance-counsellors/

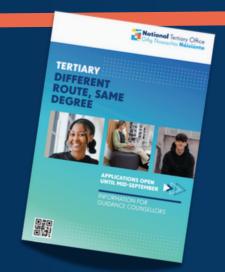




## Tertiary Guidance Toolkit



**NTO Brochure** 





**Application Timeline** 





**NTO Flier** 





**Applicant Guidelines** 





**Guidance Presentaiton** 



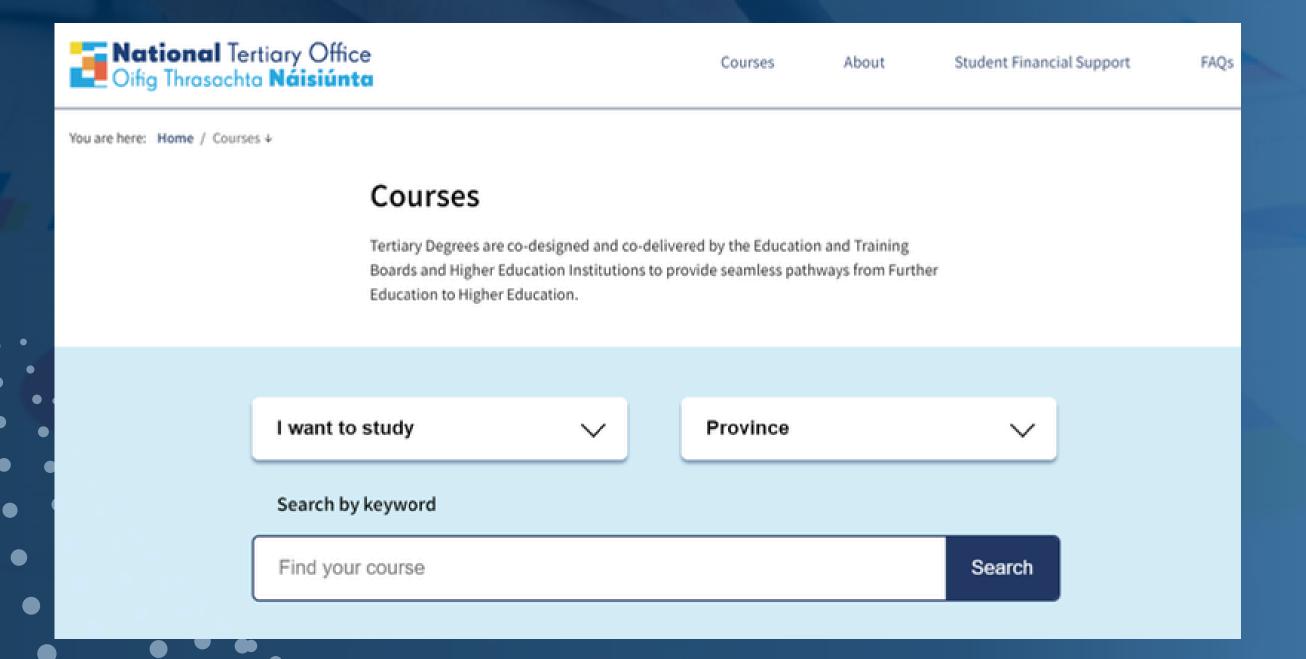


**Information Video** 



## How to Apply:

#### **Courses | National Tertiary Office**









## How can NTO help you?

- Resources on the NTO.ie
- Contact Tertiary Manager in your region
- Talk to IGC branch
- Career fairs
- School leadership support
- Information webinar

#### **Contacts:**

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Website: www.NTO.ie

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/ntoireland/

Facebook: National Tertiary Office

Instagram: ntoireland

