

## Who is this for?

- School leavers (Leaving Certificate)
- Level 5 or Level 6 Graduates with relevant experience looking to upskill or retrain in the laboratory environment
- Mature students, or those returning to work.
- Those seeking to upskill or reskill

## Target industry

Biopharma, chemical manufacturing, medical devices and diagnostics, food and drink, analytical testing laboratories.

## Timelines

One apprentice intake per year. Apprentices will begin placement and academia in September each year.

## Steps involved in becoming an apprentice

- Ensure you meet the entry requirements as seen on our [website](https://www.laboratoryapprenticeship.ie)
- Recruitment begins in April each year. Search 'Laboratory Apprenticeship' for job advertisements on our social media pages and on our website. Available positions will also be advertised on [laboratoryapprenticeship.ie](https://www.laboratoryapprenticeship.ie)
- Apply for advertised positions with companies involved with the programme. A list of companies involved in the programme can be found on our website.
- Once the candidate has secured a position with one of our companies involved, the employer and Laboratory Apprenticeship Team will work to get the apprentice registered with Solas

Please note, candidates must secure their own placements with companies involved in the apprenticeship programme.

Lead Education Provider



Education Partners



84/86 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2  
[www.ibec.ie](https://www.ibec.ie)

E: [Labapprenticeship@ibec.ie](mailto:Labapprenticeship@ibec.ie)  
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Twitter: @Lab\_Apprentice



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**Laboratory  
Apprenticeship**  
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# New industry-led Laboratory Apprenticeship programmes



**Apprenticeship**  
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HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
an tArdán Ollscoile  
an tArdán Ollscoile

**IBEC**  
Irish Business and Economic  
Council

**IBEC**  
Irish Business and Economic  
Council

| [www.apprenticeship.ie](https://www.apprenticeship.ie)

# Laboratory Apprenticeships

Two new apprenticeship programmes have been created:

- **Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship**
- **Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeship**

These laboratory apprenticeships are suitable for those who are interested in pursuing a career in a laboratory environment in the biopharma, chemical manufacturing, medical devices and diagnostics, food and drink, analytical testing laboratories.

## Benefits for industry and the apprentice

- Developed by industry for industry
- Addresses and tackles skills shortage
- Improves staff retention and productivity
- Access to new talent pipeline
- Government subsidised training
- Earn while you learn – get a salary and a contract
- Gain a national qualification while working
- Excellent industry experience and career progression.

## Higher Certificate in Science – Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship, Level 6

This is a two year, earn while you learn apprenticeship programme with an approved employer. It combines on the job training with academic study.

### Job Profile

The Apprentice will be responsible for carrying out basic laboratory duties that may include sample collection, equipment calibration, solution preparation, stock control and glassware maintenance while conducting basic physical and analytical testing methods on raw materials, in-process or finished product. All work to be conducted and recorded in accordance with good laboratory practices.

### Entry Requirements

Pass (Grade O6 or better) in five leaving certificate subjects, two of which must be maths and a science subject or relevant FETAC Level 5 or Level 6. This criteria does not apply to over 23's but all applicants will follow company and SOLAS recruitment procedures.

### Learning Structure

The Level 6 Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship supports the continuous learning and hands on work experience undertaken by the apprentice with a three day on the job (working in a sponsor company) and two day off the job (academia) learning structure.

## Ordinary Bachelor of Science Degree – Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeship, Level 7

This is a three year, earn while you learn apprenticeship programme with an approved employer. It combines on the job training with academic study.

### Job Profile

The Apprentice will be responsible for carrying out basic laboratory duties (as seen in Level 6) while progressing to conduct both basic and advanced analytical testing methods (e.g. chromatography, water and microbiological testing) on raw materials, in-process or finished product. In addition, the Apprentice will gain more working exposure to various Quality Systems. All work to be conducted and recorded in accordance with good laboratory practices.

### Entry Requirements

Pass (Grade O6 or better) in five leaving certificate subjects, two of which must be maths and a science subject or relevant FETAC Level 6 or successful Level 6 Laboratory Technician apprentices. This criteria does not apply to over 23's but all applicants will follow company and SOLAS recruitment procedures.

### Learning Structure

The Level 7 Laboratory Analyst Apprenticeships supports the continuous learning and hands on work experience undertaken by the apprentice with a three day on the job (working in a sponsor company) and two day off the job (academia) learning structure.

## Course Modules

### YEAR 1 MODULES

- Critical Skills Development
- Good Manufacturing Practice
- Introduction to Micro-biology & Biotechnology
- Laboratory Safety
- Maths
- Fundamentals of Chemistry Computer
- Systems Laboratory Quality Systems
- Calibration Sciences
- Work Place Based Learning

### YEAR 2 MODULES

- Stability and Sample Analysis
- Microbiology and Environmental
- Monitoring Instrumentation (Theory & Practical)
- Regulatory Affairs & Compliance
- Lean Labs
- Chemistry 2
- Analytical Lab Skills
- Work Place Based Learning

### YEAR 3 MODULES

- Validation
- Technical Writing
- Statistics and Analysis
- Quality Assurance Systems
- Analytical Chemistry
- GMP and Data Integration
- Case Studies and Problem Based Learning
- Analytical Lab Skills
- Work Place Based Learning

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

LABORATORY ANALYST