Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology Additional Information

Why should I apply for this programme?

The Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology is designed to help students to get internationally recognised skills and knowledge in information technology (IT). There are two special target groups: domestic students currently working within the sector who want to upgrade their qualifications to postgraduate level while working, and international students who want to get a postgraduate qualification to help with their application for permanent residence, or get work in their home countries.

Who studies this kind of programme?

The diploma is open to all kinds of people with diverse backgrounds, experience, and education. Students of this programme include:

- Domestic and international degree graduates who want to upskill.
- Industry professionals with relevant industry experience.
- Professionals looking for a career change.

Is the programme part-time or full time?

You can study on both a full time or part-time basis.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology is a 120-credit level 8 qualification which can be completed in 2 full-time semesters or 3 full-time trimesters or the equivalent part-time.

How does the programme work for part-time students like me?

If you're a part-time student, you'll enrol in 1, 2 or 3 courses in one trimester. You'll attend the same classes as full-time students, but only the ones you're enrolled in. You can take up to 2 years to complete the Programme.

What is the timetable like for full-time students?

Full-time students are expected to do:

- 20 hours of in-class learning a week
- 15 hours of self-directed learning a week.

Classes are usually held anywhere between 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday, and are subject to change.

What do I need to enrol?

If you are a **domestic student**, you need to have:

1. a Bachelor Degree in Information Technology, or related subject; OR
2. a Bachelor Degree in any discipline with practical, professional or educational experience in the IT industry; OR
3. equivalent practical, professional or educational experience in the IT industry.

If you are an **international student**, you need to have a Bachelor Degree and IELTS 6.0 (Academic) no band lower than 6.0, or the equivalent issued within the last 2 years.

Note: For health and safety reasons, you need to disclose any medical issues on your application form so we can make sure that the programme is right for you.

How can I use my previous education or experience to enrol?

When you apply, WelTec and Whitireia can look at your previous study or learning as credit towards your new programme of study. Credit is considered if you have significant work experience in a relevant field and cannot account for more than two-thirds of your programme. If you want to know more about cross credits and credit transfers, talk with a Student Advisor.

Please note that there is a $75 application fee, and a further $100 per hour up to 3 hours may be charged for processing cross credit applications.

If you don't meet all of the entry requirements, but you have equivalent experience, the Head of School will decide whether or not you have a reasonable chance of completing the programme.

How does the programme work?

You have to complete 2 compulsory courses:

- Research in Information Technology,
- Project Management for Information Technology, and
- a further 75 credits selected from a range of level 7 and 8 elective courses.

The GDipCS is delivered using face-to-face classes on campus and web-based support.

As an applied programme of study, learning happens through:

- lectures
- tutorials
- workshops
- student presentations
- group work
- guest speakers
- self-directed exercises
- case studies.

Online delivery methods include the above as well as notes, links and video and discussion forums.

What personal equipment and materials do I need?

You'll need:

4. textbooks
5. regular stationery requirements; and
6. a laptop or portable device with an external harddrive or USB

What skills will I learn with this diploma?

Graduates of the Postgraduate Diploma in Information Technology will be able to:

- work effectively in multicultural teams and exercise leadership as required

- engage in rigorous intellectual analysis, criticism and problem-solving
- learn independently and appreciate the need for continued learning
- apply their advanced knowledge and skills in practical situations
- critically evaluate research literature in Information Technology
- plan, conduct and report on small-scale research projects
- communicate effectively (orally, visually and in writing)
- identify, analyse and address IT-related ethical issues
- apply project management knowledge and skills
- undertake further postgraduate study.

What is the hardest part of the diploma?

The hardest part of this programme is learning to manage your own time. However, The Learning Support Team can help you if you're finding any aspects of your learning challenging.

As part of your application process, you may need to come in for a Personal Education Plan (PEP) to assess whether you're ready for study at your chosen level. At this point, we might tell you about other ways to reach your goals if we don't think you're ready to study.

Can I get a Student Loan and Allowance?

Yes. If you meet the criteria, you can apply for a StudyLink Student Loan or Allowance as soon as you enrol with us. You should apply as early as possible.

If you do not qualify for StudyLink funding, you can apply to pay for your fees by automatic payment. Contact a Student Advisor to discuss this option.

Go to www.studylink.govt.nz and www.workandincome.govt.nz for more information about getting financial help.

What other support services can I get?

We do everything to give our students the support they need to succeed at Whitireia & WelTec.

Here are some of our most popular support services:

Student Support Services

Learning Support services

International Student Support