

LEADERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND DEFENCE STUDIES (LMDS) PROGRAMME

The LMDS programme allows soldiers to have their career learning recognised through external accreditation with third level education. The Programme has a broad base of skills which are applicable to the DF and other disciplines outside the military. The Programme's origins can be traced to the White Paper 2000.

What?

"All personnel will be provided with the opportunity for personal development and associated professional experience in order to realise their full potential during their service in the Defence Forces."

Why?

"...to ensure...that members of the Permanent Defence Forces have qualifications which will enhance their job prospects on leaving the Defence Forces."

The DF pay the associated costs for the programme. Civilian students can pay €, per annum for a similar Programme in third level education.

ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) Credits are associated with completion of DF courses. The accumulation of 120 credits through the Programme on completion of the Potential NCO Course or equivalent, leads to the first award at Level 6 (see Chart 1). The completion of further career courses and accumulation of 150 and later 180 credits are associated to awards at Level 7 (see Chart 2).

National Framework of Qualifications

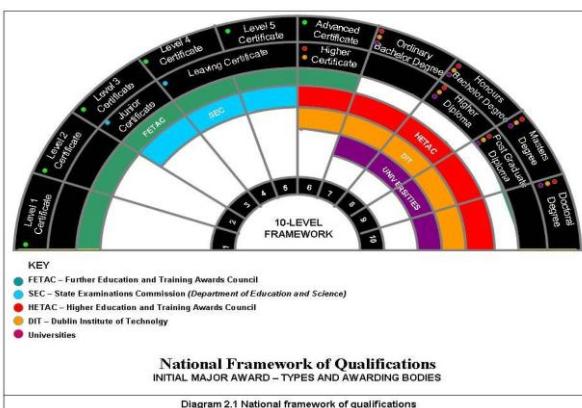


Chart 1

LMDS Career Progression

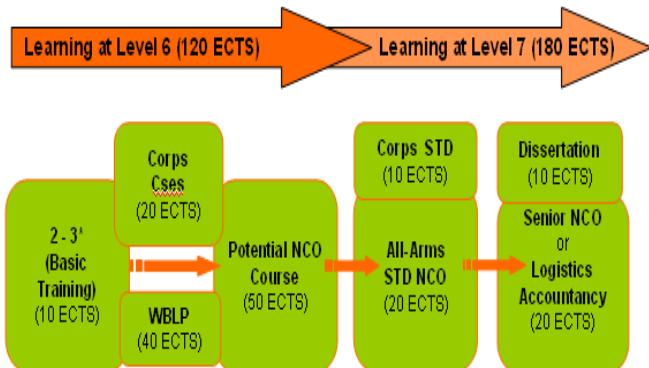


Chart 2

3* soldiers are automatically included in the Programme. To ensure progression **a 3* soldier must accumulate 20 Credits from Corps Courses and 40 Credits from the Work Based Learning Portfolio**, prior to reporting on a Potential NCO's Course. Without these credits they will not achieve the 120 credits needed for conferral after completing the Potential NCO Course.

A list of Corps Courses and their associated credits is attached. Each year more courses are linked to the Programme. Check that you are using the most up to date list.

The **Work Based Learning Portfolio** is a document completed by the individual Soldier. It records routine activities that are completed in the course of normal military service. These include Training, Ceremonial and Overseas. On completion of 6 tasks a reflective log is written to demonstrate that the soldier has developed and learned through *experiential learning* or learning on the job. WBLP Focal Points have been briefed and are available in each unit to guide in the completion of WBLP's. The WBLP has 40 credits associated with it. 5 Credits equate to approximately 100 hours of study in higher education. The benefit of the WBLP is that it recognises time spent on the job, which otherwise would require up to 800 hours of course time.

The image shows a screenshot of the Work Based Learning Portfolio (WBLP) form. It includes fields for Service Number, Rank, Name, and Date. There is also a note at the bottom: 'If you'd like to return this document to the nearest Defence Forces Service Centre Station' and buttons for 'Delete', 'Print', and 'Logout'.

The courses listed below are accredited with the LMDS Programme. Associated credits are listed, these contribute towards the 20 credits available under the heading Corps Course (see Chart 2). This list has been extracted from Submission of Validation, New Taught Programme (LMDS). It is available on the DF Registrar's intranet page.

Mandatory Modules (except for alternative career paths) are completed by all students and form the core modules of the overall programme. Elective Modules form the basis for the Corps specific/specialised areas within the particular Corps and determine the 20 credits gained from Corps Specific Modules.

The Work Based Learning Portfolio is a mandatory module although particular to the specific Corp of the soldier.

The modules captured in this programme are outlined below

Recruit Training 17 Weeks (Compulsory)

Three Star Course.....(10 ECTS, Level 6)*

Work based Learning Portfolio -Module Experiential Learning.....(40 ECTS, Level 6)*

And

Potential Non Commissioned Officers Course(50 ECTS, Level 6)

Or

Army Ranger Wing Course Modules (1-7).....(50 ECTS Level, 6)

Or

Military Police Probationers Course(50 ECTS, Level 6)

And a 20 credit combination based on the specific Corps

Infantry Corps:

Infantry Light Support Weapons Course.....(10 ECTS, Level 6)
Basic Sniper Training.....(10 ECTS, Level 6)
Vektor 60mm Mortar Deployment and Operation..... (5 ECTS, Level 6)
MOWAG PIRHANA III APC Crewman's Course(10 ECTS, Level 6)
Javelin Young Entry Course(10 ECTS, Level 6)
12.7 HMG Machine Gun Young Entry Course.....(5 ECTS, Level 6)
General Purpose Machine Gun (Sustained Fire) Deployment and Operation.....(5 ECTS, Level 6)
81 MM Mortar Deployment and Operation.....(5 ECTS, Level 6)
84 MM Anti Tank Young Entry Course(5 ECTS, Level 6)
Basic Infantry Reconnaissance Course.....(5 ECTS, Level 6)
Army Ranger Wing Selection Course.....(20 ECTS, Level 6)

Engineering Corps:

Combat Engineer Course.....(20 ECTS, Level 6)

CIS Corps:

- Communications Operative Course Module 1 (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Communications Operative Course Module 2 (10 ECTS, Level 6)

Cavalry Corps:

- Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance Tracked Driving and Maintenance (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance Gunnery and Operation Course (5 ECTS, Level 6)
MOWAG PIRHANA III driving skills and techniques (10 ECTS, Level 6)
MOWAG PIRHANA III Gunnery and Operation of Remote Weapons Stations (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Motorcycle Driving (10 ECTS Level 6)
Light Tactical Armoured Vehicle Driving Skills Course (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Basic Reconnaissance Tactics Skills and Techniques (10 ECTS, Level 6)
PANHARD AML 90 Driving Skills and Techniques (5 ECTS, Level 6)
AML 90MM BASIC GUNNERY (5 ECTS, Level 6)
MOWAG PIRHANA III H MRV Gunnery and Operation of the Turret (5 ECTS, Level 6)

Transport & Vehicle Maintenance Corps:

- Driving Theory and Military Driving Course for Mil Vehicles under 3500KG (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Driving Theory and Military Driving Course for Mil Vehicles over 3500KG-
not exceeding 12000Kgs (10 ECTS, Level 6)

Artillery Corps:

- Heavy Machine Gun Air Defence Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Regimental Survey Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Forward Observation Officer and Fire Support Team Module (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Artillery Field Gunners Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Fire Control Computer System Operators Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Battery Technical Assistance Module (15 ECTS, Level 6)
Artillery Regimental Signallers Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
M-UAV Operators and Cre2wmans Module (10 ECTS, Level 6)
BASIC Unmanned Aerial System CIS Technicians Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Mw 87 120/81 MM MORTAR System Conversion Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
70/40 Basic Gunnery Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
RBS 70 Clip on Nights Device Module (5 ECTS, Level 6)
RBS 70 Aimers Module (10 ECTS, Level 6)

Air Corps:

- Sensor and Airborne Radar Operator Course (30 ECTS, Level 6)
Initial Photographers Course (25 ECTS, Level 6)
Helicopter Winch mans Course (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Helicopter Aircrew Course (15 ECTS, Level 6)
Helicopter Gunner Course (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Aviation Crew Commander Fire Fighter Initial Training (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Refueller Operators Course (5 ECTS, Level 6)
Air Traffic Controller Initial Training (10 ECTS, Level 6)
Flight DATA Assistant FDA Module ATC Course (5 ECTS, Level 6)
ADI Rating/Endorsement Training ATC Module (20 ECTS, Level 6)

