

Social Policy & Legislation

Content

This module aims to equip the student with the knowledge of social policy in Ireland with respect to EU and the USA. The materials outline the welfare system and the relationship between the person with a disability, their family and their carer.

The open learning materials present the legislative principles underlying the social policy in Ireland today, and explain the structure, development and overall impact of social policy on the disability sector in Ireland, including information on important debates regarding education, such as mainstream versus special education.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module the student will be able to:

- Describe the political, legislative and administrative system in Ireland and how to work positively within this system.
- Explain the origins, structure, development, impact and overall importance of social policy and legislation regarding the area of disability in Ireland.
- Outline the practicalities of the welfare benefit system in Ireland and the framework in which the benefits work.
- Relate the social welfare policy measures to their impacts, both real and potential, on individuals with disabilities and their families and carers.
- Apply relevant social policy and legislation principles ethically within a service context.
- Describe the current debates surrounding education and disability - in particular, mainstream versus special education.
- Promote the current language and concepts of supported education policy.
- Explain how the changes in policy affecting access to work and experiences in the workplace for people with a disability in a national and international context with specific comparison to the EU and US.

Assessment: This module is assessed through continuous assessment.

Accreditation: This CPD Module is accredited by the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC). Click www.hetac.ie

It is a Minor Award placed at Level 6 on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. Click www.nfq.ie

Credits: 10 Credits

Delivery and Supports

The student will learn through open learning materials, online library, practical assignments and workshops/seminars/online discussions.

The student is supported by a tutorial system (telephone/email), group tutorials online, feedback on your progress (both summative and formative), various online supports (including a study skills module, assignment writing course, news forum, my virtual classroom) and a College helpdesk.

Prior to commencing a course, each student completes a one-week, tutor-led online course that will help to boost student confidence and fine tune online skills when using the OTC virtual learning environment, MyOTC.

CPD Application Forms available online or by contacting the OTC. Tel: (01)2988544

Entry Requirements

All applicants must:

- Be age 23 years at time of application OR have successfully completed the Leaving Certificate/FETAC Level 5 Certificate.
- and,
- Be employed in a service for people with disabilities for at least 10 hours per week and have held such employment for at least one year prior to application. (In specific circumstances applications will be considered from those working in a similar voluntary capacity)

Cost: €695 (€645 for any subsequent Social Studies CPD modules studied).

CPD students can avail of reimbursements should they choose to further their studies through the full degree course in Applied Social Studies (Disability).