

### What does it cost?

The FIT ICT Associate Professional training is funded by SOLAS and the Education & Training Boards so you don't need to pay fees.

### What will I earn?

Once you commence your work experience with your Sponsor company in the 7th month of the programme, you will receive an allowance of between €260 and €290 per week for the remainder of the first year. In the second year of the programme, you will receive between €340 and €385 per week.

### What subject options are available to me?

#### Systems and Networks

The primary role of a network engineer is to design, install, maintain and support communication networks within an organisation or between organisations. Network engineers need to maintain high

levels of operation of communication networks in order to provide maximum performance and availability for their users, such as staff, clients, customers and suppliers. They understand and work in areas such as network configuration, cloud, network administration, security and performance management, and are able to give technical advice and guidance.

#### Software Development

The primary role of a software developer is to be able to build, test and modify high-quality code. A developer will typically be working as part of a larger team, in which they will have responsibility for some of the straightforward elements of the overall project. The developer will need to be able to interpret design documentation and specifications. Examples of work include information databases, programs that control robotic systems, and cloud and mobile applications. With experience, you could become a senior developer with responsibility for project management, planning and research, or move into related areas, such as systems design, IT architecture and business systems analysis.

### What our students say about the FIT initiative

*"I had always had an interest in software development and I was lucky to secure a place on the FIT Software Development and Testing with Project Management course. The work placement was invaluable and gave me more confidence to pursue a role in the IT sector. Shortly after finishing the FIT programme and work placement I secured a job in a well-established and successful company."*  
**John, Software Development Student**

*"FIT provided me with training in the IT sector which in turn led to a work placement and eventually to full time employment in the IT security industry. I am very grateful for the time and effort that FIT put into helping me get back on my feet again."*  
**Andrew, Software Development Student**

*"I found that the FIT course gave me an up-to-date qualification in a short period of time and with the assistance of the FIT employment team gave me access to employers I wouldn't normally have had access to. Within a short period of time I was offered a full time IT position within a large multinational in the ICT sector."*  
**Stiofain, Virtualisation & Cloud Computing Student**

### How do I sign up?

If you are a keen tech enthusiast and are interested in participating in the FIT ICT Associate Professional programme, then contact FIT at [ICTAP@fit.ie](mailto:ICTAP@fit.ie) or call us on **01 8825570** or lo call on **1890 815 704**.



**A skills development pathway to employment in the tech sector for those with a pioneering spirit.**

## FIT ICT ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL

*Information for Candidates  
– on how to progress an exciting career in the thriving tech sector*





**Are you a tech enthusiast?**  
**Would a career in the tech sector tick all your boxes?**

**FIT ICT Associate Professional is a new IT apprenticeship-style (learn & earn) pathway to a career in the technology sector.**

**Over 7,000 jobs are currently available in ICT sector – as highlighted by the FIT ICT Skills Audit 2014 – 75% of which are at entry and competent levels.**

**The ICT Sector Wants YOU!**

The technology sector is not all about STEM (science, technology, engineering, and maths) – there is a larger and growing requirement for people just like you who attain good technical skills, combined with project management, employability and customer facing skills. The technology sector in Ireland is much broader and more varied than most people realise – with an appetite for ‘Smart People with Smart Skills’ – who have a wide range of talents and attributes, and most importantly the enthusiasm to work in the sector.

**We know it works!**

FIT’s experience of designing and promoting a broad range of ICT programmes in a variety of areas has resulted in over 12,000 job seekers securing employment. We can confidently say that the tech sector today provides a multitude of different and interesting jobs for both women and men: for the technically minded – setting up, configuring and securing networks and infrastructure; for the arithmetically minded – building programmes and creating apps; for the creative and artistic – working in the sphere of online media, marketing and design; for the ‘people minded’ – building relationships in sales, customers services and support; for the entrepreneurs – trading online; as for the geographers – they are helping us navigate the globe in the comfort of our cars; and so on it goes...

People with developed ICT skills are not just in demand in the ICT sector – more and more jobs require various levels of proficiency in ICT skills, a trend which is likely to continue as more companies utilise technologies to manage their activities, market their products, communicate with their customers, increase productivity, etc. The enhanced capabilities emerging through the Internet of Things (wearable technologies etc) will result in the emergence of new roles, skill sets and careers paths yet to be defined across all sectors of the economy.

**What is FIT ICT Associate Professional?**

FIT ICT Associate Professional is a dual-education apprenticeship-style format of ICT skills training and development which has been endorsed by the industry and government. This ‘learn and earn’ model of provision is a two year programme during which you will attain a Level 6 ICT and Professional Development Qualification and will be awarded the title of FIT ICT Associate Professional by the industry. The first 6 months are college-based where candidates will acquire the technical acumen. The remaining 18 months are a combination of work-place application and college-based learning where candidates will further their skills development and apply their learning to live projects within their sponsoring company.

**Why should I consider FIT ICT Associate Professional?**

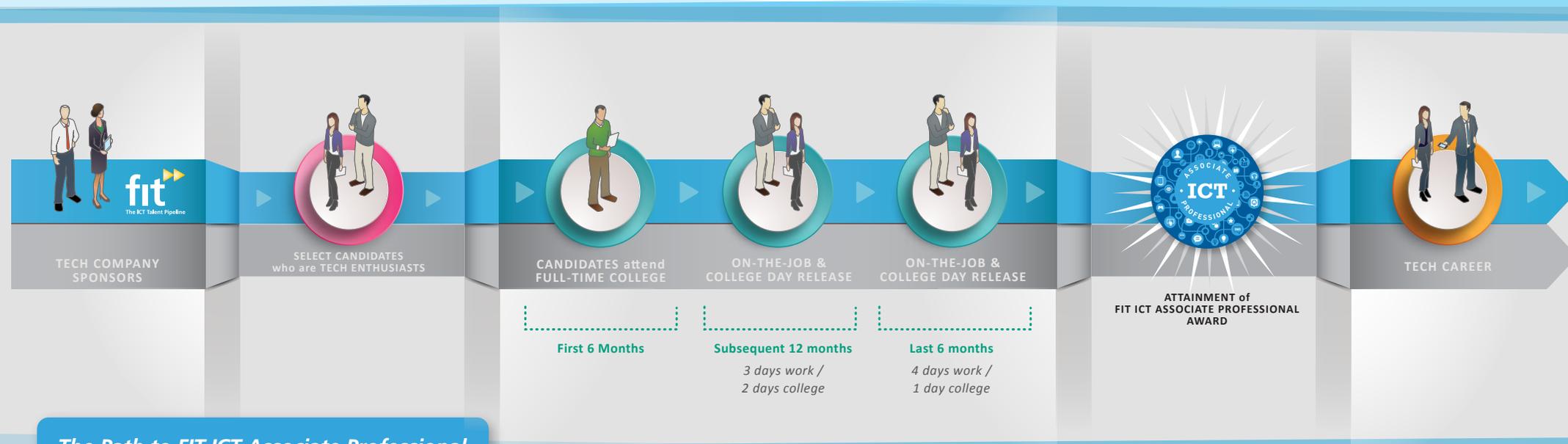
The FIT ICT Associate Professional programme offers technical education and training soundly grounded in practical experience ensuring you are ready for work on completion.

The FIT ICT Associate Professional Programme will:

- Provide a hands-on learning mode to attain the skills demanded by industry.
- Enable you to earn and learn and acquire a national qualification over a two year period equipping you with the knowledge and capabilities to progress your career in ICT.

- Lead to internationally recognised qualifications.
- Match you with a Sponsor Company within the ICT Industry who values your talent.
- Provide the opportunity to apply theoretical education and training in a real work setting helping you to build confidence in your abilities and gain independence.

A FIT ICT Associate Professional spends much of their time training with a company, helping them to effectively learn the skills needed in the work place using modern technology and equipment and getting involved in real-life work processes.



**The Path to FIT ICT Associate Professional**