 

PPN & Tipperary Volunteer Centre

BA IN BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEGREE PROGRAMME

Part Funded Application

Recognising the important role that formal education plays in the community and voluntary sector and knowing the impact that volunteers and PPN member groups have across County Tipperary; Tipperary PPN and Tipperary Volunteer Centre, in conjunction with Equal Ireland, are delighted to offer our volunteers/members the opportunity to complete a **QQI** **Level 7 BA in Business, Enterprise and Community Development**. A limited number of part-funded supports of €1750 towards the total programme fees of €2500 are available for Tipperary based volunteers.

The BA in Business, Enterprise & Community Development programme is a part-time blended learning programme accredited by Athlone Institute of Technology. You will have the opportunity to explore and develop your interest in the fields of Business, Enterprise and Community Development and to enhance your competencies towards becoming effective administrators, managers or organisers in these areas.

**Applicants are required to have successfully achieved either:**

* The EQUAL Ireland Higher Certificate (Level 6) in Business, Enterprise and Community Development

or

* A QQI Level 6 Award in an appropriate or relevant area

or

* Successful completion of a Recognition of Prior Learning Portfolio (RPL) process. Recognition of Prior Learning is a process that allows you to gain admission to a programme of study or to gain exemptions/credit from some parts of a programme, based on demonstrated work life learning and experience that you may have achieved through another programme of study, or acquired through work or other learning experiences.

**To apply:**

1. You must meet the minimum course acceptance criteria or be willing to engage with EQUAL Ireland to complete the RPL Process. (If you have any doubts about this process, please contact Eddie Higgins in EQUAL Ireland on 091 778682 to discuss your interest and experience before completing an application)
2. You must be a resident of County Tipperary
3. You must be an active volunteer in County Tipperary:

This may include being a member of a group registered with Tipperary PPN, be a volunteer with Tipperary Volunteer Centre or be able to demonstrate a proven track record of volunteering in County Tipperary.

1. You must be nominated by a community group and state this group.
2. Complete the required application form and submit it by close of business on Friday 15th March 2019.
3. Applications are required to be submitted by post and email.

Postal address: PPN Tipperary Thurles Chamber Enterprise Centre, LIT Campus, Nenagh Road, Thurles, E41 T6K5

Email address: degree@volunteertipperary.ie

1. If successful with your application for part funding, you must then be accepted for enrolment by AIT (Athlone Institute of Technology).
2. **The Programme is due to start in April 2019 with dates to be confirmed.**

**General criteria:**

* Give an undertaking to complete the full programme.
* Be over 23 years of age
* Have access to the internet/ computer
* Voluntarily attend a whole day’s induction

**Successful applicants will:**

1. Pass a provisional one to one ‘Recognition of Prior Learning’ evaluation with EQUAL Ireland

**Or**

Meet the minimum entry requirements

1. Provide evidence of sustained engagement in Active Citizenship/volunteering.

**Total Course cost €2,500**

Participant must commit to payment of €750 to EQUAL Ireland.

(Payment of €750 may be made in instalments through agreement with EQUAL Ireland)

**The application must be a minimum of 1000 words and a maximum of 1500 words.**

**The following is a breakdown of how the composition will be assessed and weighted**

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| Experience of active citizenship/ volunteering | 40 |
| Benefit to your community and organisation | 30 |
| Overall presentation of application | 10 |
| Understanding of & interest in the Public Participation Network | 10 |
| Demonstrate good interpersonal & communication skills | 10 |
| **Total** | **100** |

***Queries may be directed to the Tipperary Volunteer Office on 062 64775***

***Or the PPN office on 0504 61014***

Online application form available to download on [www.ppntipperary.org](http://www.ppntipperary.org) on the info hub tab and on [www.volunteertipperary.ie](http://www.volunteertipperary.ie)

**Application Form**

**Personal Details**

Applicant’s Name:

Email Address:

Phone:

Volunteering Organisation:

PPN Member Organisation:

Nominated by: Name

 (Must be chairperson, secretary or equivalent of your organisation)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Engagement in Volunteering/ Active Citizenship**

**Please outline your current and/or previous experiences of volunteering and, if applicable, please include your current role with your nominated PPN member organisation or with the volunteer centre.**

**(Max 500 words)**

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1. **Please outline why you should be considered for this funding**

**(If you are currently in paid employment in the Community & Voluntary sector please include why your employer is not in a position to fund your participation on the programme).**

**(Max 300 words)**

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1. **If your application is successful, please indicate how you would use the knowledge gained from the degree programme to the benefit of your community and your own personal development.**

**(Max 400 words)**

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1. **Demonstrate your understanding and knowledge of the PPN and TVC.**

**Given your research, briefly outline your thoughts on the effectiveness of both within the structures of the county.**

**(Max 300 words)**

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**Please indicate by ticking the boxes below that you are:**

1. Willing to be contacted by an Equal Ireland representative for a 1:1 Recognition of Prior Learning Discussion.
2. I am over 23 years of age.
3. I declare that the information that I have provided is a true account of my experience and I understand that any false accounts will deem my application void.

**Signature of Applicant:**

**Date:**