



ICHAS

Section 8 - Student Supports

Subject:	Policy on Fitness to Practice		
Applicable Standard	QQI	Core	Teaching and Learners Assessment of Learners
<i>Date Approved by Academic Council:</i>			October 2022
Policy Version	1/2022	Date due for Revision	February 2022

CONTEXT

The College notes that Fitness to Practice or indeed to study issues may emerge as apparent breaches of the Student code of Conduct. Any alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct will be dealt with as per the Policy and related Procedures associated with the Code of Conduct as set out in Section 8 of the QAE Manual. Where there is more than one procedure (and/or policies) of the College which may be applicable to any one matter, the Vice President (Academic Affairs) shall decide which of the procedures (and/or policies) should have priority or be the most appropriate in the circumstances, and may direct the continuation of some procedure(s) (and/or policies) and the suspension of others pending the outcome of the former.

POLICY STATEMENT

The College always tries to ensure a positive student experience and a safe working environment. The College deals with 'Fitness to Practice' issues within the context of its ethos as a College which aims to provide a supportive learning environment, with due cognisance of the principles of natural justice. This Policy applies to students who are registered, or seek to be registered, on Relevant Programmes throughout their period of registration with ICHAS both on and off campus.

SCOPE

Applies To	Staff	Students	Both	
			✓	
Responsible for Implementation	Vice President Academic Affairs, Practice Placement Director			
Responsible for Monitoring & Review	Vice President (Corporate Affairs)	Vice President (Academic Affairs)	Registrar	Practice Placement Director
		✓		✓

DEFINITIONS

A student's (or applicant's) Fitness to Practice may be challenged when their behaviour, health and/or professional conduct gives cause for concern.

RELEVANT GUIDELINES/ POLICIES INFORMING THIS POLICY

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI for use by all Providers
- European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) et al (2015) Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Sector Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI For Independent/Private Providers Coming To QQI On A Voluntary Basis
- Government of Ireland (2012) Qualifications & Quality Assurance (Education and Training Act).
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Policies & Criteria for the Validation of programmes of Education.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2015) QQI Policy Restatement Policy and Criteria for Access, Transfer and Progression in Relation to Learners for Providers of Further and Higher Education and Training.

Linked Policies and Procedures

Linked Policies	Policy on Teaching & Learning Policy on Work Based Learning Policy on Appeals
Linked Procedures	Procedures associated with Fitness to Practice Procedures associated with Work Based Learning Procedures associated with Appeals

