



A Guide to Lean Six Sigma

FAQs, Courses, Tips, & Certification

Lean Six Sigma Skills & Certification

Available for Individuals and Teams



in-house for teams



live virtual training



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What is Lean Six Sigma?

Lean and Six Sigma are two process improvement methodologies which, when used together become extremely powerful business transformational tools.

Lean targets waste, eliminating anything that is “non-value add” from your processes. Using the 8 wastes as a guiding point, a Lean approach will consider all elements and stages within a process.

Many refer to Six Sigma as “problem solving”. Six Sigma is used to identify flaws, variations, or defects in a process, and to correct them. Using the DMAIC Cycle (Define, Measure, Analyse, Implement, Control), a process can be mapped and analysed to identify and resolve issues or flaws.

Businesses all over Ireland are adopting Lean Six Sigma to maximise their organisation’s potential, increase team morale and effectiveness, and minimise waste and downtime.



About This Guide

This guide is designed to give you an introduction to Lean Six Sigma and its benefits.

We also answer Lean Six Sigma FAQs, provide insights into choosing a course and certification, and give you steps to get started.



What is the difference between “lean six sigma” and “six sigma”?

Lean and Six Sigma are two separate methodologies that originated in different places, at different times.

Lean is focused on eliminating waste from and streamlining a process. Six Sigma works to reduce errors and keep quality consistently high.

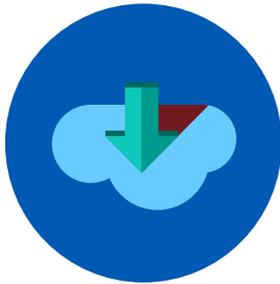
Both approaches work to improve processes and quality in different ways. When combined, they become a powerful transformational tool for any business.

As outlined in an excellent article by Grey Campus, the very nature of Lean and Six Sigma means that they can, and should be used together within a business. (source: Grey Campus)

For this reason, most well-rounded certification programmes in process improvement will incorporate both methodologies.

Some certifications focus almost exclusively on Six Sigma. However, to gain optimum benefit and a confidence to implement real change and improvement, we recommend choosing a course that includes at least some focus on Lean.

What are the benefits of Lean Six Sigma?

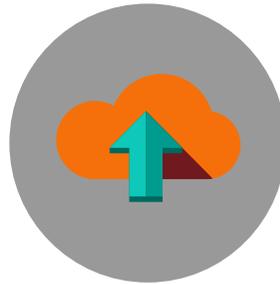


Better Together

From the defining characteristics mentioned on the previous page, you can see how both Lean and Six Sigma could be very effective, even when used alone.

However, the two methodologies work so well together, that they are almost better known as the combination of “Lean Six Sigma” than as standalone methods.

Lean helps you to streamline processes, while Six Sigma works to improve quality by reducing errors or variations. Both methods are keenly focused on developing optimally performing processes.



Less - More - Better - Faster

Let’s take a look at a selection of the benefits these methodologies can achieve when they are combined and implemented correctly...

- ✓ lower operating costs
- ✓ more savings
- ✓ elevated profit margins
- ✓ reduced waste
- ✓ higher productivity
- ✓ shorter cycle times
- ✓ increased revenue
- ✓ improved process capability
- ✓ better quality
- ✓ faster lead times
- ✓ increased capacity
- ✓ improved team motivation

Is lean six sigma certification worth it?

The short answer is “yes, absolutely”. Here are 4 reasons why:



Delivers Sustainable Savings & Improvements

Lean Six Sigma is about reducing waste and variation in processes. When correctly implemented, it can deliver significant savings and improvements in any working environment.

What's more, the practicality of lean six sigma ensures that these benefits are sustainable.



Makes Everyone's Working Life Easier

Through accurately evaluating and restructuring the processes within a business, you can cut out waste and unnecessary process steps.

Things just run much more smoothly with well-implemented lean six sigma measures.

Everyone's working day becomes easier and less stressful.



Opens New Doors For Your Career

Given the transformational effect that lean six sigma can have on the productivity and profitability of an organisation, certified lean six sigma practitioners are in demand in every sector.

By choosing to train and certify in lean six sigma, you expand your career's potential in earnings and exciting opportunities.



A Rewarding Career Path

In addition to an enhanced salary and opportunity potential, lean six sigma practitioners gain great satisfaction from their work.

Working with these process improvement methodologies is a truly rewarding career path for anyone who likes to solve puzzles, take on fresh challenges, and run projects.

Understanding Lean Six Sigma Belts & Roles

What are Lean Six Sigma Belts?

The Lean Six Sigma Belts indicate different stages of knowledge, skill and experience in a process improvement practitioner's development.

These clearly defined roles help structure an organisation's continuous improvement strategy, as every belt level plays a key part in the success of Lean Six Sigma initiatives.

In the Lean Six Sigma hierarchy, there are 5 belt levels and one other crucial role that we will outline here:

A **White Belt** has an understanding of how Lean Six Sigma works. They can use the terminology to communicate potential issues or relevant points to those working on process improvement projects.

Yellow Belts have a strong foundation in Lean Six Sigma. They understand how it works and can contribute to process improvement projects, reporting to and supporting Green Belts.

Green Belts can manage process improvement projects. They have a confident understanding of Lean Six Sigma and the capability to implement it successfully.

Those trained and certified at **Black Belt** level drive cross functional process improvement projects. They take savings and improvements to the next level and function as a mentor to lower belt levels.

Master Black Belts are very advanced at Lean Six Sigma implementation. They work cross level with Green Belts and leadership teams to strategise and lead process improvement across the organisation.

A **Champion** is someone who is part of the organisation's leadership team. They are fully invested in nurturing and supporting a Lean Six Sigma culture.

Our Lean Six Sigma Courses

Lean and Six Sigma are incredibly powerful tools for eliminating waste, increasing profitability, and improving processes in any working environment.

We offer both public (for individuals) and in-house (for groups or teams) Lean Six Sigma Courses. You can learn about each of these training formats and the courses we offer over the following pages.

Our goal is to provide you with a strong understanding of Lean Six Sigma concepts and techniques, and equip you with everything you need to achieve a respected certification.

Our Lean Six Sigma courses are delivered by experienced, Black Belt qualified Lean Six Sigma trainers. They bring knowledge gained from their own backgrounds in process improvement to every course.



Get Advice from our Team

If you would like to speak with our expert Lean Six Sigma training consultants, you can reach us by phone at Freephone **1800 910 810**, Dublin **01 861 0700**, or request a call back from us by clicking below.

[Request a Call Back](#)



Choosing the Right Course

We offer Lean Six Sigma training and certification for all levels of experience.

You can easily access our live virtual training for courses delivered by Lean Six Sigma experts. Each course gives you a blend of practical learning and theoretical knowledge and leads to a respected certification.

Our most popular Lean Six Sigma Courses are:

- **Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt** - ideal for anyone who wants an introduction to Lean Six Sigma. ([see page 10](#))
- **Lean Six Sigma Green Belt** - our most popular course for those who want a confident knowledge of Lean Six Sigma. ([see page 11](#))
- **Lean Six Sigma Black Belt** - this programme suits those with experience in process improvement. ([see page 12](#))

Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt

Yellow Belt: A Jumping-Off Point

We recommend this 2-day course for anyone who is interested in learning more about Lean Six Sigma or anyone who wants to improve how things are done in their working life.

It is suitable for participants from all backgrounds. The skills and knowledge you learn are applicable in every industry.

No previous experience with process improvement is necessary. Our Yellow Belt Course is ideal for complete beginners.



Download our PDF Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Brochure Instantly

For a full course outline and steps to get started, download our PDF Yellow Belt brochure by using the button below.

[Download PDF Brochure](#)

Quick Facts About our Yellow Belt

- ✓ **Duration:** 2 days
- ✓ **Format:** Online (live virtual)
- ✓ **Experience Needed:** none
- ✓ **Certification:** Professional Development Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt



What you will gain:

- A foundational understanding of Lean Six Sigma
- The ability to contribute to Lean Six Sigma projects
- A Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt certificate

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Lean Six Sigma Green Belt

Green Belt: A Confident Understanding

Without a doubt, this is our most popular Lean Six Sigma course.

Lean Six Sigma Green Belt is an in-depth course that covers the essentials of Lean Six Sigma.

This course is recommended for anyone who really wants to get into their stride in understanding and being able to apply Lean Six Sigma tools and techniques to active projects within their role.



Download our PDF Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Brochure Instantly

For a full course outline and steps to get started, download our PDF Green Belt brochure by using the button below.

[Download PDF Brochure](#)

Quick Facts About our Green Belt

- ✓ **Duration:** 5 days
- ✓ **Format:** Online (live virtual)
- ✓ **Experience Needed:** none, although some process improvement knowledge is helpful
- ✓ **Certification:** Professional Development Lean Six Sigma Green Belt + QQI Certificate in Lean Manufacturing Tools

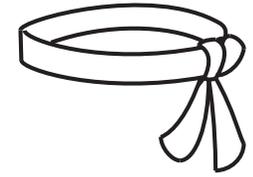


What you will gain:

- Process improvement skills you can use in any business environment.
- The ability to run a Green Belt level project and contribute to Black Belt projects.
- A more in-depth knowledge and understanding of Lean Six Sigma.
- Two recognised Lean Six Sigma certifications.

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Lean Six Sigma Black Belt

Black Belt: Take your expertise to the next level

If you're considering a Black Belt certification, you'll already be in your stride with process improvement and / or Lean Six Sigma methods.

Our Lean Six Sigma Black Belt programme is designed to support you in your journey to becoming a high-achieving, qualified Black Belt practitioner.

It is a Black Belt programme like no other, blending active project work with intensive theoretical learning and ASQ exam preparation.



Download our PDF Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Brochure Instantly

For a full course outline and steps to get started, download our PDF Black Belt brochure by using the button below.

Download PDF Brochure

Quick Facts About our Black Belt

- ✓ **Duration:** 14 days
- ✓ **Format:** Online (live virtual)
- ✓ **Experience Needed:** Yes. You can read the eligibility requirements by [downloading our PDF brochure](#) or visiting the webpage.
- ✓ **Certification:** Professional Development Lean Six Sigma Black Belt + ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB).

What you will gain:

- Established international credibility through the prestigious ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt qualification.
- A versatile, effective, Black Belt level skill-set.
- Guidance and insight from expert, Black Belt qualified trainers. Our Black Belt trainers bring years of consultation, implementation, and training expertise to each programme.

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Get Dates

Customised Lean Six Sigma Training for Teams



If your goals around Lean Six Sigma training and certification are focused on creating improvements or a culture change in your business, our tailored solutions will be the best fit.

With this style of in-company training, we can deliver Lean Six Sigma programmes exclusively to your team.

We will customise the course content to focus on what you want to achieve in your business.

Our Yellow, Green, and Black Belt courses can be delivered in this tailored format. We also have a series of high-impact, 1 and 2-day workshops that are popular with clients who wish to focus on a particular aspect of Lean Six Sigma.

For a full consultation on what will have the most impact for your business, get in touch with our Director of Training. You can call us at Freephone 1800 910 810 or click the button to Get a Quote.

[Get a Quote](#)

What's Available?

All of our Lean Six Sigma courses are available as in-company training, with some extra options that are not available for public courses. Click on the course name below to learn more about each course.

- ✓ [Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt](#)
- ✓ [ASQ Certified Six Sigma Yellow Belt](#)
- ✓ [QQI Lean Six Sigma Green Belt](#)
- ✓ [ASQ Certified Six Sigma Green Belt](#)
- ✓ [IASSC Lean Six Sigma Green Belt](#)
- ✓ [ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt](#)
- ✓ [FMEA Workshop](#)
- ✓ [Process Mapping Training](#)
- ✓ [Lean Problem Solving](#)

3 Ways to Get Started



Talk to Us

You can reach us by phone on Freephone 1800 910 810, or 01 861 0700 (mon - thurs, 9.00am - 5.30pm, fri, 9.00am - 5.00pm).

We will be happy to answer any questions, advise on the best option for your lean six sigma training, provide a quote for your team, or get you set up for virtual training.

Freephone 1800 910 810



Ask a Question

If you'd prefer to contact us online, request a phone call, or to get in touch outside office hours, using the "Ask A Quick Question" button below is the best option.

We will respond with the information you need.

Ask A Question



Get a Quote

To request a tailored quotation for your in-company lean six sigma training, click the button below.

We will be in touch with a detailed quotation fitting your team's requirements.

Get a Quote

About Us

Professional Development - 30+ Years of Innovation and Excellence

We believe that the key to a thriving and rewarding career is continuous professional development.

For over 30 years, Professional Development has led the way in providing practical, innovative courses leading to relevant and respected certifications.

We specialise in delivering training for core business skills including project management, agile, scrum, lean six sigma, management, communications, sales, and training design and delivery skills.

Our courses are designed to expand your skills, & enhance your career potential

Stay Connected



Our Courses

Our courses are a balanced blend of both theoretical learning and practical application. This focused learning environment optimises the impact of training.



Our Team

Our trainers are chosen for their engaging manner and expertise in a chosen field. They bring a wealth of experience to each programme they deliver.



Our Clients

We provide training for Ireland's leading brands, working with companies of all sizes in every industry. We also provide training for non-corporate organisations.



Our Certifications

In many sectors, international certification is now essential. We provide many options for globally recognised certification in each subject area.

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