

professional  
development

# Lean Six Sigma Black Belt

Your Essential Guide: 2021 Edition

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Understanding the Black Belt role

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Reasons to Become a Black Belt

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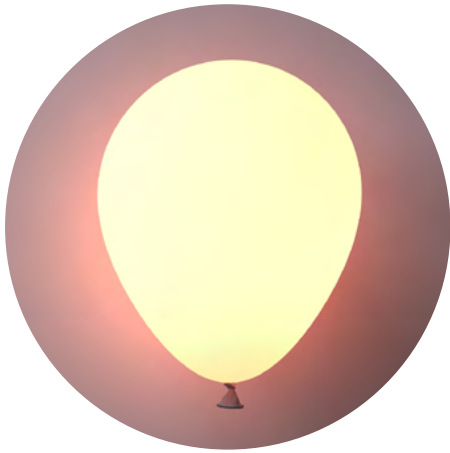
How to Get Black Belt Certified

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stand out



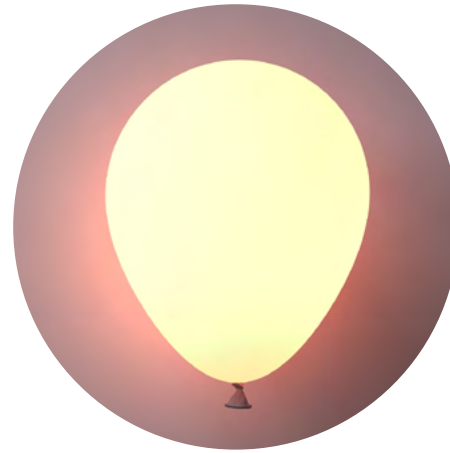
# What Makes a Black Belt so Important?



## Black Belts Are the Change Bringers

Black Belts bring about higher levels of savings and sustainable, long-term improvements.

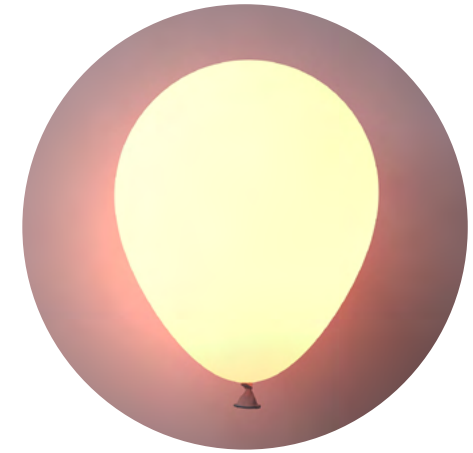
Although anyone practicing Lean Six Sigma methods can bring about positive change in a team or business, Black Belts take savings and improvements to a new, higher level.



## Black Belts Are Big Picture Thinkers

With a Black Belt in your organisation, you'll have a valuable asset in your leadership team.

Black Belts are key strategic thinkers. They look at all angles and elements, using solid data to back up ideas and decisions.



## Black Belts Mentor Others

One of the most valuable things a Black Belt does is to mentor others working with Lean Six Sigma.

They provide guidance and support to process improvement projects in all departments of an organisation.

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# Thinking About Becoming a Black Belt?

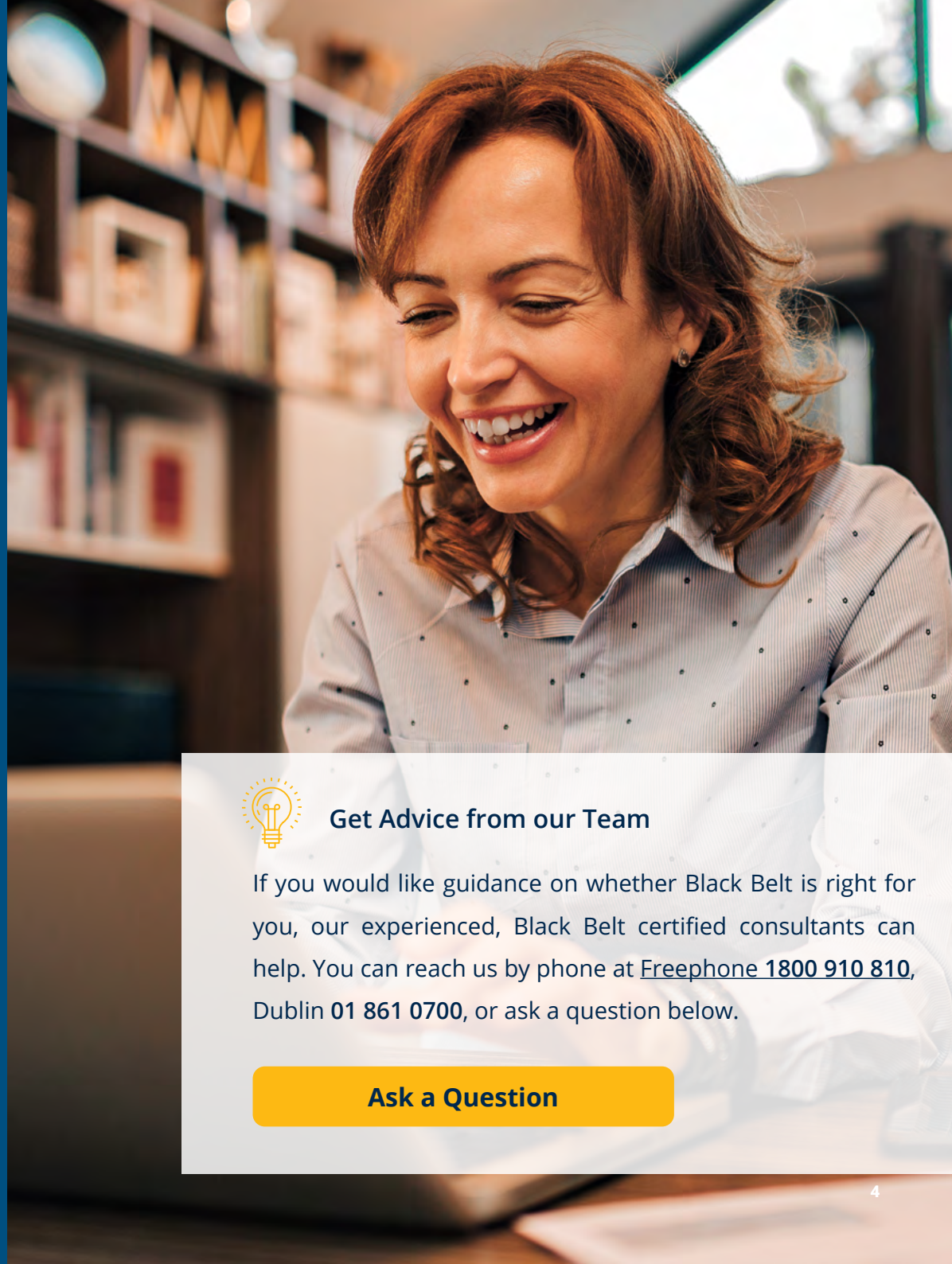
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Deciding to work towards a Six Sigma Black Belt certification is a commitment, but one that can transform your career.

Skilled, certified Black Belts are extremely valuable in every sector. Deciding to get a Six Sigma Black Belt certification is a truly wise move for anyone experienced in process improvement.

We have seen such enthusiastic adoption of Lean Six Sigma and process improvement in the past decade, both in Ireland and internationally. Businesses everywhere need Six Sigma Black Belts to lead their organisations towards optimal performance.

This guide is designed to give you an understanding of what “Black Belt” means, why it’s a worthwhile career path, and how you can achieve your Black Belt certification.



## Get Advice from our Team

If you would like guidance on whether Black Belt is right for you, our experienced, Black Belt certified consultants can help. You can reach us by phone at [Freephone 1800 910 810](tel:1800910810), Dublin [01 861 0700](tel:018610700), or ask a question below.

[Ask a Question](#)

# What is a Six Sigma Black Belt?

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## 10 Black Belt Characteristics

- 1 Understanding of organisations at cross-functional and process levels
- 2 Exceptional communication skills
- 3 Ability to lead change
- 4 Advanced project management capabilities
- 5 Pro-active attitude to achieving goals and problem solving
- 6 Customer advocacy skills
- 7 Technical aptitude - computer competency, analytical skills
- 8 Motivation to produce sustainable results
- 9 Simultaneously leads and participates in process improvement projects
- 10 Ability to remain detail-orientated while focusing on the bigger picture

Put very simply, Black Belts are process improvement masters.

They understand how to run a process improvement project and can mentor less experienced practitioners, such as Green and Yellow Belts.

Six Sigma Black Belts have thoroughly mastered sustainable process improvement at every level. They are the leaders and mentors in any process improvement culture or project.

Black Belts are capable of looking at the bigger picture while simultaneously remaining aware of the level of detail involved in any process or project.

# Who Becomes a Black Belt?

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- ✓ Six Sigma Black Belt training and certification is designed for those with experience in both working on and leading process improvement initiatives.
- ✓ It's also a natural next step for those who have already gained a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification.

If you're unsure about whether you're ready for Six Sigma Black Belt training and certification, why not talk to us?

We can point you in the right direction for your career. Call us on Freephone 1800 910 810, or click below to request a call back.

[Request a Call](#)



## New to Process Improvement?

If you are completely new to the concept of Lean Six Sigma, or have very limited experience working with process improvement, we recommend our Lean Six Sigma [Yellow Belt](#) or [Green Belt](#) courses.

[Which Course?](#)

# Why Choose a Black Belt?

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## 1 Achieve Better Savings & Improvements

Black Belts are the key to unlocking the “sweet fruit” – those harder-to-reach improvements that can really transform a department or business.

Six sigma black belt practitioners have the understanding and skill to achieve these transformational improvements.

## 2 Enjoy a More Rewarding Work Life

This is connected to the first benefit, but there’s no denying that achieving the “sweet fruit” of harder-to-reach savings and improvements is satisfying for any lean six sigma practitioner.

Experienced six sigma practitioners relish fresh challenges, and thrive on tackling new and more complex projects.

## 3 Expanding Career Potential

Along with an increased salary, you will also gain a new level of credibility as a qualified Six Sigma Black Belt.

Being known for this high level of process improvement proficiency gives you the freedom to take your career to new places.

A whole new set of opportunities present themselves, ready for you to jump in and explore.

## 4 Increased Earnings Potential

Payscale.com reports an average salary of €62K for Certified Six Sigma Black Belts in Ireland. \*

This is simply an average estimate, and can vary from industry to industry, increasing with your experience.

It is also important to factor in that aside from your annual salary, qualified black belts are continuously in demand as consultants in all sectors.

\* based on figures, July 2021

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## Getting Black Belt Certified

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If you're interested in gaining the benefits available to Black Belts, getting trained and certified is a must.

There are many excellent programmes available, so it's worth taking time to consider what's most important to you before booking.

**Ask Yourself:** Do you want a piece of paper or do you want to create transformational change?

This is a question to consider when deciding upon Lean Six Sigma Black Belt training.

There are many fast ways to achieve a Black Belt. We have chosen a mid-point: focused learning modules over several months.

We have chosen this, as we strongly believe – and have seen – that true Black Belts are those that have taken time to fully understand Black Belt tools and knowledge, and strengthened their skills.

These are the Black Belts that stand apart from the crowd.



# Our Black Belt Programme

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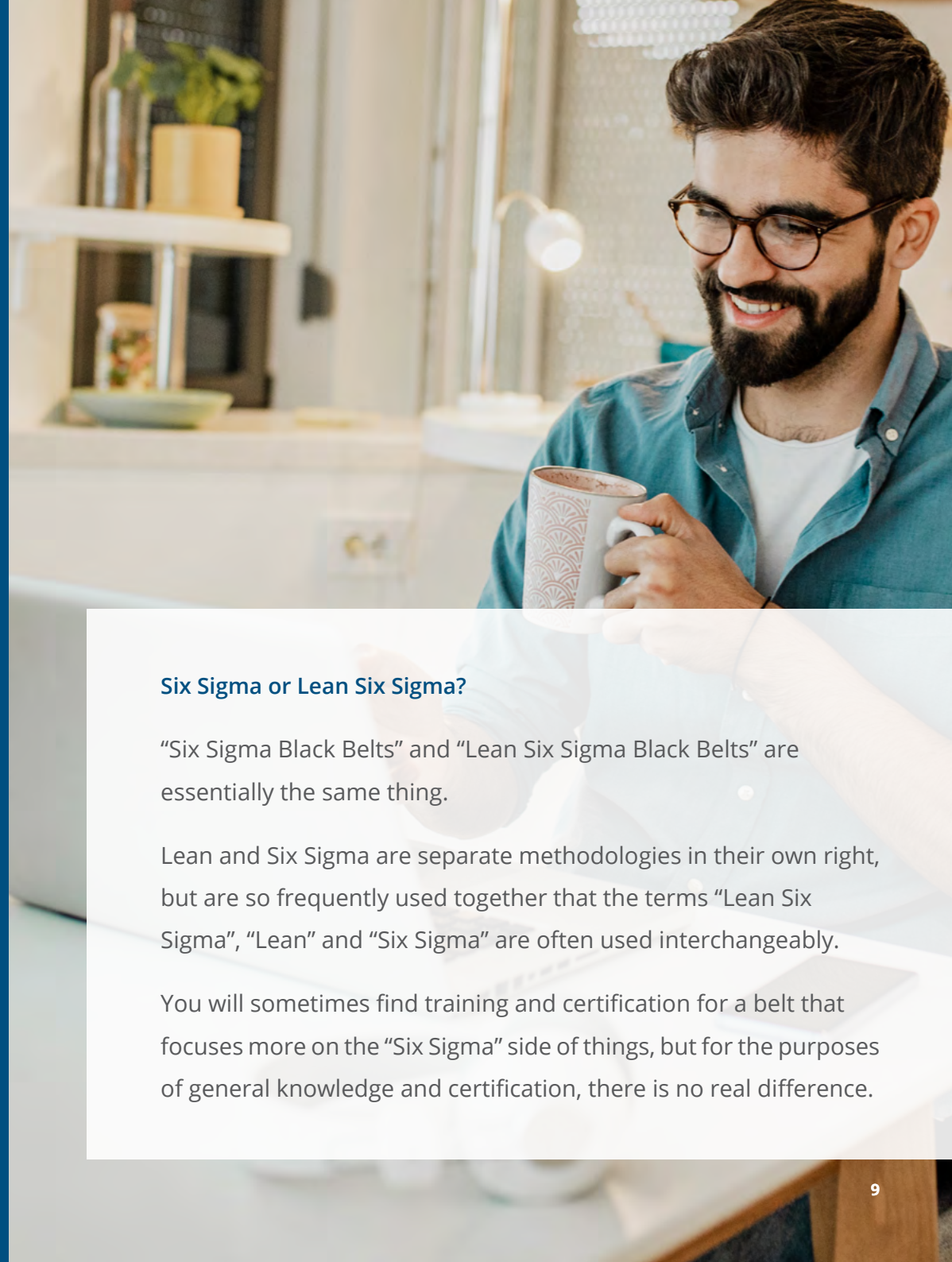
Our Black Belt training programme is a balanced blend of ideas and strategic thinking backed up with concrete data and knowledge.

It runs in 5 instalments over a series of months, giving you time to absorb, review, and apply the learning between modules.

Upon completion, you will have a solid understanding of how to perform the role of a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt with confidence.

You will also be ready to study for your ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB) Exam.

Over the following pages, we will use our programme as an example of how a Black Belt programme runs and how long it takes to get certified.



## Six Sigma or Lean Six Sigma?

“Six Sigma Black Belts” and “Lean Six Sigma Black Belts” are essentially the same thing.

Lean and Six Sigma are separate methodologies in their own right, but are so frequently used together that the terms “Lean Six Sigma”, “Lean” and “Six Sigma” are often used interchangeably.

You will sometimes find training and certification for a belt that focuses more on the “Six Sigma” side of things, but for the purposes of general knowledge and certification, there is no real difference.

# Lean Six Sigma Black Belt: A Programme Snapshot

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## 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

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

[Visit Webpage](#)

[Download 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'll 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.

# 3 Reasons to Choose our Black Belt Programme

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## 1 We Include Everything You Need

Our goal is to provide you with a complete Black Belt solution to be able to carry out the role and be prepared to sit your exam.

We incorporate everything you need to take your Black Belt goals from idea to realisation. Our programme rate includes:

- 14 days of classroom training with our expert trainers.
- Course materials - monthly instalments of slides, templates, & supporting documents.
- Sigma XL software.
- Sample ASQ exam questions and answers.
- 365-day access to an online ASQ Exam Simulator

The only additional cost is your Black Belt exam. You'll pay this directly to ASQ when you're ready to apply for and sit your Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB) exam.

## 2 Our Trainers Wow Us... and Our Students... Every Time

Our Black Belt trainers are experts of the highest standard.

They have ample experience both delivering intensive Lean Six Sigma training and actively working as consultants.

The surge in demand we have seen for Lean Six Sigma training, combined with rave reviews from our clients mean we have limited availability and places for our Lean Six Sigma Black Belt programmes this year.

## 3 Our Timing is On Point

As you research, you'll find a dramatic difference in the timelines for Lean Six Sigma Black Belt training in Ireland. Ours sits happily in the mid-section of timescales.

We have planned this programme in focused, short instalments to balance intensive learning with time to process, gather questions, and apply the knowledge to a live project or case study.

We find that 14 days over 5 months is just right for allowing you to get into your stride and develop confidence in your abilities.

# Application Makes Perfect

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Through practical work you become a more self-assured, capable Black Belt practitioner.

That's why we have designed a double certification result for this programme.

You'll achieve your ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt certification by successfully completing your exam following training and study.

Your second certification is a Professional Development Lean Six Sigma Black Belt award.

This is gained through project-based work, focused on an active project you're undertaking or a hypothetical example to which you apply your learning.



[Ask a Question](#)

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## What our students say...

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“ I thought the delivery of the course was extremely professional, and I enjoyed being part of the training and believe it has added to my repertoire of skills. I will be participating in future sessions delivered through PD.

The course was very well coordinated, the duration between sessions was really good and the material covered was very relevant. The opportunity to use real data in the exercises was very beneficial as was the time spent with the other participants to discuss each other's projects. The ability to have 1:1 sessions with [the trainer] was also really beneficial.

Course content was very clear. Overall organization was excellent. Availability of slide deck was really useful as were the test questions at the end of the modules. The breakout sessions were really good. It was a great opportunity to practice what we were learning as well as networking with the team to learn from each other. Training consultant was very efficient and well organized. All communications were sent on in-advance of the scheduled sessions.

[live virtual] delivery was excellent and I do not believe we lost out because we were unable to meet up in person. ”

- Tony, spring 2021

“ My overall experience was professional, helpful and knowledgeable. I found every interaction was friendly and clear domain knowledge was evident. It gave me confidence booking with Professional Development and in the learning environment itself.

I felt expectations, and the agendas, were always clear and up-front. The course content was strong enough to stand on its own, and the exercises really helped embed the theory with practical application.

The trainer was clearly experienced and brought his knowledge to the course. Most of us have had some exposure to Six Sigma through our careers, it was great to learn the background to the tools.

While I missed the normal classroom interaction, I think it went well via [live virtual classroom].

The breakout rooms were brilliant, which really helped the discussions and exercises – that is actually an improvement from classroom! ”

- Maitiú, spring 2021

# 3 Ways to Get in Touch

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## 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 of office hours, using the "Ask A Quick Question" button below is the best option.

We'll respond with the information you need.

**Ask A Question**



## Get a Quote

To request a tailored quotation for your in-house 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

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## 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



### 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 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 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 Certifications

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

## Stay Connected

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# Contact Us

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