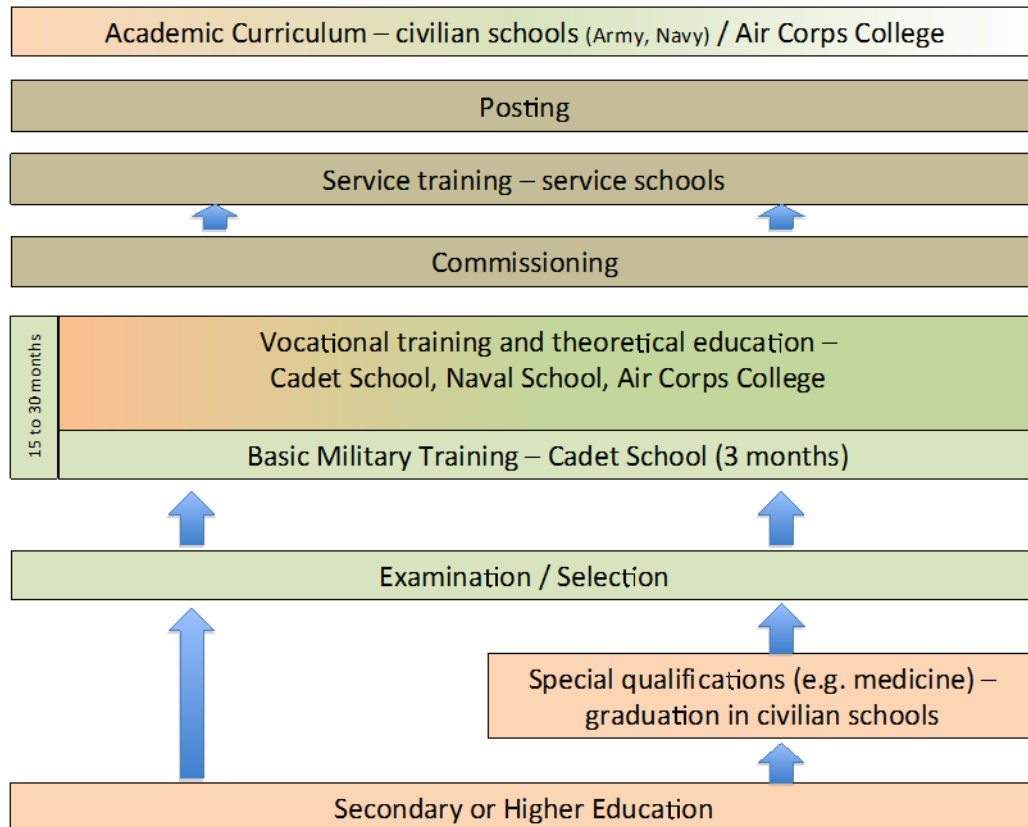




# IRELAND

## How to Become a Military Officer in the Irish Armed Forces:



The basic education and training of the officers issued from direct recruitment of the Irish Army, Navy and Air Force rests on the cooperation of several training institutes. The Cadet School – Military College (Kildare) provides training for the officers of the three services. The professional training, then, is provided by the Naval College and the Air Corps College for Navy and Air Force officers, although their Army counterparts stay at the Military College.

In the Irish system, the military basic training is supported by theoretical teachings within these institutes which are structured around the learning outcomes required from the relevant service. Cadets of the Army and Navy, furthermore, follow an academic course in civilian universities at Level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

The Defence Forces have a lifelong learning approach for officer education where awards through Higher Education are associated with career courses up to Masters level. The basic officer curricula are short in their duration compared to other European Academies, as they provide only the skills that are deemed necessary for the first posting as the junior commander at sub unit level. The introduction to strategic knowledge is provided in the course of the career, according to the needs of an individual's career development.

AIR FORCE  
(AIR CORPS)

**Cadet School – Military College**  
(<http://www.military.ie/army/org/dftc/milcol/index.htm>)  
**Flying Training School – Air Corps College**  
(<http://www.military.ie/careers/officer/aircorps/index.htm>)

**Academic curricula**

Bachelor of Science	<b>Bachelor of Science in Management and Aviation Studies</b> (diploma of the Air Corps Officer/Pilot)
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**Military specialisations**

Wing Pilot	<b>Flight Training School</b>
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Number of cadets first year: 9

Total number of cadets: 9

**Organisation of the basic officers' education**

Bachelor of Science:

Year (Ba)1				Year (Ba)2												Year (Ba)3																					
A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J		

**Integration in the European Higher Education Area**

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
None			Partly described	Y	Y	Y	N	N

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
None			Partly described	Y	Y	N	N

<u>Doctoral studies</u>	<u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u>
The Cadet School and the Air Corps College do not organise doctoral studies for military officers.	N/A

#### An exchange culture

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 0

*Air Corps officer's training primary weighted to provide fixed wing flight training. The learning associated with this training is recognised and provides entry to Defence Forces career courses that are accredited on the National Framework of Qualifications.*

#### Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
N	EUAFA	Y (Cadet School)	N

#### Practice:

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y		N

#### Learning of, learning in foreign languages

*The study of foreign languages is not a requirement.*

#### Before and beyond basic education

*Officer candidates are required to have a minimum of second level education on application, they must comply with medical, physical and psychological standards prior to progressing to a series of entrance tests and exercises.*

*In the course of their career, the Defence Forces officers will undergo additional education and training at accredited with higher education institutions levels. This process culminates with the Command and Staff career course qualify the student for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, which is accredited to Level 9 on the National Framework of qualifications.*