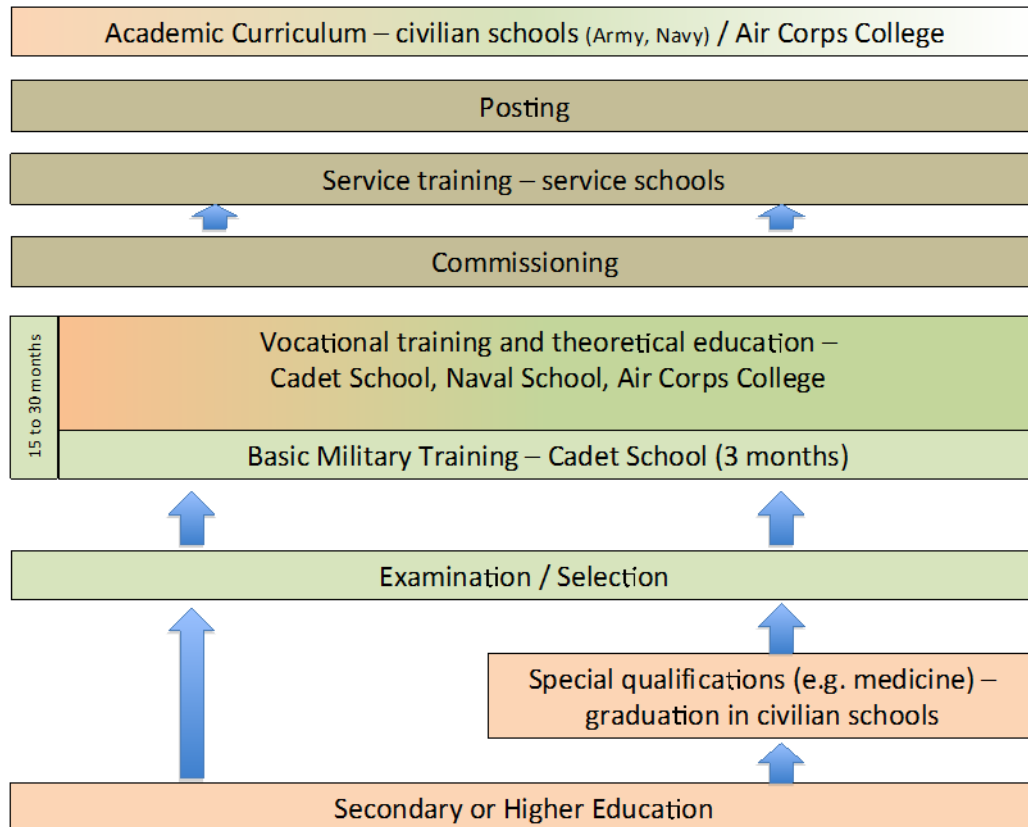




IRELAND

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.

NAVY
(NAVAL SERVICE)

Naval College – Naval Base
(<http://www.military.ie/careers/officer/navy/index.htm>)
Cadet School – Military College
(<http://www.military.ie/army/org/dftc/milcol/index.htm>)

Academic curricula

Undergraduate	<p>Undergraduate in: - Nautical Science (Operations Branch); - Marine Engineering (Engineering Branch). <i>With National Maritime College</i></p>
---------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Military specialisations

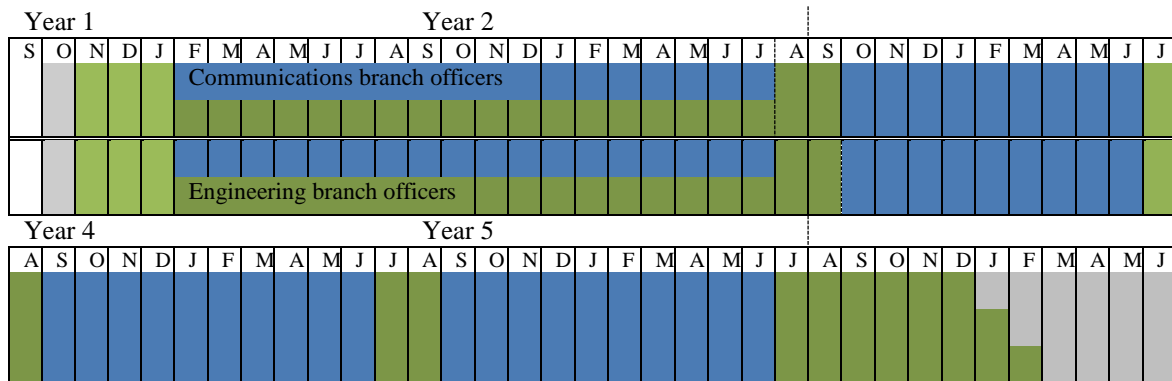
Communications	Leadership & HRM
Engineering	Strategic Studies

Number of cadets first year: 5

Total number of cadets: 5

Organisation of the basic officers' education

Undergraduate:



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 Naval College and the Cadet School do not organise doctoral studies for the military officers.	N/A

An exchange culture

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

Naval Service cadet training is embedded with attendance at the National Maritime College, Ireland and qualification at Level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications. Cadets choose programmes at the National Maritime College according to their specific career progression route.

Context:

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
N		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

Naval Service Officers study basic Spanish as part of their training.

Before and beyond basic education

The minimum entry requirements for naval cadets are based on secondary educational results, which qualify the candidate for third level education. Naval cadet training involves attendance at the national Maritime College, Ireland. Candidates must comply with medical, physical and psychological standards and pass an entrance examination, which includes tests on the knowledge of foreign languages.

In the course of their career, the Naval Officers will receive the following additional education and training at an advanced level, such as the:

- *Naval Junior Command Operations Course or Class 2 Engineering Officer of the Watch;*
- *Senior Command Operations Course;*
- *Defence Forces Senior Command and Staff Course (Level 9 National Framework of Qualifications).*