

# The National Framework for Doctoral Education: Research Education in Ireland

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# NFDE

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- The Framework
- The NFDE Advisory Forum
- Research Career Profile Subgroup



National  
Framework for  
Doctoral  
Education

# The National Framework for Doctoral Education

Research is at the core

Monitoring and progression central to good outcomes

Supervision is key

Transferable skills inherent

Mapped to best practice, underpinned by quality provision

# The National Framework for Doctoral Education

## Framework Principles

- At the core of doctoral education is deep engagement with a research question
- Completion of a research thesis of publishable quality
- Develop both discipline knowledge and research skills
  - High quality research experience, training, professional development and output consistent with best practice





# Principles

- Careful admission practices, competent supervisors
- Supported by established structures
  - Principal supervisor(+co) with supporting panel
  - Research Integrity training
  - Formal monitoring of progress to completion
  - Clearly defined examination process, involving extern, assessment criteria and declared outcomes
  - Underpinned by Academic Regulations
- Robust quality assurance system

# IUA skills statement 2021

Doctoral Outcomes  
(<https://www.iua.ie/publications/iua-phd-graduate-skills-statement-2021/>)

- Research skills
- Ethics and social understanding
- Personal effectiveness transferable skills
- Team-working and leadership
- Communication skills
- Career management
- Entrepreneurship and innovation

# Developing Talent for Strategic Impact

## Personal

Resilience

Confidence

Articulate

Strategic

Deliberative

Non-reactive

## Intellectual

Critical appraisal

Succinct communication

Write cogently and fluently

Absorb, digest and synthesise broad array of material

Quick and efficient mastery of a complex brief

Identify/ focus on key issues/core problems

## Professional

Managing workload

Managing time

Managing resource

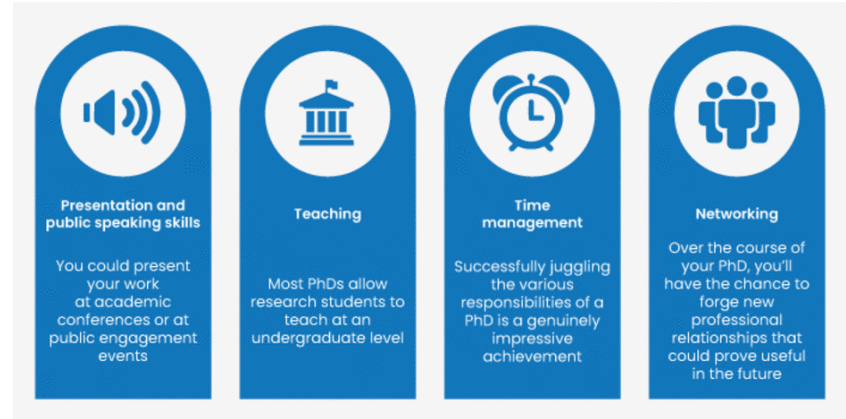
Working with/ managing colleagues

Ability to take long view

Strategic focus

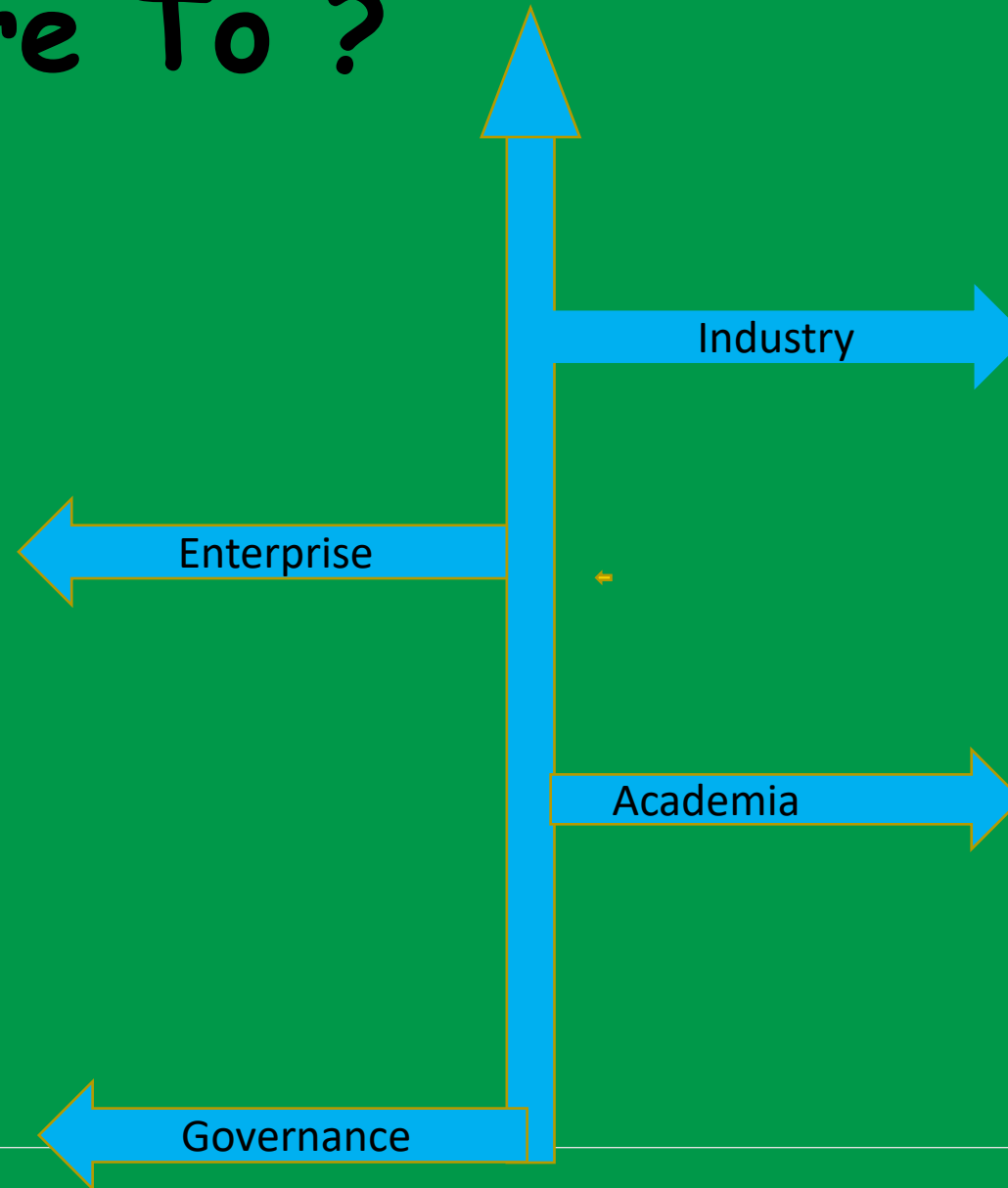
Perspective (critical/ non-critical issues)

Networking





# Where To ?



# Key attributes identified by IBEC



PROBLEM SOLVING



CREATIVITY



ANALYTICAL SKILLS



COMMUNICATION SKILLS



TEAM WORKING (60%)



WORKING  
INDEPENDENTLY (40%)



ADAPTABLE



FOR THE TECH SECTOR –  
UNDERSTANDING OF  
ETHICAL & SOCIAL  
IMPLICATIONS OF  
TECHNOLOGY

## NFDE Advisory Forum Subgroup: Skills PhD graduates bring to an organisation (n=16)

Employers : consultancies including Mazars & Deloitte, Big Pharma, Engineering , Education, Social Media, Government Agencies, IBEC

Advanced Research & Technical Skills

Transferable/Complimentary Skills

Commercial Reasons



- Research Skills & Awareness
- Communication Skills
- Personal Effectiveness
- Ethics And Social Understanding
- Team-Working & Leadership
- Entrepreneurship & Innovation

Words	Research-Skills-and-Awareness	Communication-Skills	Personal-Effectiveness	Ethics-and-Social-Understanding	Team-Working-and-Leadership	Entrepreneurship-and-Innovation
Ability	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Research	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
problem-solving	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
work	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
goods	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
technical	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
analytical-skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
critical-thinking	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
expertise	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
communication-Skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
knowledge	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
New	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
presentation-skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
strong	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Writing-skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
deeper	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
projects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Research-skills	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Academic	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scientific	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Enhanced	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Experience	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Leadership	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Process	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Team	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
additional	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
applied	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
approach	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
capable	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
complex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
data-analysis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
excellence	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ideas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Improvements	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
innovation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Project-Management	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Self-motivation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Understanding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
value	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
advanced	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
appreciation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Words  
take from  
survey and  
mapped

# Useful Documents

- QQI web resources <https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/engagement-insights-and-knowledge-sharing/national-forum-for-doctoral-education>
- National Framework for Doctoral Education  
[https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/04/national\\_framework\\_for\\_doctoral\\_education\\_0.pdf](https://hea.ie/assets/uploads/2017/04/national_framework_for_doctoral_education_0.pdf)
- [HEA-Principles-of-Good-Practice-in-Research-in-Irish-HEIs-2020.pdf](#)
- EUA-CDE Doctoral education in Europe: current developments and trends (2022) [https://eua-cde.org/downloads/publications/web\\_council%20on%20doctoral%20education\\_horizontal.pdf](https://eua-cde.org/downloads/publications/web_council%20on%20doctoral%20education_horizontal.pdf)



Thank you  
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