



IDPM Course Summary



4cPM – Post Graduate, International Diploma in Project Management

4cPM Ltd is a wholly owned business delivery component of Castle College Nottingham, working both as an academic developer and deliverer of international qualifications, and also offering project management services to a range of development activities which will eventually be transferred into mainstream business.

Qualification

The International Diploma in Project Management has been developed in partnership with, and is accredited by, Cambridge International Examinations. The Diploma is an academic Post Graduate, level 6/7 qualification conferred by University of Cambridge International Examinations.

The Diploma, achievable at degree / masters academic level, is work-based, uses naturally occurring work-based evidence for assessment, and can be done with minimum loss of work-time or earnings. The IDPM is aimed at working managers who have already amassed varying degrees of project management, or goal/target management experience.

The Diploma targets the following 4 groups:

- Strategic Managers who manage projects as part of their portfolio
- Managers of multiple projects
- Project Managers
- Members of Project Teams

The Diploma is delivered in-country by quality assured centres and world class Project Management trainers and practitioners. It uses a unique and exciting interactive website to provide tutorial support, help and access to specialist Project Management Network.

The Diploma is designed around six modules of study that follow the naturally occurring phases of a project life cycle. The Diploma also recognizes and embodies other internationally used methodologies such as PRINCE2, Logical Framework Analysis (Log FRAME) and Six Sigma project planning.

The Diploma has also been developed in conjunction with leading members of the sector's UK Professional Body – The Association for Project Management (APM) and the Project Management Institute (PMI) and provides evidence towards professional membership as well as to other progression routes to other academic targets.

Course aims

The Diploma will enable candidates to develop skills and understanding of decisions and demonstrate that they can effectively manage all elements of a project – people, facilities, information, technology and finance – towards a project goal.

What will I be doing? /Core Units/Topics of study

Module 1. Project Design, Identification & Analysis

- Project design – LogFRAME
- Project Cycle Management
- Outcomes & Deliverables
- Assumptions
- Functional Analysis
- Terms of Reference (ToRs)
- Business Case

Module 2. Project Appraisal & Assessment

- Risk Management
- Health & Safety Management
- Work Breakdown Structures
- Organisational Structures
- Client-Beneficiary-Stakeholder Link
- Fall-Back & Contingency

Module 3. Project Definition & Planning

- Leadership & Performance Mgt
- Specs, Standards & Targets
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Legislation & Contracts
- Gantt PERTS & Resources
- Time, Quality & Cost Modeling

Module 4. Financial Management & Approval

- Budgets & Cross-Tabs
- Financial Modeling & Ranking
- Estimating
- Resourcing using PM Software
- Financial Approval
- Baseline Plan

Module 5. Project Management & Implementation

- Change Management
- Conflict Mgt & Negotiation
- Implementation, Tracking & Monitoring
- Reports & Presentation
- Slippage, Crashing & Variation

Module 6. Project Closure & Handover

- Contract Closure
- Handover Checklists
- Contingency & Fall-Back Plan
- Tracking Gantt
- Project Evaluations against ToRs
- Final Reports

Course Structure

The IDPM delivery programme is based on:

1. Attendance at 3 x 3 day seminars and tutorials, delivered locally over the duration of approximately 6 months to 1 year
2. A project file of naturally occurring evidence which proves and authenticated the Project Manager's work, and integrates with the assignments
3. 3 assignments
4. A work-based Project Sponsor who can verify and authenticate the PM's IDPM evidence
5. Regular login to the dedicated 4cPM website to communicate with tutors by email

How do I pass the course? / Assessment

The assessment is essentially work-based, so a personal project must be agreed at the outset to facilitate the assessment process in the context of a 'live' project working as a member of a project team.

Delegates will be assessed on 3 types of evidence:

- 3 Assignments. In order to provide appropriate evidence of competence, three assignments must be completed in a time scale agreed. Each assignment is made up of several parts and covers part of the project life cycle
 - Assignment 1 covers project design, initiation and organization
 - Assignment 2 covers the process up to financial approval
 - Assignment 3 covers monitoring, tracking through the process to project closure, and/or hand over.
- The Project File. Evidence which occurs naturally as a result of a student engaging in project management activity.
- The Candidate Assessment Record (CAR). This is signed off/verified by the Project Sponsor and/or the Course Tutor. In addition, the Student also verifies the evidence as valid, reliable and sufficient.

The academic level of the Diploma is (Level 6 - Degree Level) and Post Graduate Level (Level 7 - Master's Level). The level of Award achieved by a candidate will depend on the evidence supplied by that candidate for the assessment process. For example, it is unlikely that a member of a Project Team will have the opportunity to generate evidence at level 7. However, a Senior Project Manager in charge of several projects, or a single large project, will be able to provide evidence at level 7.

Candidates who hold a degree can achieve a Pass, Merit or Distinction grade. Candidates who gain a Distinction grade and hold a degree will be awarded the Post Graduate Diploma certificate.

Where will it be held?

The Diploma is delivered in-country through Quality Assured Delivery Partners throughout the world. Please check www.4cpm.net for marketing and recruitment events happening in your country.

The Diploma can also be delivered as bespoke programme, for initial enquiries please contact +44 (0) 7803 940876

Course Outcomes

The IDPM is a global qualification. It is intended to have wide application for project management staff who take responsibility for defined projects, or multiple projects. It is also suitable for staff that manage the achievement of goals and targets within an organisation's core activity.

The Diploma recognises the growing importance of project management as a skill-set that more and more people need in order to contribute effectively to the dynamic business environment. The Diploma enables candidates to demonstrate that they can effectively manage all elements of a project – people, facilities, information, technology and finance – towards a project goal. Candidates will be required to prove their competence in a wide set of project related skills including the selection and organization of viable projects, project leadership and the management and control of change.

Employer Benefits

- A generic qualification that recognises the growing importance of an international project management skillset.
- Learners qualify without losing valuable work-time.
- A work-based 'Project Sponsor' authenticates and validates candidate's IDPM evidence of competence outputs for external assessment.
- Employers are fully engaged in the IDPM delivery process, their projects are an integral part of the delivery and assessment process.
- World-Class recognition of skills - get a Cambridge qualification working for you!
- A qualified workforce creates the impression, and wins projects.

Duration

The length of 4cPM delivery program is dependent on a candidate's ability to generate the evidence and the assignment outputs. These, in turn are dependent on the candidate's real-time project management work. The average length of time is 6 month to 1 year.

Progression and Benefits

- A University of Cambridge qualification is a personal achievement as well as an organisational one. The qualification is owned by the person and forms part of their curriculum vitae. It creates opportunities for the person, and also for the organisation that employs that qualified person.
- The IDPM provides evidence towards any competence-based academic and organisational process where previous skills, qualifications and experience are recognised and accredited, for example:
 - Degree
 - Post Graduate
 - Professional Membership of APM and PMI
 - Vertical advancement through levels of management strata and increased responsibilities
 - Horizontal movement across sector boundaries
 - Geographic migration using the international credibility of the University of Cambridge brand

Graduation

A Graduation Ceremony will be held for all successful candidates. The Ceremonies will take place in the local region or at Cambridge University, UK.