



OLLSCOIL NA  
GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF GALWAY


Scoil Ghnó agus  
Eacnamaíochta J.E. Cairnes  
J.E. Cairnes School of  
Business and Economics

# MSc Health Economics

Full Time for 12 Months, Part Time for 24 Months

Health Economics is the branch of Economics that is dedicated to the analysis of health, health care systems, health care interventions and health technologies.

This programme introduces the student to the theoretical principles and practical techniques of economic analysis which are applied to inform health policy and health care decision-making within the evolving global context of technological development, population ageing, rising healthcare costs and changing patient preferences and expectations.

A photograph showing a business meeting. Several people in white lab coats are gathered around a table. One person is pointing at a large chart on a clipboard. The chart displays a bar graph with red bars and a line graph with a blue line. There are also some papers and a glass of water on the table. A laptop is visible in the background.

In particular, the programme seeks to equip students with the tools to examine individual behaviours with respect to health and health care, to explore alternative systems of health care finance and delivery, and to apply economic evaluation, preference elicitation and econometric techniques to inform health care resource allocation.

The programme is designed for people interested in pursuing a career in the public sector, working in the government, the health service or public health agencies, in the private sector, working in the pharmaceutical, medical device or private care industries, or in the research sector, working with public, academic, or private consultancy agencies.

## Why Choose this Course?

### Career Opportunities

Graduates with a MSc in Health Economics qualification are in high demand nationally and internationally. Recent graduates from University of Galway have embarked on careers in areas such as the pharmaceutical and medical device industry sectors, research consultancy, and in the voluntary and public sectors. Other graduates have pursued further education at PhD level in Ireland and elsewhere.

### Work Placement

Each student completes a 12-week placement with a company, a government agency or a health research agency. Placements have previously been organized in major pharmaceutical and medical device companies, in agencies such as the Health Service Executive, the Health Information and Quality Authority, and the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics and with leading research centres at University of Galway and beyond.

"Currently, 50% of our team of health economists studied in University of Galway as part of their MSc or PhD. Health economics and outcomes research is a growing field for Novartis globally that provides important information for making healthcare coverage and access decisions."

Gilles Ducorroy  
Patient Access Services Head  
Novartis Global Service Centre

## Course Outline:

The MSc in Health Economics consists of 90 ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System). Students complete a combination of modules (worth 5 or 10 ECTS) and a dissertation or placement report (10 ECTS) to fulfil the 90 ECTS requirement.

The programme consists of a mix of modules, which are delivered through a series of lectures, practical workshops, tutorials, and seminars from academic and industry experts, in addition to a supervised minor dissertation, which is generally completed over the course of a summer placement at an appropriate research agency.

## For more information:

**Programme Director**

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