

► Belfast Metropolitan College continued...

Supplying People

Belfast Metropolitan College is a major supplier of educated and skilled workers to the Northern Ireland marketplace. With over 53,000 enrolments annually, many of whom are making their first move into the job market, the College is in a strong position to provide employees with the skills and expertise required by local employers.

Expert academic tuition is complemented by a College Employer Engagement team who work to equip students with the kind of employability skills required by employers in the global marketplace.

Opportunities exist for companies to participate in short-term partnership programmes, provide specific project work for existing students or utilise graduate talent via longer-term programmes such as Collaborate. Collaborate places graduates with local businesses to work on specific projects. The companies get access to skills and knowledge of some of the college's best graduates and the graduate has the opportunity to experience a work role they may not have considered in the past.

Students on Higher Education courses also have the opportunity to undertake work placements. An essential part of Higher National Diplomas and Foundation Degrees, placements are key to improving students' future employability. Employers can benefit from the students' knowledge by engaging them in a short-term project such as market research, designing websites or financial reporting.

The department also offers employers an opportunity to advertise job vacancies free of charge, and attend

recruitment events targeted at relevant students. Students access Job Club information on their section of the website and apply directly to the company concerned. With levels of unemployment historically low in Northern Ireland and clear skill gaps in the local economy this is a valuable service to local businesses.

Delivering Training

Belfast Metropolitan College also provides high quality, cost effective training and consultancy solutions to a range of business clients across a variety of industry sectors. The Workforce and Economic Development department provides tailored programmes and solutions to suit each client's needs. These services cover a broad spectrum of business and professional training that reflect current demand for training and consultancy in a range of specialist areas.

New Developments

A key initiative for Belfast Metropolitan College is its new economic development campus, E3, scheduled to open in 2010. E3 stands for Education, Employability and Entrepreneurship and these are the three key strands of activity that will be developed at the campus. This exciting new campus will complement the existing college facilities by providing an innovative learning space and advanced facilities that will more closely resemble a modern 21st century workspace than a traditional classroom environment.

Through E3, students on Higher Education programmes at the college will be supported to deliver real industry led projects. Learners will provide innovative solutions to practical and technical projects devised and driven by local business.



Belfast City Hall



The College Square East Building