

Logistics & Supply Chain

Your Careers Adviser

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Skills developed in college

You will have already developed a range of skills throughout your education (academic & extra-curricular), work experience and personal interests and activities.

Below are some examples of broader business skills developed as a result of studying Logistics and Supply Chain Management. They are not all limited to your academic study and can be applied to other contexts. Employers' job vacancy details often refer to these skills. Skills sections on your CV can help you demonstrate the broad range of qualities you have to offer employers such as being able to:

- demonstrate understanding of organisations, the external environment in which they operate,
- how they are managed and the future needs of organisations
- apply critical thinking analysis and synthesis, including being able to identify
- assumptions, evaluate statements, detect false logic, identify implicit values, define terms
- adequately and generalise appropriately
- problem-solve and make decisions, using appropriate quantitative and qualitative skills and also be able to create, evaluate and assess options, together with being able to apply ideas and knowledge to a range of situations
- employ effective communication, using ICT and a range of media widely used in business,
- for example, business reports
- demonstrate numeracy and quantitative skills including modelling and data analysis,
- interpretation and extrapolation
- self-manage own time, behaviour, motivation, initiative and enterprise.
- show an appetite for reflective, adaptive and collaborative learning.
- be self-aware, sensitive and open to the diversity of people, cultures, business and
- management issues
- have leadership, team building, influencing and project management skills
- be effective at listening, negotiating and persuasion
- research business and management issues.
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*During the course of your degree, you will also have developed an essential range of other business skills, including:

- A talent for clear expression, both oral and written;
- The ability to plan in advance and think strategically;
- Research, analysis, team working and presentation skills;
- The ability to think independently.

You may also have developed a wide range of technical/specific course related skills

Types of employers/industry sectors

Today, logistics and supply chain management is widely recognized as a critical contributor to the competitive competence of firms and of the national economy. Logistics and supply chain management is concerned with the management of the flow of goods and information through the value chain from materials acquisition to final consumption. More simply it has been described as getting the right product, in the right quantity, of the right quality, in the right place, at the right time, for the right customer at the right cost.

'Logistics' and 'supply chain' are sometimes used interchangeably, but there is a difference.

Logistics refers to the processes involved in the handling of goods, such as transporting materials, storing them or distributing products.

Supply chain refers to the whole network of the different parties involved in getting goods from supplier to consumer. For example, the supply chain network for a loaf of bread would include everyone from the farmer growing the wheat, to the supermarket customer who buys the loaf.

(Source: Target Jobs).

Some of the main types of employers / industry sectors in which Supply Chain graduates work include:

- Logistics companies that supply or distribute for their clients (clients include supermarkets, hospitals, aeroplanes and prisons, for example).
- Companies in the supply chain that sell directly to consumers; these are predominantly retailers, such as clothes stores and supermarkets.
- Logistics consultancies (advise clients on making their business more efficient).

Logistics takes place in many of the functions of a business including customer relationship management, forecasting, inventory management, purchasing management, warehouse management, information technology and transport management. Management professionals in logistics and supply chain management functions also work closely with other areas of the business including human resource management, manufacturing, marketing and finance. (Source :DIT Prospectus 2017/18).

Employer/industry sectors that utilise Logistics and Supply Chain functions include:

- Armed forces
- Breweries, supermarkets, clothing and food manufacturers
- Car fleet operators and courier services
- Central and local government
- Charities
- Coal, oil, steel, gas and electricity companies
- Consultancies
- Freight forwarders
- Freight transport companies - road, rail, air, sea and inland waterways
- Health Service
- Major retailers – including online
- Manufacturers
- Passenger transport companies - road, rail, air and sea
- Public utilities such as water, gas and electricity companies
- Seaports, airports and The Post Office
- Telecommunication companies
- Travel and tourist companies
- Warehousing and distribution firms
- Wholesalers

For sector information see:

www.gradireland.com

www.careersportal.ie

www.prospects.ac.uk

www.targetjobs.co.uk

Career options with your course

Key Divisions in Logistics and Supply Chain

Logistics and supply chain is a multidisciplinary graduate career. Those who wish to work in the area need to understand the whole process even if you're only concerned with one aspect as this can help with career choice. You need to know what impact any changes in the supply chain might have on goods getting from A to B. It can be split into six stages:

1. Sourcing: finding the required resources (e.g. raw materials) and making sure they're the right quality and available at the right time; getting quotes from suppliers and negotiating to keep costs as low as possible.
2. Transportation: using the most efficient means to transport items from the supplier to the site where they're needed.
3. Storage: keeping items so that they're accessible when needed. It's more efficient to supply items 'just in time' (JIT), as storing them for a short time requires less space.
4. Production: creating the product as efficiently as possible to meet demand on time and without leftovers. This may involve managing staff and/or equipment.
5. Storage: storing the finished product until it can be distributed –

again, it's more efficient to hold stock for a short time.

6. Distribution: transporting products to customers and clients in the most efficient manner.

Today, logistics and supply chain management is widely recognised as a critical contributor to the competitive competence of firms and of the national economy. The demand for logistics and supply chain professionals has never been stronger.

Some of the main occupations secured by Logistics and Supply Chain graduates include:

- Supply Chain Analyst
- Business Analyst
- Pricing Analyst
- Supply Chain Administrator
- Supply Chain/Logistics Operation Manager/Planner
- Operations Researcher
- Account Manager
- Global Supply Chain Specialist
- Commercial Planning Manager
- Operations Researcher/Manager e.g. DHL
- Contracts Manager
- Scheduling Manager
- Production/Category/Demand Planner
- Product Controller
- Order Manager
- Materials Buyer/Controller/Manager
- Procurement Manager
- Purchasing Administrator/Manager
- Supply Associate (Pharmaceutical)
- Dispatch Clerk
- Freight Forwarder/Freight Manager
- Inventory Controller
- Distribution Planner/Manager
- Vendor/Scheduler
- Port/Depot/Warehouse Manager
- Production Workflow Co-ordinator
- Rail Operations Manager
- Transport Controller/Manager/Planner
- Air traffic Controller
- Flight Planning (Airlines)
- Customer Service Agent/Manager
- Retail Supervisor/Manager
- Retail Buyer/Industrial Buyer
- Retail Stockroom Operator/Stock Controller
- Forecasting Analyst/Specialist
- Security Manager
- Sales Analyst
- Sales Administrator/Executive/Manager
- Marketing Executive
- On-line Content Reviewer
- Events Executive/Manager

Employers who have recruited in your area

Companies who have recruited Supply Chain graduates:

- Impact Ireland
- Ladbrokes
- Marco Beverages
- N.A. Dublin City Air
- New Ireland Insurance
- Westwood Health Club
- Aspen Pharma
- DHL
- Fonua
- Glanbia
- Lassmann Deilmann
- Mandrews New Ireland Dublin
- New Ireland
- NVD Wexford
- Ornuia
- Ryanair
- Tesco
- Wincanton

Job Hunting

It is important that you access both the advertised and hidden jobs market and use any and every means available to you to job hunt effectively.

Advertised Jobs

Most University and IT Careers Services have jobs listings on their websites:

www.tudublin.ie/jobscene

Graduate programmes and immediate vacancies

www.prospects.ac.uk & www.targetjobs.co.uk

Graduate jobs UK

www.gradireland.com

Immediate jobs/Summer/Graduate programmes

www.mondotimes.com

Local and national press

www.publicjobs.ie

www.localgovernmentjobs.ie

Public service

www.irishjobs.ie/agencies

Complete list of recruitment agencies/online recruitment sites

Company Websites - Immediate vacancies and Internships

Supply Chain management - ipics.ie, NITL- national institute for transport and logistics, supplychainmanagement.ie

www.tudublin.ie/careers

Internet sites:

www.jobs.ie

www.glassdoor.ie

www.jobsireland.ie

www.monster.ie

www.recruitireland.com

www.indeed.ie

Other

- Careers fairs – Gradireland Fair – Autumn and Summer Fair, plus many others.
- Notice boards/Student email account/Lecturers
- Company Presentations
- Specialist Magazines - e.g. Logistics News - www.logisticsnews.com/

Voluntary Sector/Charities

www.activelink.ie

Voluntary Sector/Charity/NGO vacancies in voluntary sector

www.volunteeringireland.com

www.dochas.ie

Association of non-governmental development organisations

www.comhlahm.org

Volunteering opportunities

www.wheel.ie/directory

Directory of voluntary and community organisations

Unadvertised Jobs

Networking

- Job Shadow/Informational Interviewing/work experience
- Networking – who is in your network?
- Professional Bodies,
- Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Blogs, discussion boards)
- Attend events,
- Businessandleadership.com (events)
- Get in touch with guest speakers
- Thesis / College projects/Placement/Site visits/guest speakers
- TU Dublin Societies
- First Destination Reports
- Join Alumni Association/Linked-in TU Dublin Alumni group

Contact companies directly

- Speculative applications + cold calling. Think about your offering
- Contact organisation with ideas (ways to reduce costs, make them more money, speed up R+D, Your Unique Selling Point)
- Utilise directories – Kompass.com, Freightfox directory, Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, etc.

Track companies

- Check out Labour Market trends, ilo.org (Intl Labour Organisation, www.careersportal.ie, IDA, IBEC)
- Search newspaper business pages on-line to get success stories on businesses as they are growing – TU Dublin Careers website (labour market news)
- Industry award recipients
- Best Workplaces in Ireland (download on gradireland.com)
- Follow target companies on facebook, linked-in, twitter
- Think of small companies not just big brands

Other proactive ideas

- Enter competitions / scholarships
- Consider alternative/related roles
- Think of small companies/brands not just big names
- Linked-in discussion groups, e.g. Leadership in Logistics and Supply Chain Management group, Supply Chain Today, Procurement and Supply Chain – Irish Professionals, etc.

For more information on how to go about finding a job and job-hunting sites, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Interviews

For more information on how to perform in interviews, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

CVs/Cover letters and applications

For information on how to put together a great CV/Cover Letter or Application, [See www.tudublin.ie/careers](http://www.tudublin.ie/careers)

Useful links (e.g. Company Databases, Professional Bodies, LinkedIn Groups)

This list contains links to some of the most useful websites for your course including professional bodies and associations, employer directories, information sources and LinkedIn groups.

General websites — useful links

- www.ipics.ie – Supply Chain Management Institute
- www.cilt.ie – Institute of Logistics and Transport
- www.supplychain.ie – Supply Chain Ireland
- www.nitl.ie – National Institute for Transport & Logistics
- www.iifa.ie – Irish International Freight Association (member directory)
- www.greenscn.com – Green Supply Chain Network
- www.iipmm.ie – Irish Institute of Purchasing & Materials Management
- www.imi.ie – Irish Management Institute
- www.ipa.ie – Institute of Public Administration
- www.mii.ie – Marketing Institute of Ireland
- www.ftai.ie – Freight Transport Association Ireland
- www.fta.co.uk – Freight Transport Association
- www.ciltuk.org.uk – Chartered Inst. of Logistics & Transport (UK) (incl. careers pages)
- www.fiata.com – International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations
- http://cscmp.org – Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals
- Business and Other Associations, e.g.: www.irishexporters.ie, www.ibec.ie (Irish Business and Employers Association), etc.

Careers open to all disciplines (Including 'Paths Into...' Series)

Many graduate vacancies don't require specific degree subjects as possession of a degree is taken as evidence of intellectual ability. What is more important to the potential employer is the range of transferable skills and experience you can demonstrate.

Many graduate training programmes take final year students from a wide range of disciplines, register with the [Career Development Centre's Jobsence](#) for a full list of programmes. Here is a range of career areas that are potentially open to graduates of all disciplines. It's important to note that some of these options may require further study either on the job or beforehand.

If you are considering diversifying or changing career direction a postgraduate conversion course may be a viable option.

Some examples of career areas open to students of all disciplines:

- Teaching & Education
- Financial Services & Accounting
- Marketing, Advertising and PR
- Retail, Sales and Customer Service
- Banking, insurance and financial services
- Charities and voluntary sector
- Fund management / administration and investment banking
- Human resources, recruitment and training
- Management consulting
- Management, business and administration
- Media and publishing
- Public sector and civil service
- Social, community and youth

For further information see: www.gradireland.com/career-sectors

Further Study

Are you considering further study or training? See www.tudublin.ie/careers for comprehensive information

Some examples of further study programmes undertaken by graduates of your course:

- Masters in International Business TU Dublin
- Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting TU Dublin (Conversion Course)
- PhD TU Dublin
- Masters in Digital Marketing UCD

Conversion courses

Some graduates find that their primary degree did not meet their expectations, either vocationally, academically or personally, and seek change career direction. Conversion courses offer the opportunity to diversify into another chosen career area while meeting the necessary entry requirements for that discipline. However, it should be noted that this is not the case for all disciplines e.g. disciplines such as science and engineering will require an undergraduate degree in that discipline.

Self Employment

Ever thought of being your own boss? Think you have an innovative product or service idea that could have commercial value? Want to commercialise your research? See www.tudublin.ie/careers

Other Options (e.g. Time out, travel etc.)

Volunteering and working with communities with is a great way to gain valuable real world experience, to develop new skills, to meet new people, to do something worthwhile and to improve your employability. For more details, see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Labour Market Information

For information on the latest labour market trends see www.tudublin.ie/careers.

Additional Information / Advice

For any query you might have, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.