STEP DIPLOMA IN TRUSTS AND ESTATES - NORTHERN IRELAND

THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE QUALIFICATION IN THE TRUSTS AND ESTATES FIELD

A Route to Full STEP Membership

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STEP
ADVISING FAMILIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

The STEP Diploma in Trusts and Estates - Northern Ireland is the benchmark, professional qualification recognised by the private client industry.

By improving your technical knowledge of the issues arising in trust and estate practice, this course enhances your ability to give holistic advice to your clients as a trusted advisor. It increases your understanding of the administration of trusts and estates and enables you to give practical advice on the law and procedures involved.

The Diploma is suitable for a wide range of practitioners including members of the accountancy, banking, legal and trust professions (at all levels); charity specialists; a wide range of support staff and paralegals; tax advisors; independent financial advisors and executorship administrators.

120
STEP Diploma Level credits gained on completion.
Visit step.org/credits

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ASSESSMENT

The course comprises four Advanced Certificate papers, each of which is delivered through a blend of distance learning and face-to-face workshops. Each Advanced Certificate will take four to six months to complete.

The Diploma programme requires all participants to study the following four Advanced Certificates:

- Administration of Estates
- Administration of Trusts
- Taxation of Trusts and Estates
- Trust and Estate Accounting

It is recommended that participants study either the Administration of Estates or Administration of Trusts first.

In order to gain the Diploma, you must successfully complete a three-hour, closed-book examination for each of the Advanced Certificates.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of the Diploma, you will be able to:

- Describe the classification and types of trusts, their uses, what affects their validity, their premature cessation and under what circumstances they can and cannot be altered
- Advise on the taxation of each trust type
- Explain, advise and comment on the use of the trust in modern tax planning
- Understand and interpret the legal complexities and language pertinent to trust deeds
- Describe the roles, responsibilities, limitations and liabilities of trustees
- Advise on the legal formalities involved in the preparation of a valid will and be alert to the pitfalls
- Analyse the content and validity of an existing will, assess its value to a client and advise to what extent it will meet their objectives
- Advise on the tax-effective will
- Advise on the tax implications and legal considerations of making lifetime gifts and gifts made in contemplation of death
- Describe the roles, responsibilities, limitations and liabilities of the executor
- Advise on the legal management of the client estate, including probate and intestacy issues, evaluation of any risks involved, deeds of variation, disclaimer and insolvency
- Advise on taxation issues relating to the transference of private client wealth, specifically inheritance tax and capital gains tax, and how the burden of taxation can be minimised
- Construct and interpret the trust and client estate accounts

BUSINESS OUTCOMES

- Solve client problems effectively
- Provide your clients with assurance that they are receiving advice from someone highly qualified to do so
- Develop your professional competence
- Enhance your ability to give holistic advice to clients as a "trusted advisor"

"Clients and fellow professionals recognise the course and that helps with referrals and obtaining new clients."

Danny Clifford TEP ACA CTA,
Partner,
Ensors Chartered Accountants

Enrol online at **www.step.org/DipNI**

COST

To enrol on this Diploma you need to have 60 Entry Level credits (see www.step.org/qmf for more information). We recommend that you should already be working in the private client field, or be looking to move to a position within it. Basic knowledge of the core areas covered in the Diploma would be beneficial.

The fee is £745 + UK VAT per Advanced Certificate paper. The Diploma comprises four papers.

This fee includes:

- Course manual
- Face-to-face tuition; two workshop days per paper
- Online resource centre
- Distance-learning support
- Specially developed webinar material
- Self-assessment material
- Examination fees

Examinations are held in Belfast.

WE ARE STEP

STEP is the worldwide professional association for those advising families across generations.

Full Members of STEP (TEPs) are the most experienced and senior practitioners in the field of trusts and estates. STEP membership is considered a mark of excellence and our high professional standards are recognised internationally.

Our members have a broad range of professional backgrounds, and include accountants, lawyers, trust specialists and other similar practitioners who work in trusts and estates.

Once you are a member of STEP you can connect and network with other members across a range of specialisms around the world.

There are three routes to membership, depending on your level of experience and qualifications: Exam, Essay and Expertise. Select the route that is most appropriate for you, and become an Affiliate, Associate or Full Member (TEP).

Find out more at
www.step.org/join

CLT INTERNATIONAL

CLT International (part of Wilmington plc) is STEP's primary education partner, providing certificated training and qualifications for STEP members worldwide.

To enrol visit
www.step.org/DipNI

For questions on qualifications please contact
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