

## **The Actuarial Graduate, Group Actuarial**

*Conor Kearney – Irish Life*



### **Qualification Route**

BSc. Financial Mathematics and Actuarial Science, UCC

### **Why you became an Actuary?**

I became an Actuary as I wished to pursue a career that complimented my strong mathematical, analytical and problem solving skills, whilst also offering the opportunity to develop a wider range of communication and management skills.

Within the traditional life insurance/pensions industry, I find the work that we do adds real value and can have a major impact on the quality of life of individuals as they progress through the financial life cycle. I have worked with Irish Life for a number of years, and I really enjoy working in a collaborative team of intelligent and driven individuals. I also enjoy being exposed to senior leaders within the group and developing my understanding of the insurance business from different angles as I interact with many different teams across the business.

### **Why it is a great career?**

An actuarial career is financially rewarding with really good salary prospects, even at graduate level. Compared to other financial professions, an actuarial role enables you to balance a rewarding career with your other interests in life. Many companies offer attractive study schemes which reward students for exam progression via salary increases and exam bonuses.

An actuarial qualification is much sought after, not only by traditional actuarial employers but also by companies outside the actuarial sphere. Actuaries can apply their skills to enterprise risk management, management consulting, aircraft leasing and environmental finance, to name but a few. This means that interesting and exciting job prospects are always available to those with an actuarial qualification to pursue a career that interests them.

### **Supports available**

When you join the Society of Actuaries in Ireland you join a society which is highly respected and is committed to its members ongoing professional development. The Society offers assistance to its members on all aspects of the journey to becoming an Actuary. This includes regular professional development events as well as advice on any queries relating to career development.

The Society of Actuaries Student Committee organises regular events for all student actuaries, and these provide new students with a chance to network and get to know one and other.