



## Video Title: Graduate Programme 2023 – Application Process

Hi!

My name is Béibhinn

I studied astrophysics in college but, after I graduated, I decided I didn't want a career in the space science industry.

A friend told me about the Central Bank's graduate programme and suggested I apply.

Even though I didn't have any financial sector experience, I had worked with data and done a lot of coding at university.

I thought these skills would be transferrable to the Central Bank's Graduate Programme, so I decided to shoot for the stars and apply for a place.

### Application form

The application was online, so the first thing I needed to do was create a user profile on the Central Bank's website where I could submit and track my application.

The application form was well laid out and easy to understand, and it let me to save my progress at each stage.

So I explained in the form how I had worked with data and coding while studying astrophysics.

I knew the Central Bank welcomed applications from graduates from different academic backgrounds.

### Aptitude test

A short time later I got an email to say I had been shortlisted to complete an online aptitude test.

The test is designed to see if you have the relevant skills to perform in the job.

I found the questions straightforward and logical, so any nerves I had quickly disappeared.

### Interview

I got an interview!

The interview process included a group task-based assessment to identify and draw out the skills and behaviours of all shortlisted candidates. The good news is that no specific preparation was needed.



The interview itself was competency-based so I had to give specific examples from my previous experience that would demonstrate my particular skills.

I prepared for the interview by reviewing my application form and watching some of the videos on the Central Bank's website to learn more about its work and values.

I also thought back on my time in university for concrete examples where I was challenged or thought I did good work.

Having those examples gave me confidence for the interview. And the interviewers were very friendly and helped put me at ease.

Despite some nerves, overall I felt that the interview went well.

Being prepared was the key to my success and having solid examples really made a difference.

### **Success – an offer!**

A couple of weeks later the Central Bank called and offered me a place on the graduate programme.

I was overjoyed with the news and immediately phoned my mam to tell her.

I started October 2021 and haven't looked back since.

And that's how I went from astrophysics to central banking!