

COURSE OVERVIEW

ONE YEAR DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY 2026 - ONLINE

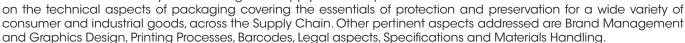


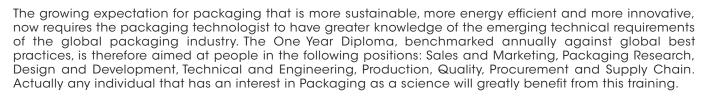
ONE YEAR DIPLOMA IN PACKAGING TECHNOLOGY

This part time, One Year Diploma is highly regarded by the packaging industry in South Africa. It is also endorsed by the World Packaging Organisation, and supported by the IOM3-Packaging Society (UK), IOPP (USA) as well as the Australian Institute of Packaging and is, from time to time, conducted "under licence" by certain African countries.

'Packaging' is a multi-faceted discipline and science, requiring the packaging specialist to have an all-round understanding of both technical and business related aspects. This course addresses these needs and is suitable for both the newcomer to the field as well as the more experienced.

The One Year Diploma begins by reviewing the major business management aspects that the packaging specialist requires to be conversant with, management principles, economics and environmental sustainability to marketing and supply chain requirements. The course focusses





The One Year Diploma runs every year with a duration of about 10 months, with usually one or two sessions (lectures) per week. It sets a high standard academically with 6 reasearch-based assignments combined with Moodle tests as well as the practical project. This practical project is spread over approximately six-months, during which each student is required to undertake research and report on their project's progress. Given the course workload, it must be stressed that students will need to demonstrate a high level of commitment of time and effort to meet the pre-requisites of the One Year Diploma.

The One Year Diploma has been offered in SA, as a fundamental source of Packaging Technology, for over 25 years and has been maintained, over the years, in alignment with global standards.

COURSE OBJECTIVE

- To assist the newer entrant into the packaging, printing and related industries to acquire a basic knowledge in all aspects of business, technical, design and marketing within these fields.
- In regard to those already employed in these industries, to provide an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and basic understanding with the objective of improving their contribution to their organisations.

(Our separate course - 'An Overview of Packaging Technology' certificate course is for those who are brand new to the industry).

IT REQUIREMENTS

Students must have access to a PC, WIFI, internet and data as the sessions will be conducted through the Zoom application.

DURATION AND LECTURES (ONLINE)

February to November every year - lectures will be held via Zoom every week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 17h30 to 19h30. All Zoom lectures will be recorded and uploaded to our Moodle site for student use. Audio recordings of the chapters are available on the Moodle site for the students. Regional monthly tutorial sessions will be available as well as factory visits.

COURSE CONTENT BUSINESS ASPECTS OF PACKAGING

Management Principles and Practices

Management Reporting

Successful Marketing

Packaging: a Marketing Tool Economics of Packaging

PACKAGE PLANNING

Introduction to Packaging

Fundamentals of packaging as a corporate identity

Product Assessment

Package Production and Handling

Marketing

PACKAGING PRACTICES

Protection 1 - Cushioning

Protection 2 - Permeability and gas barrier

Protection 3 - Other environmental hazards

Introduction to Quality/Lean Six Sigma Packaging

Specification and testing

Legal Aspects of Packaging

Packaging and the Environment

PRODUCT HANDLING AND PACKAGING

Materials handling

Materials Handling equipment

Distribution Packaging

Packaging Machinery

PACKAGING MATERIALS

Paper and Board

Adhesives and Labelling

Corrugated Board

Plastics

Flexible Packaging

Glass Packaging

Metals 1 - Tinplate

Metals 2 - Aluminium

Closures

GRAPHICS (SUMMARISED, AS THIS IS A WIDE FIELD)

The Design Brief and Principles

Illustration and Photography

Barcoding

Print Principles and Processes

Digital Printing

Printing Inks

Print Characteristics and choice of Print Process

FOOD PACKAGING

The Composition of Food

Food Spoilage Mechanisms

Food Processing

Grain Products

Savoury Snack Foods Beverages

Sugar, Chocolate and Confectionery

Milk and Milk Products

Poultry and Eggs

Fruit and Vegetables Fish

Meat and Meat Products

Food Packaging Control

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

Artificial Intelligence integration into packaging manufacturing

Introduction to Nanotechnology

Pharmaceutical Packaging 1 and 2

Cosmetics and Toiletries Packaging

Industrial and Chemical Packaging

Industrial Packaging: Flexible

Industrial packaging: Rigid

CERTIFICATION

Provided a student achieves the necessary pass mark in the 6 research-based assignments and Moodle tests throughout the year, and the practical project. He / she will receive the Institute's official Diploma in Packaging Technology. A pass mark is 50%.

Successful graduates are entitled to use the affix M.I.Pkg(SA)Grad after their names whilst they are members in good standing of the Institute.

LECTURERS

Lecturers are drawn from both the academic field, as well as from within the packaging industry. Students therefore receive well balanced input from academics as well as from practical people with local and global packaging exposure.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

A proficiency in the English language, as well as maths and science (normally at about Grade 12 level) is advisable if the student is to cope with the course requirements. Student must have access to a PC or laptop as well as internet access and data.

COURSE FEES AND TEXT BOOK COST

The course fee for South African students enrolled with the Institute for the entire year's course in 2026 is R26 260,00 incl VAT. This is payable prior to the commencement of the course (i.e. by 31 January of the year of study) and includes -

- One Year Student Membership to the Institute of Packaging
- PDF or Ebook of Packaging Technology Text Book
- Lecturing tuition over the year
- a free subscription for the year of study to a monthly packaging journal, currently "Packaging and Print Media".
- Successful graduates of the course also receive gratuitous membership of the Institute for one year after completion of the course

ENROLMENT FORM

This will be supplied upon request, or can be accessed via the Institute's website www.ipsa.org.za. Once completed in full, this should be emailed to the address given below. Interim enquiries can be addressed as below.

ENQUIRIES AND ENROLMENTS

See further detail on the Institute's official website or contact

Lara-Jane Venter 082 776 2201 education@ipsa.org.za

The student is the most important persons in our lives. He or she is not dependent upon us – we are dependent upon him or her. He or she is not an interruption of our work but is the purpose of it. He or she is not an outsider to our business, but a part of it. We are not doing him or her a favour by serving him or her, he or she is doing us a favour by giving us an opportunity to do so. - Borrowed and adapted from the sayings of Mahatma Ghandi



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.ipsa.org.za

