Dublin City University
Faculty of Science and Health
Biological & General Safety Officer
3 Year Fixed Term Contact

Dublin City University (www.dcu.ie) is a research-intensive, globally-engaged, dynamic institution that is distinguished both by the quality and impact of its graduates and by its focus on the translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefit. Through its mission to transform lives and societies through education, research and innovation, DCU acts as an agent of social, cultural and economic progress. DCU is Ireland’s fastest growing university, and now hosts more than 17,000 students across its three academic campuses: DCU Glasnevin Campus, DCU St Patrick’s Campus and DCU All Hallows campus.

Faculty of Science & Health
The Faculty of Science and Health is an internationally recognised centre of excellence in scientific innovation and health transformation. The School is committed to delivering an education that will equip students with a skill set appropriate to a successful and rewarding career that is of global significance and has direct social, environmental and economic benefit. The Faculty is home to the following Schools:

- Biotechnology;
- Chemical Sciences;
- Health & Human Performance;
- Mathematical Sciences;
- Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health;
- Physical Sciences;
- Psychology.

The School also hosts 4 national research centres, 2 large scale research projects and 2 university designated research centres. The School is now seeking to recruit a Biological & General Safety Officer.

Duties & Responsibilities
Duties and responsibilities attaching to this post include, but are not limited to:

- The provision of competent, informed and professional advice to DCU on biological hazards (including biotoxins) and their control to ensure EU legislative compliance;
- The development of University-wide policies to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements relating to biological hazards and genetic modification for approval by the University Biological Safety Committee;
- The timely dissemination of information relating to regulatory compliance to staff and researchers of the University;
- Monitoring, by auditing and inspection, of the implementation of policies and the maintenance of appropriate standards in biohazard areas with a view to ensuring compliance.
with Health and Safety legislation and with the requirements of DCU’s EPA licensing of the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs);

- Act as a Biological Safety Advisor to assist and advise researchers and Laboratory Safety Advisors on the undertaking of risk assessments and risk classification relating to work with Biological Agents, in compliance with legislation and DCU policies;
- Assessing, approving and recording applications to the Biological Safety Committee for work with biological agents or GMOs;
- To ensure full compliance with statutory regulations and university’s policies with regard to GMOs;
- To provide technical advice to the Biological Safety Committee on safety procedures and laboratory security;
- To promote the development and introduction of common standards of good practice across DCU’s biohazard areas;
- To attend the Biological Safety Committee and other relevant safety committees of the University and provide assistance and direction in achieving statutory compliance;
- To provide periodic reports to the University Health & Safety Steering Committee concerning the performance of the biological hazards compliance strategy;
- To develop and maintain appropriate central record systems relating to biological hazards, in compliance with the legislation;
- To develop and implement appropriate training strategies to support biological safety policies, including workshops, lectures and safety inductions;
- To draw up an annual report on biological safety activities;
- To carry out routine safety inspections and audits of all areas as required;
- To attend emergencies or other similar circumstances during or outside of normal working hours;
- To assist Schools/Research Centres in reviewing/revising and keeping their Safety Statement up to date;
- To investigate, record and report on incidents as appropriate;
- Other duties as may be, from time to time, assigned by the Manager of Facilities & Associated Services.

**Candidate Requirements**

**Essential**

- A primary degree in Biological Science or a related discipline.
- At least 3 years’ experience of research work with biological hazards, and in particular with genetically modified organisms.
- Detailed knowledge of the regulatory framework relating to the control of biological hazards.
- Excellent knowledge of techniques used to work with micro-organisms, mammalian cells and genetic modification is essential.
- Previous hands-on experience in biological laboratory work.
- Excellent IT skills with ability to use Microsoft office, Google Docs or similar software packages.
- Excellent organisational skills, ability to prioritise tasks and meet deadlines with minimal supervision coupled with attention to detail.
• Good document control and record-keeping abilities.
• Ability to react and manage appropriately in an emergency.
• Excellent interpersonal, networking and communication skills - written & oral; effective report writing and presentation skills.
• Proactive approach to problem solving.
• Decision making ability and effective working under own initiative.
• Flexibility and willingness to work outside normal work hours.
• Good presentation and training skills.

Desirable
• PhD by research that involved the utilisation of biological agents including GMOs
• A nationally recognised qualification in Safety Health and Welfare at Work
• Previous experience in a biosafety or general safety role within laboratories/University settings is desirable
• Experience in supervising the work of others
• Ability to develop and evaluate training programmes with knowledge of online learning platforms.

Mandatory Training
The appointee will be required to undertake the following mandatory compliance training: GDPR and Compliance. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.