



Dublin City University

Group Financial Controller

Permanent

DCU is a young, dynamic and ambitious university with a distinctive mission to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation & engagement. Since admitting its first students in 1980, DCU has grown significantly both in student numbers and size. DCU currently has in excess of 17,000 students and operates across six campuses in the Glasnevin, Drumcondra and Citywest areas of Dublin.

DCU's excellence is recognised internationally with the University being ranked highly among leading global institutions. DCU is the only Irish University that has been ranked in the QS Top 50 Universities in the world under 50 years old out of almost 10,000 universities established since 1966. DCU is the Ireland's fastest growing University. It has a turnover in excess of €200m generated from the University's activities and from a significant commercial group of companies.

The University recently launched its new strategic plan for the period 2017 to 2022, which will see a further period of expansion of the University and its commercial activities both domestically and internationally. DCU is currently making strategic investments of more than €0.3bn, including a €0.2bn campus development plan. This development plan is supported by loan facilities from the European Investment Bank and the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund.

The Finance Office has overall responsibility for the financial environment within the University and provides a comprehensive range of services to DCU Faculties, Schools, Research Centres, Support Departments and thirteen wholly owned commercial companies.

The Group Financial Controller will report directly to the Deputy Director of Finance. S/He will be a key member of the management team within the Finance Department and will work with the Director and Deputy Director of Finance and other senior managers within the department in setting the strategic direction of the Finance Office and delivering on its strategic objectives in the context of the overall DCU group strategy.

The Group Financial Controller will have direct line responsibility for the University's financial accounting function and all aspects of the financial and management accounting function for the commercial group of companies.

In addition, S/He will have responsibilities for specific commercial development and project activities within the group. S/He will play a key role in the development of financial structures to be put in place to fund the further expansion of the group property and buildings and to fund commercial investment opportunities. The Financial Controller will substitute for the Deputy Director of Finance as required.

Key Aspects of the role Include:

- Managing teams to co-ordinate and deliver on internal and external reporting requirements and ensuring the University and subsidiary companies reporting requirements are met
- Provide leadership to the accounting teams on technical accounting matters
- Preparation and analysis of the Group University Financial Statements
- Full responsibility for the subsidiary group companies budget and financial reporting cycle
- Preparation of Subsidiary Board trading updates and commentary papers
- Preparation of financial forecasts for the group
- Oversee the annual audit engagement with the statutory auditor (Comptroller and Auditor General) and external auditor, ensuring audit requirements are met in a timely manner
- Responsibility for group taxation affairs, both domestic and international, and liaising closely with the DCU corporate tax advisers
- Monitoring and enhancing tax compliance controls, structures and automated processes to ensure effective management of the Group's overall tax compliance
- Providing leadership to the accounting teams
- Identifying projects across the Finance Office as part of the continuous improvement program, including the utilisation of technology and financial systems to streamline business processes and give further enhancement to customer service while maintaining and effective control framework
- Management of the treasury function, including cash forecasting and ensuring structures are in place to meet loan facility conditions and requirements
- Leading the assessment of business development opportunities within the university and the commercial group of companies
- Providing support to business development activities within the DCU group including contract negotiation
- Presenting as required to University management groups and subsidiary company Boards
- Managing and supporting teams to ensure that staff receive continuing training and development
- Liaising as required with key stakeholders both internally and externally including the Comptroller and Auditor General, the external and internal auditors, the Department of Education and Skills and the Higher Education Authority.

Key attributes

- Qualified accountant with several years relevant post qualification experience in a similar senior role in an organisation with similar scale and complexity
- Excellent technical accounting skills
- Strong commercial acumen with a demonstrable track record in commercial projects
- Demonstrable experience working in a complex environment with a record of success

- Board Level experience
- Project management and delivery experience
- Demonstrated ability to lead and manage teams within a fast paced dynamic and changing environment
- Ability to produce insightful reports and disseminate key information to support decision making
- Demonstrable track record of implementing change through technology to achieve continuous service improvement
- Ability to achieve tight deadlines
- Good working knowledge of Irish tax legislation, particularly in relation to corporation tax, VAT and Relevant Contracts Tax
- Effective engagement with internal and external stakeholders

Personal characteristics

- Initiative and ability to work independently
- Proactive self-starter
- Excellent influencing, persuasion and negotiating skills
- Ability to build positive relationships with colleagues in the DCU group and key external stakeholders
- Excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills
- Excellent leadership skills
- Demonstrable problem solving ability
- Record of achievement
- Ability and demonstrated experience of leading and developing teams

Remuneration

Salary Scale: €78,585 to €102,776*

* Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience

Closing Date

5:00pm Friday 25 May 2018

Application Procedure

Informal enquiries to: John Kilcoyne, Deputy Director of Finance, Dublin City University. Email: john.kilcoyne@dcu.ie Tel: +353 1 700 8336

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at <https://www4.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0) 1 7005149.

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: **Job Ref [#892] Group Financial Controller**

Applications should be submitted by email to hr.applications@dcu.ie or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9.

All applications must arrive on or before the closing date.

DCU is an Equal Opportunities Employer