



**Research Centre** School of Nursing and Human Sciences / Psychotherapy

**Post title** Research Assistant

**Post duration** Fixed Term Contract – 6 months

### **Background**

Dublin City University (DCU) is one of the largest universities in Ireland. Its student population is approximately 13,000, including 500 research postgraduates and over 1,800 taught postgraduate students, plus around 3,000 distance education students. DCU is a research-led university which has developed its own research specialists, established internationally recognized centres of excellence that have substantive collaborative links with leading universities and industrial partners.

DCU has a strong track record in attracting both Irish and European Union research funding under Horizon 2020 (and all previous Framework Programmes), Marie Curie Actions and Erasmus. We offer a dynamic and internationally-focused environment in which to advance your academic career.

### **Overview**

The School of Nursing and Human Sciences at DCU is a leader in its field with expertise in the provision of nursing, psychology, psychotherapy, sexuality studies, health & society and other health and social care multidisciplinary educational and research programmes. The programmes currently offered are: BSc in Health and Society; BSc in Nursing; BSc in Psychology; MSc in Psychotherapy; Doctorate in Psychotherapy; MA in Sexuality Studies (in conjunction with the SALIS, DCU); MSc in Chronic Disease Management; Post-registration Programme in Children's Nursing; MSc in Nursing/Healthcare Practice; Certificate in Homelessness Prevention & Intervention; Stand-alone professional development modules for healthcare and other practitioners. Science Foundation Ireland have awarded funding to the School to conduct research into the relevance of the social bond in client engagement with the Star Project. The STAR Project Ballymun Ltd is a registered charity who provide a Drug Rehabilitation Programme and Family Support Service to people who need support for Drug / Alcohol issues or who are dealing with the effects of addiction within the family. STAR offers an intensive, holistic, personal development programme which supports a person and/or family member to make positive changes at his/her own pace in the process of recovery from drug/alcohol addiction and their effects.

**Role:** We are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic qualitative researcher with expertise in client engagement and therapeutic communication for a project supported under the Irish Research Council New Foundations Scheme.

The role is focussed on identifying the initial interpersonal factors that clients and staff experience as central to facilitating engagement in a community addiction service. This will include exploring participants' views and beliefs about what works in client engagement and recruitment, identifying the key skills required for forming social bonds in the research site and evidencing the potential influences of the therapeutic use of self within this community.

'Identifying the skills that enable client engagement and retention in an addiction service' is a project funded through Science Foundation Ireland's Investigator Programme. The outcomes of this research study are aimed at improving knowledge and skills about client engagement and retention in addiction services. The candidate should have an MSc in Psychotherapy or Social Science, or a related area and a minimum of 1 years' experience in working in a health or social care setting. Previous, demonstrable experience of qualitative research is essential. The candidate should be organised, have a strong work ethic and be capable of working both alone and with a team. The duration of this role will be 6 months.

**Principal Duties and Responsibilities** Reporting to his/her Principal Investigator the Research Assistant:

- Conduct, with a very high degree of technical competence a specified programme of research and scholarship under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator.
- Disseminate the outcomes of the research in which he/she is engaged including funder reporting, industrial demos and publishing in high quality peer reviewed journals of international standing.
- Support as required, the development of proposals for research funding.
- Contribute to support of graduate research students.
- Assist and train as directed, members of the research group.
- Take responsibility as requested for report generation, and administration associated as well as site visit preparation and data collection and other administrative management work associated with the study.
- Liaise with stakeholders such as funders, industry and collaborators.
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School or the University.
- Carry out administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary.

**Minimum Criteria** The candidate should have an MSc in Psychotherapy or Social Science, or a related area and a minimum of 1 years' experience in working in a health or social care setting. They should be capable of working independently whilst also being a team player. He/she must demonstrate initiative, be hard working, versatile and productive. S/he should have good communication and organisational skills with a high degree of competence in qualitative data collection and management. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated skills in conducting a literature review, ethnographic methodology, participant observation, focus group and individual interviews and report writing.

**Salary:** €21,459-€33,930 pro rata

**Closing date:** 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2017

**Informal enquiries to:** Dr Gerard Moore, School of Nursing and Human Sciences, DCU, Dublin 9, Ireland E-mail: [gerry.moore@dcu.ie](mailto:gerry.moore@dcu.ie) Phone: +353 (0)1 7005340 Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

**Application Procedure** to apply for this role, applications should include a CV and covering letter and be submitted with the application form to the Human Resources Department as outlined below. Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (open Competitions) website at <http://www.dcu.ie/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 636 Research Assistant**

Applications should be submitted by email to [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie) or by Fax: +353 (0)1 7005500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 1 700 5149; Fax: +353 1 700 5500 Email: [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie)

**Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer**