



JOB DESCRIPTION

**Technical Officer
School of Health and Human Performance
Faculty of Science and Health
Permanent Contract**

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a young, ambitious and vibrant university, with a mission 'to transform lives and societies through education, research, innovation and engagement'. Known as Ireland's 'University of Enterprise', DCU is a values-based institution, committed to the delivery of impact for the public good. DCU was named Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

DCU is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. More than 18,000 students are enrolled across five faculties – Science and Health, DCU Business School, Computing and Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences and DCU Institute of Education.

DCU is committed to excellence across all its activities. This is demonstrated by its world-class research initiatives, its cutting-edge approach to teaching and learning, its focus on delivering a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. The university continues to develop innovative programmes in collaboration with industry, such as the DCU Futures suite of degrees, which are designed to equip graduates with the skills and knowledge required in a rapidly evolving economy.

DCU's pursuit of excellence has led to its current ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It is also one of the world's Top Young Universities (QS Top 100 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100). In the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings 2021, DCU ranked 23rd in the world for its approach to widening participation in higher education and its ongoing commitment to eradicating poverty, while it ranks 38th globally for its work in reducing inequality and 89th globally for gender equality.

The university is ranked 23rd in the world and first in Ireland for its graduate employment rate, according to the 2020 QS Graduate Employability Rankings. Over the past decade, DCU has been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

School of Health and Human Performance

A dynamic and rapidly growing School within the Faculty of Science and Health, the School of Health and Human Performance at DCU is developing an international reputation in health, sport and exercise science and physical education. As such, the School of Health and Human Performance is committed to researching, understanding and disseminating knowledge about exercise and physical activity across the continuum from health to elite sport performance, and to the area of musculoskeletal medicine. The mission of the School is to foster optimum wellness in all phases of the human life cycle through the

provision of academic programmes, research and the translation of research into public health or high performance strategies with practical implementation. It aims to achieve this through:

- Pioneering undergraduate and graduate level academic programmes;
- Undertaking research that transcends traditional boundaries leading to enhancement of health, physical performance and quality of life of the citizens of Ireland and beyond;
- Developing a wide range of community-based sport, health-related and injury research programmes;
- Building on our national reputation for excellence for sports performance, preventive medicine, health and physical literacy, and healthy ageing across the life course.

The School has already received significant support from the University through the appointment of a range of key academic and support staff and the development of extensive facilities for exercise and sport. As a member of this school you will become part of this multi-disciplinary team. Faculty and postgraduate research students in the School of Health and Human Performance investigate a wide range of topics concerning human movement and education, athletic performance, musculoskeletal medicine and health promotion. The School has a thriving research environment and the candidate must have the ability and desire to achieve excellence in their chosen area.

The School runs the following programmes:

1. BSc in Sports Science and Health www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/sport-science-and-health
2. BSc in Athletic Therapy and Training www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/athletic-therapy-and-training
3. BSc in Physical Education with Biology www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/physical-education-biology
4. BSc in Physical Education with Mathematics www.dcu.ie/courses/undergraduate/shhp/physical-education-mathematics
5. Professional Doctorate in Elite Performance (Sport)
<https://www.dcu.ie/courses/postgraduate/school-health-and-human-performance/professional-doctorate-elite-performance>
6. MSc in Elite Sport Performance
<https://www.dcu.ie/scienceandhealth/msc-elite-sport-performance>

The School attracts high calibre students who are offered undergraduate teaching, research opportunities and practical placements in industry, in education or in clinical settings according to programme. At the heart of development plans for the University, the School is in a unique position for significant growth with the planned development of a new, dedicated Health and Human Performance facility on campus at DCU.

Role Profile

The Technical Officer (TO) will provide technical support in the School of Health and Human Performance focusing on two main areas. Firstly, providing technical support to practical and laboratory classes across the Athletic Therapy and Physical Education programmes. Appropriate training will be provided by DCU as needed to assist in the provision of technical support in athletic therapy, physical education and sport science-related areas, should the successful individual need it. Secondly, providing technical assistance for digital teaching and learning needs across the School. This will include promoting the development and set up of technologies supporting teaching and learning on the above-named undergraduate and

postgraduate programmes, and providing technical support to academic staff as needed. Again, appropriate training will be provided to upskill the successful individual in this area if needed.

Duties & Responsibilities

Reporting to the Head of School or nominee, the duties and responsibilities attaching to the post include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Assist the Chief Technical Officer (CTO)/TO team in supervising laboratory and practical work and processes undertaken by staff, researchers and students as required in the School. Ensure best practice by supervising undergraduate/postgraduate students during project work (supporting data collection and analysis using technologies associated with the field) when academic staff are unavailable.
- Provide technical support and assistance for movement, sports performance, and movement analysis computer laboratory work.
- Demonstrate practical techniques, processes, and operation of equipment and software in the areas of PE, ATT and sport science to staff, students and visitors for timetabled taught practical sessions and for research activities and projects.
- Assist the CTO/TO team in ensuring School practical, clinical, and laboratory equipment is functioning effectively and safely. Prepare and implement maintenance schedules to meet statutory and university requirements.
- Work with academic and technical staff to ensure reliable, secure and consistent service delivery of day-to-day educational and IT technology on the programmes, and liaising with Information System Services at DCU as required.
- Mentor, coach and train School staff and students on platforms and projects related to use of digital teaching and learning tools across the programmes.
- Liaise with relevant staff regarding the management and updating of the different social media platforms that the School of Health and Human Performance uses and its website.
- Other specific tasks that may arise and are relevant to the job specification.

Qualifications & Experience

Essential criteria, the successful individual will require

- Honours degree in a cognate area
- A keen interest in the area of human movement/physical education/exercise science and/or related fields.
- Excellent social, verbal and written communication skills with experience of working, collaborating and establishing credibility and relationships at all levels, and an ability to translate technical language to common language for non-technical users.
- Expertise/experience, or keen interest in developing expertise, in education and information technology .

Desirable criteria

- Degree in Sports and Exercise, Science, Physical Education, Athletic Therapy or a related area
- Recognised qualification in educational technology

Essential Training

The post-holder will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when appropriate to upskill in areas as required for the post.