



## **Job Description**

### **Micro-Credential Research and Implementation Officer (Grade V) Office of Vice-president Academic Affairs (Registrar) Fixed-Term Contract up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

Dublin City University [www.dcu.ie](http://www.dcu.ie) 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 and Transformation', it is committed to the development of talent, and the discovery and translation of knowledge that advances society and the economy. DCU is the Sunday Times Irish University of the Year 2021.

The University is based on three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra region of north Dublin. It currently has more than 18,000 students 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 creating a transformative student experience, and its positive social and economic impact. This exceptional commitment on the part of its staff and students has led to DCU's ranking among the top 2% of universities globally. It also consistently features in the world's Top 100 Young Universities (currently in QS Top 70 Under 50, Times Higher Top 150 Under 100).

DCU is placed 84th in the world, in the Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings – measuring higher education institutions' contributions towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Over the past decade, DCU has also been the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer, as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

### **Project Overview**

Over its relatively short history, DCU has developed a strong reputation nationally and internationally for pioneering innovations in higher education. The university is embarking on a period of significant investment in learning innovation across all of its Faculties. The DCU Futures initiative will help us transform the learning experience of undergraduate students at DCU, reconceptualizing learning opportunities, creating authentic connections between the classroom and enterprise, and embedding digital literacies, disciplinary competencies and transversal skills required to truly future-proof our graduates for the rapidly changing workplace. DCU is joined in this project by a strong consortium of enterprise partners, representing key employment sectors in the Irish economy and with a strong presence in DCU's primary catchment area. This programme of innovation is funded under the Irish government's Human Capital Initiative (HCI) supported by the National Training Fund. It will deliver on the ambitions we have to reimagine undergraduate curricula and to embed innovative pedagogies, enhanced use of technology and deep industry engagement.

DCU as a partner of the Irish University Association led HCI project to develop a Multi-Campus Micro-Credentials (MicroCreds) will develop innovative micro-credential offerings. Through the MicroCreds project, the IUA universities will lead the establishment of a national framework for European Credit Transfer System bearing, quality-assured micro-credentials, the first in Europe. This will facilitate the development of a programme of micro-credentials, each flexibly delivered and accredited by a university and included within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). The project furthers the universities' commitment to work in partnership with government and enterprise to drive lifelong learning in Ireland. Dublin City University now seeks applications from individuals wishing to be part of the MicroCreds development.

### **Role Profile**

The Micro-Credential Research and Implementation Officer will research and support implementation primarily related to DCU's MicroCreds Micro-credentialing initiative. Building upon existing pioneering developments in micro-credentials, this post offers an exciting opportunity for the successful candidate to research and to support in the rollout of DCU's micro-credentialing strategy. Under the direction of the Director of Micro-credentials Strategy and Innovation, you will work closely with project staff and other partners to achieve all project goals. You will also collaborate with colleagues from the MicroCreds IUA project team, DCU Studio colleagues and other MicroCreds personnel in partner institutions.

### **Relationships**

The position will report directly to the Director of Micro-credentials Strategy and Innovation. Building positive relationships with researchers, academic staff, professional support staff, technicians and pedagogical specialists and engagement with key internal stakeholders are important features of this role.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The duties and responsibilities of the position include, but are not restricted to, the following:

- Research, prepare and deliver presentations, proposals, and pitch materials in connection with micro-credential research and implementation opportunities
- Conduct research, insights analysis and produce reports in key developmental areas
- Conduct in tandem with the MC Senior Project Officer research regarding existing and prospective clients, competitor activity and market trends/opportunities
- Administer project files and support related working groups and committees.
- Support the drafting and submission of proposals, pitches and models of micro-credential USP development
- Self-manage own workload and project to meet agreed deadlines and outputs
- Collaborate on the preparation of reports on all aspects of project implementation
- Manage a variety of tasks concurrently and show flexibility of work patterns in order to meet timeframes and delivery
- Engage in professional training and development as relevant to the role
- Support marketing activities of the project, including specifically the dissemination of promotional and engagement content across channels.

- Escalate issues and risks as necessary to the Director of Micro-Credentials Strategy and Innovation
- Support the Micro-Credential team and participate in speaking opportunities, webinars, and other visibility initiatives
- Carry out other such duties as determined and prioritized by the Director of Micro-Credentials Strategy and Innovation.

### **Qualifications & Experience:**

Serving Grade 4 staff with 3 years' experience at a Grade 4 level in DCU or, any DCU staff member with a primary degree or equivalent (NVQ Level 7) in an appropriate area plus 3 years' relevant experience.

Applicants must also have successfully completed their probationary period.

In addition, the ideal candidate will have:

- A research postgraduate degree in an appropriate area aligned with learning in digital environments
- Experience of digital learning and micro-credential and/or alternative credential implementation and research in a similar role in higher education or a cognate sector.
- A track-record in research related to micro-credentials with evidence of publications/proposals written on micro-credentials
- Experience of producing and administering projects in a higher education sector
- Demonstrated knowledge of developments in micro-credentialing at national and European levels
- Excellent research (quantitative and qualitative methodologies), analytical, and organisational skills and demonstrate the capacity to work independently and creatively
- Possess advanced presentation skills and demonstrate know-how for online learning and micro-credentials
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to establish, manage and maintain working relationships in a complex and innovative environment
- The ability to develop and construct creative and innovative problem solving solutions
- Possess an innovative mind-set and skill set including experience of managing and delivering on complex deliverables
- Excellent time management skills with the ability to establish clear priorities in a team-based environment
- Possess a willingness to work flexibly and independently, travel between campuses and work out of hours as necessary
- Excellent communications skills with fluent oral and written English.

### **Essential Training**

The successful candidate will be required to undertake the following compliance training: Orientation, GDPR, and Compliance. Other training may need to be undertaken when required.