

DCU Business School
Research Assistant
National Centre for Family Business
Fixed Term 12 Month 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.

DCU National Centre for Family Business

Family businesses across Ireland face significant challenges due to recent shocks in their environment. Brexit, and more recently Covid-19, has provided significant challenges and uncertainties with regard to the sustainability of family firms. Now more than ever family firms need to develop their competitiveness and agility in order to survive.

Established in 2013, the DCU National Centre for Family Business (NCFB) is the first centre of excellence and learning for family businesses in Ireland. By translating world-class research into best practice insights, we empower family firms to embrace these contemporary challenges and achieve continuity across generations.

Role Profile

The National Centre for Family Business is now seeking to recruit a Research Assistant who will contribute to the research and engagement activities of the Centre. Working with NCFB faculty, the candidate will contribute to the writing of academic articles, conference papers, industry white papers and other academic outputs. The role will also involve engaging with Irish family firms and conducting interviews and survey research on topics of relevance to multi-generational continuity. In addition, the candidate will contribute to the Centre's engagement activities, for example the quarterly e-zine, webinars and the national conference.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The main duties and responsibilities of the role include:

- Conducting a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of the NCFB faculty, on topics pertaining to Irish family firms;
- Working with NCFB faculty on the design and implementation of evidence-based family firm research, including interview and survey data collection;
- Contributing to the writing of academic articles, conference papers, industry white papers and other academic outputs;
- Engaging in the dissemination of the results of the research through outputs such as quarterly e-zines and practitioner reports, as well as assisting with the organisation of NCFB family firm workshops and annual national conference;
- Conducting administrative work associated with the programme of research as necessary; and maintaining accurate project records and project confidentiality.