



***Director of Finance  
Finance Department  
Permanent***

**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 six campuses, three academic campuses, the DCU Alpha campus, (DCU’s research intensive innovation campus) the DCU Sports Campus and the DCU Morton Stadium campus across the Glasnevin - Drumcondra – Santry 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. The University also delivers academic programmes overseas.

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.

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 universities Under 50 years old, Times Higher Top 150 universities Under 100 years old).

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.

The DCU Group has an annual turnover of just over €250m. It is 49% funded by the State with 51% of annual turnover coming from non-exchequer sources generated by DCU itself. €50m of the turnover comes from a diverse range of wholly owned commercial companies within the DCU Commercial Group of companies and approximately €40m coming from research related activities.

In recent years the University has spent almost €400m on capital expenditure for the expansion and development of the DCU campuses and is already committed to a range of further significant capital projects.

## **Overview of the Department**

The Finance Department has a staff of approximately 60 people. The department provides a comprehensive range of services to DCU Faculties, Schools, Research Centres, Professional Support Departments, and companies within the DCU Commercial Group.

## **Role Profile**

The Director of Finance reports to the President and is a member of the DCU Senior Management Team and a member of the DCU Executive Committee which is the key management decision making body in the University.

As a member of the DCU Senior Management Team the Director of Finance plays a key role in setting and implementing the strategy for the DCU group. In addition the Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation and implementation of a financial strategy in support of the overall DCU Group strategy.

The Director of Finance is responsible for the continuous development of the financial systems and the quality of the services provided by the Finance Department. The Director of Finance is responsible for all financial aspects of the DCU group, maintaining a sustainable financial position within the University and exploiting the commercial opportunities within the DCU commercial Group in support of the overall DCU strategy.

Apart from the senior managers in the Finance Department the Director of Finance also has as direct reports a number of the General Managers from within the DCU Commercial Group of companies.

As a member of the Senior Management Team the Director of Finance is a member of a number of key University Committees and project steering groups.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

The key areas of responsibility of the Director of Finance include:

- Supporting and advising the Governing Authority and the Senior Management Team on financial and related matters
- Driving the financial performance and business of the DCU group through the effective assessment and reporting of key financial data
- Financial Reporting
- Financial Planning, Budgeting and Costing
- Capital Project Funding, Treasury and Cash Forecasting
- Finance Operational Services such as payroll, research accounting, procurement etc.
- Stakeholder engagement and representing DCU on external groups
- The financial internal control environment and governance in financial matters
- Adoption and implementation of appropriate accounting policies
- Compliance with accounting, legal, tax, regulatory and government requirements
- Assessment of business opportunities
- Financial Systems development and implementation
- External Audit by the Statutory Auditor (the Comptroller and Auditor General) and the commercial auditor.

- Ensure that month end, year-end and other reporting deadlines are met throughout the DCU group.

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## **Knowledge & Experience**

### **Essential**

It is a requirement that the person to be appointed to this post has

- Qualified as an accountant and holds a membership of one of the recognised accountancy bodies.
- A minimum of ten years post qualification experience
- Significant experience in a senior financial role
- Gained that experience in a large complex organisation
- Experience of implementing, working with and exploiting large and complex financial systems
- Good working knowledge of both Irish and international accounting standards and taxation

### **Desirable**

- Experience of working within higher education
- An understanding of the Higher Education Sector, including the funding of the sector
- Assessment and financial management of large capital projects
- Experience of putting in place loan facilities or other financial funding instruments in support of capital projects

### **Skills & Personal Attributes**

- Significant leadership and management experience at a senior level in a large organisation
- Ability to think strategically, with strong and creative analytical capabilities
- Commercially focussed
- Excellent problem solving and decision making skills
- Ability to work flexibly, effectively and under pressure
- Excellent influencing, persuasion and negotiating skills
- Ability to build positive working relationships with colleagues across the DCU group
- Excellent interpersonal, written and oral communication skills

## **Essential Training**

The postholder 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 required.

**Salary: €163, 926**

Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and in line with current Government pay policy

**Closing date: Friday 07th October 2022**

**For more information on DCU and benefits, please visit [Why work at DCU?](#)**

### **Informal Enquiries in relation to this role should be directed to:**

President, Prof. Daire Keogh, Dublin City University.

Phone + 353 (0)1 7005116 Email: [daire.keogh@dcu.ie](mailto:daire.keogh@dcu.ie)

Deputy President, Prf. Anne Sinnott, Dublin City University

Phone: +353 (01) 7005659, Email: [anne.sinnott@dcu.ie](mailto:anne.sinnott@dcu.ie)

Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.

### **Application Procedure:**

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies website at <https://www.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies-current-vacancies-external-applicants>

Applications should be submitted by e-mail with your completed application form to [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie)

**Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: #NR250 Director of Finance.**

*Dublin City University is an equal opportunities employer.*

*In line with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 – 2015, the University is committed to equality of treatment for all those who engage with its recruitment, selection and appointment processes.*

*The University's Athena SWAN Bronze Award signifies the University's commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing any gender pay gaps. Information on a range of university policies aimed at creating a supportive and flexible work environment are available in the [DCU Policy Starter Packs](#)*