



Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

Research Centre / School	School of Nursing Psychotherapy and Community Health
Post title	Postdoctoral Researcher
Post duration	Fixed term contract up to six months

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.

As part of this role the researcher will be required to participate in the DCU Research Career Framework. This framework is designed to provide significant professional development opportunities to Researchers and offer the best opportunities in terms of a wider career path.

Background & Role

A vacancy has arisen for a Postdoctoral Researcher for a period of six months to work on the following project:

Title: Needs assessment; health screening for people with disabilities.

The aim of the needs assessment is to:

Collect and analyse data on the experiences and participation of people with disabilities in health screening and assess the gaps between screening service delivery and the participation of people with disabilities.

The role will be based in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, DCU. The post holder will report directly to the Principal Investigator (PI), Dr Kumaresan Cithambaram and the role will involve liaison with a steering group of people with disabilities in association with the National Screening Service (NSS). Fieldwork will involve participating health and social care locations and on-line communication.

This needs assessment research will be carried out in association with the NSS and will explore inequities in health screening among people with disabilities in Ireland. In light of the health inequalities experienced by people with disabilities in Ireland, there is an urgent need to improve access to health screening for people with disabilities. This research will include using mixed methods to seek the perspective of people with disabilities, family members and health care professionals regarding barriers to health screening for people with disabilities in Ireland. The research will also explore supports needed to make health screening more accessible to people with disabilities. Personal and Public Involvement (PPI) representation is central to this research and the research team includes academics from a variety of health professions with a wide body of research experience relating to supporting people with different disabilities. This research is funded by the NSS. We are seeking to recruit an experienced mixed methods researcher to work with the research team.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct a specified programme of mixed methods research under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator in association with the Research team.
- Liaise with both internal and external stakeholders including nursing partners and health and social care partnerships /organisations.
- Attend, contribute to and present progress at relevant research meetings.
- Provide assistance and advice to the project research assistant.
- Prepare reports and publications.
- Engage in the dissemination of the results of the research in which he/she is engaged with assistance from and under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.
- Engage in appropriate training and development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, the School, or the University.

Minimum Criteria

- Applicants should have a PhD in a relevant area such as nursing, psychology, social science, health services research, allied health disciplines or related disciplines relevant to the research topic.
- Well-developed qualitative and quantitative research skills with a publication track record.
- Experience of conducting health or social care research.
- Proven ability of working with and across diverse teams in multiple settings as part of a dynamic research process.
- Excellent written and oral proficiency in English
- Strong organisational and problem solving abilities.
- Excellent communication and stakeholder management skills.
- Proven ability to prioritise workload and work to strict deadlines.

Desirable:

- Experience of information and communication technology research in health and social care.
- Experience of conducting research with people with disabilities.
- Postdoctoral research experience.

Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:

Discipline knowledge and Research skills – Demonstrates knowledge of a research discipline and the ability to conduct a specific programme of research within that discipline

Understanding the Research Environment – Demonstrates an awareness of the research environment (for example funding bodies) and the ability to contribute to grant applications

Communicating Research – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research with their peers and the wider research community (for example presenting at conferences and publishing research in relevant journals) and the potential to teach and tutor students

Managing & Leadership skills - Demonstrates the potential to manage a research project including the supervision of undergraduate students