



**Project Manager
Professional 5a
ADAPT Centre
Fixed Term Contract up to 31st January 2026**

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

Overview of the Department

The ADAPT Centre, a world-leading SFI Centre, is Ireland's global centre of excellence for digital content technology funded through Science Foundation Ireland's Centres programme. ADAPT combines the expertise of over 300 researchers across eight Higher Education Institutes (Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University, University College Dublin, Technological University Dublin, Munster Technological University, Technological University of the Shannon, Maynooth University, and

National University of Ireland, Galway) with that of its industry partners to produce ground-breaking digital content innovations.

The ADAPT Centre executive function is co-hosted between Trinity College Dublin and Dublin City University. ADAPT brings together more than 300 researchers who collectively have won more than €100m in funding and have a strong track record of transferring world-leading research and innovations to more than 140 companies. ADAPT partners are successfully advancing the frontiers of Artificial Intelligence (AI), content analysis, machine translation, personalisation, e-learning and education, media technologies, virtual and augmented reality, and spoken interaction, as well as driving global standards in content technologies.

ADAPT's Design & Innovation Lab (dLab)

ADAPT's Design & Innovation Lab (dLab) connects Industry with our research expertise. We address business needs through collaborating on either short-term rapid prototyping or on tackling larger industry challenges. We take our partners through a unique customer journey to enable you to leverage product and service innovation from pioneering scientific research in digital content technologies from ideation through to proof of concept stage.

The dLab is made up of research engineers, designers and programme managers working closely with research colleagues to develop impactful prototype solutions to industry problems. The team is driven by Design Thinking practices. The dLab focuses on user-centred innovation where we try to really understand the target user of our technology, observe their behaviour, develop a clear point of view, generate ideas, build prototypes, test and iterate.

Role Profile

We now wish to recruit a Senior Project Manager on a fixed term contract basis to facilitate the management of Targeted Research projects with Industry partners. Working at the boundary of research and industry, the ADAPT Centre targeted research programme is an industry-focused programme where teams of researchers and software developers collaborate with industry partners to work on solutions to industry needs. The Senior Project Manager will ensure the successful delivery of multiple, concurrent Targeted Projects to schedule, cost, quality and to funding partners' expectations. Successful Industry participation is key to the ability of the centre to deliver economic and commercial impact, and to its future sustainability.

Duties and Responsibilities

Reporting into the Senior Project Manager, the DLAB Project Manager will be responsible for managing a portfolio of targeted research projects, building and sustaining relationships with stakeholders, industry partners and academics across ADAPT's eight partner institutions.

In this senior role they will also be responsible for mentoring in key areas of project management of the team. They will be responsible for driving process improvement across project management

activities within the DLab - identifying potential process efficiencies and where required, re-engineer and roll out new practices.

The Senior Project Manager will work closely with the customer and/or Product Owner and Software Developer(s) to understand our industry partner challenges and ensure these are aligned with the research and software development teams' activities.

- Ensure that the portfolio of Targeted Projects with industry are managed successfully
- Be the key contact for the Dlab in the wider ADAPT operations team, driving closer communication and efficient working relationships with all cross functional teams
- Drive process improvements with regard to project management practice and where possible in terms of Dlab interaction with other cross functional teams.
- Drive the execution of the planned projects, monitor performance of all aspects of the projects, resolve issues or escalate as required.
- Ensure that all project deliverables (including research objectives) are to the appropriate levels of quality, on time and within budget, in accordance with the project plan and the overall project objectives.
- Coordinate and communicate with the project team and stakeholders, as appropriate, on all aspects of project progression and status
- Monitor and report on resource usage and provide supporting evidence for accounts payable processes.
- Ensure intellectual property is managed appropriately
- Nurture effective working relationships with ADAPT Industry Partners.
- Oversee budgets for Targeted Projects.
- Perform executive reporting on the status of Targeted Projects.

The Senior Project Manager will be part of a distributed team delivering on Targeted Projects and will be expected to spend a portion of their time at Trinity College Dublin each week with regular visits to other ADAPT Centre partner sites.

Qualifications and Experience

The successful candidates must have a primary degree or equivalent (NFQ level 7) and minimum of 5 years project management experience in a software development environment, or with industry focused research projects. Experience in the Higher Education sector is an advantage.

Knowledge & Experience

- Applicants must demonstrate significant practical experience working as a Project Manager, a strong customer service perspective and a thorough understanding of Project Management techniques in a large and complex organisation encompassing diverse user communities.
- Experience of managing projects in some or all of the following research areas: natural language processing, language modelling, machine translation, machine learning, artificial intelligence, predictive analytics and novelty detection.
- Industry experience working in multinational tech/healthcare sector (combined with experience of working in higher education/research) an advantage.
- Proven track record in Project Management skills including financial management, planning, scheduling, reporting, resource management, communications, risk management, dependencies, scope, quality and budget.
- Experience of traditional and Agile software development methodologies as well as excellent knowledge of project management and collaboration tools.

- Experience in leading/supporting distributed teams.
- Individuals must demonstrate the ability to work with a high degree of professional effectiveness including producing accurate reports, meeting deadlines, prioritising and delivering quality work.
- Ability to work well within a broader team and demonstrate flexibility and approachability in responding to stakeholder needs.
- Ability to problem solve, brainstorm and to generate innovative ideas and solutions
- Excellent social, communication and organisational skills with an ability to work with a variety of different project stakeholders.
- An ability to influence and persuade at the highest level are essential requirements.
- Familiarity with the scientific evaluation and publication processes.
- Professional accreditation(s) in software development or project management methodologies is an advantage.
- Organisational Ability; Excellent organisational and task management skills together with the ability to work on a number of tasks simultaneously. Have the ability to prioritise tasks and meet deadlines, be capable of working on your own initiative and work under time constraints.
- Strong customer facing skills and negotiation skills required with a solid track record for developing internal and external relationships across all levels. Ability to negotiate access to resources in a matrix-type organisation.

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.

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](#)