



<b>School</b>	<b>School of Biotechnology</b>
<b>Post title</b>	<b>Research Assistant in Molecular Ecotoxicology</b>
<b>Post duration</b>	<b>11 Month Fixed Term Contract (0.8 FTE) Two positions</b>

### **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.

### **Background & Role**

The School of Biotechnology ([www.dcu.ie/biotechnology](http://www.dcu.ie/biotechnology)) is the academic unit that leads biological sciences, life sciences, biotechnology and bioprocess engineering education and research within the Faculty of Science & Health at Dublin City University (DCU). The School delivers both undergraduate B.Sc [Genetics and Cell Biology (GCB), Biotechnology (BT),

Bioprocessing (BP), Environmental Science & Technology (EST) and Analytical Science for Biologists (AS)] and taught M.Sc postgraduate degree programmes [Biotherapeutics (MBT), Bioprocessing Engineering (MSBE), Diagnostics and Precision Medicine (MDPM)] in addition to the education and training of research MSc and PhD students under its structured PhD programme, BioTranslate. It is an active centre of basic, applied and multidisciplinary research, supporting clusters of intersecting research themes which link closely with the School's teaching programs.

### **Principal Duties and Responsibilities**

The successful applicants will join a research group and conduct high quality research on a sentinel species, daphnids, within the ecotoxicology space. It is expected that the scientists involved will contribute to research, mentoring students in their final year projects, operate under good laboratory and safety policy. The researchers will be encouraged to continue towards an application for postgraduate studies by the Irish Research Council.

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

- Conduct experiments in acute, chronic and transgenerational exposures on daphnids for a number of pollutants under the supervision and direction of the Principal Investigator. These experiments include toxicity, phenotypic measurements, biochemical assays and metabolomic analyses.
- Collect water samples from the environment and expose daphnids to them for testing.
- Attend and present results at project progress meetings and conferences.
- Contribute to external funding sources and the writing of grant proposals.
- Mentor, assist and supervise postgraduate research students and junior research staff as required.
- Engage in the dissemination of the results of the research to the wider research community with the support and under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.

### **Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Essential Criteria**

- Applicants must have a primary degree or equivalent (NFQ Level 7) in Analytical, Environmental Sciences or relevant scientific field

#### **Desirable Criteria**

- Experience in biochemical techniques such as but not limited to enzyme kinetics, molecular techniques, culturing organisms
- A background in ecotoxicology and risk assessment
- Experience in culturing of daphnids and algae or relevant training