

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

Research Centre	School of Health and Human Performance
Post title	Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow in Health Sciences
Level on Framework	Level 3 and 4
Post duration	6 Month Fixed Term Contract

Dublin City University

Dublin City University is a leading innovative European University with a mission to ‘transform lives and societies. DCU ranks as one of the world’s Top 350 Universities, *Times Higher Education*, and is proud to be Ireland’s No. 1 Young University. The University is known for the ‘transformative student experience’ it offers and is also recognised for its impact in addressing global challenges in collaboration with national and international stakeholders.

Research Career Framework

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

Applications are invited from enthusiastic and suitably qualified candidates for this six-month fixed term contract as a Research Fellow / Senior Research Fellow at the School of Health and Human Performance. This position is available from March 2026. This role offers a unique opportunity that is two-fold (i) develop, write and assist with the submission of competitive research grant applications to national and international funding bodies and (ii) assist in the development and implementation of a bespoke intervention to improve farm families’ knowledge and attitudes towards mental health, address barriers and facilitators to help-seeking, and increase intentions to seek help when needed. The postholder will devote a substantial proportion of their time to the development and writing of research funding applications. The post is based on the Glasnevin Campus of Dublin City University, and the appointee will report to Dr Siobhán O’Connor, the Principal Investigator.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

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

- Contribute to the research programme under general guidance of the Principal Investigator Dr Siobhán O’Connor and wider research team;
- Assist the PI and research group in the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of the research programme;

- Lead the development, writing, and submission of competitive research grant applications to national and international funding bodies (e.g. Research Ireland, HRB, Horizon Europe, NIHR, Wellcome Trust, charities etc.);
- Draft high-quality case for support, research plans, impact statements, pathways to impact, and funder-specific sections;
- Translate the PI's research vision into coherent, fundable proposals, aligning with funder priorities and strategic themes;
- Coordinate internal and external contributions (e.g. collaborators, partners, patient/public contributors) to grant applications;
- Foster and maintain effective partnership and communication with all team members, collaborators, academic researchers, knowledge users, public and patient involvement (PPI) contributors and key stakeholders, as required;
- Identify and track relevant funding opportunities, calls, and deadlines aligned with the project's research agenda.
- Advise the PI on funding strategy, including timing, suitability of schemes, and positioning of applications;
- Contribute and lead the research projects wider dissemination including presentations, webinars, infographics;
- Assist with administrative and management tasks associated with the research project;
- Carry out any other duties within scope and purpose of the position as requested by the Principal Investigator.

Minimum Criteria

Applicants must have a PhD in a related health, wellbeing, psychology, or sport science discipline. Applicants should have a minimum of 4 years relevant postdoctoral research experience or equivalent at Level 1 of the Research Career Framework.

In addition, it is desirable that applicants have experience in:

- Post-doctoral / research fellow experience in health, health sciences, wellbeing, psychology, or sports science;
- Experience preparing and contributing to successful research funding applications as a named contributor or lead writer;
- Writing for major national and international funding bodies;
- Substantial experience in research grant writing is particularly welcomed;
- Assisting with the development of research budgets and justification of resources;
- Identifying and tracking funding opportunities relevant to a strategic research agenda;
- Engaging with research development, contracts, and finance teams to ensure compliant submissions;
- Strong organisational and project management abilities, with effective prioritisation and problem-solving skills;
- Be able to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines;

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- Managing multiple competing deadlines and funding calls simultaneously;
 - Excellent written and oral proficiency in English (essential), good communication and social skills both written and verbal;
 - Proven publication record and experience presenting at conferences;
 - Proven ability to prioritise workload and work to exacting deadlines;
 - Enthusiastic and structured approach to research and development.

Candidates will be assessed on the following competencies:

Discipline knowledge and Research skills – Demonstrates the ability to design and implement part of a programme of research (for example by using critical thinking and the application of relevant research methodologies).

Understanding the Research Environment – Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the research environment both nationally and internationally and the ability to contribute substantially to grant applications.

Communicating Research – Demonstrates the ability to communicate their research effectively to the research community and wider society (for example by publishing their research in high quality peer reviewed journals) and the ability to teach and tutor students.

Managing & Leadership skills - Successfully manages research projects including the management and supervision of postgraduates and/or junior research staff.

Essential Training

The postholder will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training:

- Orientation
- Health & Safety
- Data Protection (GDPR)
- Cyber Security Awareness
- AI Literacy

Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

Salary Scale: IUA Researcher Fellow / Senior Research Fellow Salary Scale - €65,889 – €86,014

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

Closing date: Monday, 19th January 2026

Remote Working Policy

DCU operates a Remote Working Policy. Employees may be approved for up to 2 days of remote working per week (or an appropriate pro-rata amount for those part time). Any remote working arrangement will be reflective of the predominant on-campus working environment and the core University value of 'Student Focused'.

Employees will be based on campus for the majority of their working week to ensure a sustained on campus engagement and experience. The terms of the [remote working policy](#) will apply.

For more information about the School of Health and Human Performance, please visit [SOHAHP](#)

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

Dr. Siobhan O'Connor, School of Health & Human Performance, Dublin City University.

Phone + 353 (0)1 700 8579 Email: siobhan.oconnor@dcu.ie

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

Application Procedure:

Please submit your application through the online system. In order to be considered for the role to which you are applying for, you must upload:

- 1) Curriculum Vitae
- 2) Cover Letter
- 3) Completed application form (blank forms can be downloaded from the bottom of the Vacancy).

Please note, if all items are not uploaded, the application will be deemed incomplete, and will not be processed.

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 Silver 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](#)

