

Vacancy: Post-doctoral Researcher (12 months full-time)

Applications are invited for the post of Postdoctoral Researcher, employed by the National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF), working on a collaborative project with the National DBT Office as part of the HSE National Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Training Team. This is a full-time post (1.0 WTE).

The National Suicide Research Foundation (NSRF) is a research unit, founded in 1994, that produces research and evidence for policy development and intervention in the prevention of self-harm, suicide and related mental health and social problems. The NSRF has been designated as a World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre in Surveillance and Research in Suicide Prevention. We employ approximately 50 staff and have an annual turnover of approximately €1.8M. More information about the organisation can be found here: www.nsrp.ie

The HSE National Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) Training Team provides training in DBT to mental health professionals working in HSE services across Ireland. This training team are advancing on work completed by the National DBT Project Ireland which coordinated the implementation of DBT programmes in Community Mental Health Services across Ireland.

The NSRF and HSE have come together as two organisations to collaborate in implementing and evaluating DBT training across Ireland. The HSE DBT Training Team is supported by a team who have a critical role in evaluating this initiative. The Postdoctoral Researcher will work as part of an established research team who have responsibility for coordinating the research evaluation associated with the national roll-out of this new training model in Ireland.

Summary of position

This post provides an exciting opportunity to join an established research team which consists of Clinical Psychologists, a Senior Researcher and a Research Officer. The successful candidate will work closely with the research team, as well as with the wider HSE DBT Training Team which is comprised of Clinical Psychologists and Experts by Experience.

The ideal candidate will have a background in Psychology or an associated health related discipline. The Postdoctoral Researcher will be required to work as part of a team to achieve the tasks associated with this national research evaluation. The successful candidate will report to Dr Mary Joyce, Research Advisor and Supervisor and will be based at the HSE DBT Training Team offices, Old Health Centre, Inniscarra Road, Ballincollig, Cork.

Key duties and responsibilities

The Postdoctoral Researcher will work closely with the other members of the research team and will assume the following responsibilities:

- Conduct data collection with HSE staff (Mental Health professionals) and service users (including adults, adolescents and parents)
- Score clinical measures
- Conduct literature reviews
- Review and prepare datafiles for quantitative and qualitative analyses
- Conduct quantitative analyses on existing datasets including advanced inferential statistics
- Conduct qualitative analyses on existing datasets including thematic analysis and content analysis
- Draft and contribute to peer-reviewed articles for publication in international journals
- Prepare and finalise interim and annual reports for various stakeholders
- Prepare and deliver presentations at local and international conferences and events
- Contribute to seminars and dissemination activities
- Schedule and coordinate research team meetings
- Work alongside and provide supervision to the Research Officer(s) on the team
- Carry out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post

Essential Skills/ Criteria

- A PhD qualification (or equivalent experience) in a mental health/public health discipline (e.g. Psychology or an associated health related discipline)
- Experience in evaluating an intervention with participants
- Experience in managing large databases (e.g. SPSS, Stata, Microsoft Excel) and applying statistical analyses
- A publication record, including peer-reviewed publications
- Experience in disseminating information from clinical research or related mental health topics, in particular, writing reports and articles for peer review publication
- Research writing skills with the ability to write research reports for various audiences including peers, service managers, funding providers and policy makers
- Capacity to work closely with the clinical leads and research advisor who are leading the research evaluation of this project
- Capacity to work on one's own initiative and to multi-task
- Experience in translating research evidence, in particular, preparing briefs for stakeholders in self-harm research, intervention, prevention, policy development or related mental health areas at national and international levels
- Experience of working as part of a team, with strong organisational and time management skills to support a team in working to deadlines
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Proficiency with Qualtrics/ online systems for data collection

**Desirable Skills/Criteria:**

- Experience of working with staff in multidisciplinary community mental health teams
- Experience and familiarity with mental health services/systems
- Full, clean driver's licence with access to a car

Salary

Salary will be in accordance with the IUA Researcher Salary Guidelines, Post-Doctoral Researcher Level 1 (€44,847 - €51,313) per annum. Placement on the scale will be commensurate with experience. The appointment will initially be for a period of 12 months with the prospect of prolongation of the term of employment subject to review and funding availability.

Application Process

For informal enquiries on the post, candidates should contact:

Dr Mary Joyce, Research Advisor and Supervisor, HSE DBT Training team, Old Health Centre, Inniscarra Road, Ballincollig, Cork.

Email: maryc.joyce@hse.ie; Tel: 00 353 86 1881193.

To Apply:

Applicants are requested to send a cover letter detailing relevant experience, skills and motivation for applying together with a full CV along with the names of two referees to Ms Eileen Hegarty by email at Eileen.Hegarty@ucc.ie.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 19th February at 1.00 pm.

Shortlisting will apply and suitable candidates will be notified of interview date and time as soon as possible. Interviews for this position are expected to take place on Friday, February 28th 2025.