

Candidate Information

Position:	Research Assistant
School/Department:	Centre for Public Health
Reference:	20/108118
Closing Date:	Wednesday 26 February 2020
Salary:	£28,331 to £31,866
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 12 March 2020
Duration:	This is a fixed term contract until 31 October 2020.

JOB PURPOSE:

To support the development, implementation and analysis of qualitative research projects being conducted in the area of diet, food choice and obesity across the Island of Ireland.

It will involve qualitative research, including conducting focus groups and interviews in both NI and ROI. The appointed person will also be expected to assist in administrative tasks and data processing, data analysis and results dissemination. The studies are funded by Safefood.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. To work as part of the Nutrition group within the Centre for Public Health, School of Medicine, Dentistry & Biomedical Science, Queen's University Belfast.
2. To build and maintain a close working relationship with the other research centres across NI and ROI.
3. To assist with the design of topic guides to be used in focus groups.
4. To conduct interviews/focus groups with participants to explore their views on the research topics.
5. To analyse the collected qualitative data.
6. To help prepare articles for submission to relevant journals.
7. Any other duties related to the successful achievement of the above duties.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan for the use of research resources where appropriate using these in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Plan own day-to day activity within framework of the agreed research programme.
3. Feedback and liaise with research supervisor/(s) on work progress.
4. Coordinate and liaise with other members of the research group, including a PhD student working on the same project, over work progress.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Contribute to the planning of research projects, reports and publications etc.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. First or upper second class honours degree or equivalent in Psychology, Nutrition/Dietetics, Public Health or closely related discipline.
2. At least 6 months continuous and recent experience working in one of the following fields (or a closely related field): clinical nutrition, public health nutrition, maternal health, behaviour change.

3. Experience working directly with research participants.
4. Experience of using qualitative research methods within a research study.
5. Experience analysing qualitative research data e.g. using thematic analysis.
6. Proven ability to work in a multi-disciplinary environment.
7. Must have excellent inter-personal skills.
8. Evidence of ability to deal competently with administrative tasks.
9. Excellent oral and written communication skills.
10. Evidence of ability to write reports and meet deadlines.
11. Evidence of excellent organisational skills.
12. Good IT skills.
13. Clear and confident communicator.
14. Confident demeanour.
15. Ability to give formal presentations.
16. Ability to act decisively and confidently.
17. Ability to work independently and on own initiative.
18. Ability to work outside normal hours when necessary.
19. Access to transport and willingness to travel to meet the needs of the post across NI and Rol.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Registered Nutritionist with the UK Association for Nutrition or Registered Dietitian.
2. Experience of using quantitative research methods within a research study.
3. Experience using statistical software packages, e.g. SPSS or similar.