

Candidate Information

Position:	Technician (grade 4)
School/Department:	School of Biological Sciences
Reference:	25/112522
Closing Date:	Monday 26 May 2025
Salary:	£28,456 - £30,948 per annum
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 5 June 2025
Duration:	Permanent - Full Time

JOB PURPOSE:

To provide specific technical support services to academic and research staff, students and visiting researchers in the Marine laboratory to ensure research can be conducted in a safe and efficient way. This post is based in the Queens Marine Laboratory in Portaferry.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- 1. Perform routine checks of site infrastructure, experimental equipment and live specimens.
- 2. Maintain, clean, repair and test equipment ensuring general workshop, laboratory and site tidiness and safety.
- 3. Provide technical assistance to staff, postgraduate students and visiting researchers in the use of specialist equipment and apparatus in marine coastal environments.
- 4. Responsible for the collection of live marine specimens, seaweed, sediment and water samples (from around the Irish coastline, rivers and Loughs), measuring and recording necessary data as required for research needs.
- 5. Responsible for monitoring levels of stocks/stores, sourcing suppliers and preparing orders to ensure value for money and timely supply of equipment and other research needs.
- 6. Set up equipment in preparation for teaching and research experiments.
- 7. Assist students and staff in the design, development, construction and operation of basic apparatus for research and teaching purposes or project work (indoor and outdoor).
- 8. Support the Senior Technician with boating activities and ensuring health and safety regulations and procedures are complied with.
- 9. Maintain ongoing experiments following specified guidelines and procedures.
- 10. Support the Senior Technician to develop and maintain operation files, protocols, maintenance records, and risk assessments for equipment and site procedures.
- 11. Ensure health and safety procedures are adhered to by self and others.
- 12. Support the Senior Technician to oversee and offer instruction and expertise to non-resident staff and students, temporary workers, external visitors and provide site induction or assistance where required.
- 13. Carry out any other duties which are appropriate to the post as may be reasonable requested by supervisor.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

- 1. *Academic or vocational qualifications e.g NVQ Level 3, 2 A levels, ONC/OND, City and Guilds level 3 or equivalents in a relevant scientific subject.
- 2. *Two years recent relevant technical work experience in a relevant teaching/research laboratory or marine organisation.
- 3. *Experience of providing health and safety guidance.
- 4. *Experience of laboratory equipment and undertaking basic preventative maintenance.
- 5. Good understanding of Health and Safety regulations, good Laboratory Practice systems and other relevant legislation.
- 6. ICT Competence (e.g. email; Microsoft Office, social media sites).
- 7. Interest in the marine species (invertebrate animals, seaweeds, etc.).
- 8. Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- 9. Ability to plan, organise, prioritise work, and meet deadlines.

- 10. Ability to work within established procedures without supervision.
- 11. Ability to work in a team and independently.
- 12. Due to the nature of the role, flexibility of working hours will be required.
- 13. Willing and able to undertake duties in all reasonable weather conditions.
- 14. *Current full driving licence or ability to meet the mobility requirements for the post.
- 15. *Willing to undertake A Marine Safety Agency's Boat master's Licence (minimum equivalent Powerboat Level 2) or Power Boat Level 2.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

- 1. A Marine Safety Agency's Boat master's Licence (minimum equivalent Powerboat Level 2) or Power boat Level 2.
- 2. Experience in a marine laboratory and/or working with marine species.
- 3. Experience of planning and managing outdoor fieldwork activities in a relevant work based setting.
- 4. Relevant experience of Strangford Lough and/or local coastal waters and fresh waters (or demonstrable equivalent of same).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informal enquiries may be directed to Katrina O'Connor k.oconnor@qub.ac.uk