**Post Specification**

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| **Post Title:** | **Post-Doctoral Researcher** |
| **Post Status:** | Specific Purpose Contract - 0.75 full-time equivalent (FTE) |
| **Research Group / Department / School:** | Centre for Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin |
| **Location:** | Centre for Health Policy and Management, 3-4 Foster Place, College Green |
| **Reports to:** | Dr Samantha Smith (Principal Investigator)  https://www.tcd.ie/medicine/health\_policy\_management/staff/SSMITH1 |
| **Salary:** | Appointment will be made on the IUA Post-doctoral Researcher Salary Scale (Level 1) at no higher than point 4 of the scale (€45,819). |
| **Hours of Work:** | 0.75 FTE (29 hours per week) |
| **Closing Date:** | 5pm (GMT), 28th February, 2023 |

**Post Summary**

The post holder will work on a study focused on children’s palliative care services. The project will gather and examine information for improving how children’s palliative care is planned and delivered in Ireland. The work will include qualitative consensus-building processes to develop an agreed working definition of life-limiting conditions among children, and quantitative analysis to examine prevalence of children with life-limiting conditions in Ireland, patterns of hospital use and geographic equality in children’s palliative care supply in Ireland.

The project team is a collaboration between key knowledge users, including PPI, in children’s palliative care in Ireland and palliative care researchers. The team includes the Irish Hospice Foundation, LauraLynn Ireland’s Children’s Hospice, the All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care, Health Service Executive, Department of Health, children’s palliative care providers, PPI partners, palliative care researchers, and data providers.

The post holder will be responsible for literature review, qualitative consensus building processes, accessing and analysing mortality, hospice, and hospital admission data, publication writing and coordination of research procedures and activities.

**Standard Duties and Responsibilities of the Post**

Under the lead of the Principal Investigator (Lead Researcher) and the Lead Knowledge User, the post holder will:

* Assist in ethical approval application process
* Assist in data access and management processes
* Undertake a rapid scoping literature review
* Develop a consensus building process to agree a working definition of life-limiting conditions amongst children for use in research in Ireland
* Analyse hospital, mortality, and hospice data
* Feedback findings to the project advice team and progress the knowledge translation and dissemination plan for the project
* Prepare original research papers and other dissemination outputs for the project (e.g., blogs etc.)

**Funding Information**

This project is funded by the Health Research Board with co-funding from the Irish Hospice Foundation and LauraLynn Ireland’s Children’s Hospice

**Person Specification**

**Qualifications**

The applicant must have a PhD qualification or significant other relevant experience in research or clinical practice.

**Knowledge & Experience (Essential & Desirable)**

Essential:

* PhD/Post-Doc level experience in qualitative research methods, in particular consensus building methods
* Post-graduate experience in accessing and managing quantitative data including some statistical analysis
* Experience in conducting literature reviews
* Experience in writing for academic journals with evidence of journal publication

Desirable[Required Knowledge and Experience]

* Experience with health-related data (e.g., hospital admission data, mortality data)
* Understanding of research into palliative care and/or children’s health
* Familiarity with Irish healthcare data environment
* Familiarity with Irish healthcare system

**Skills & Competencies**

* Excellent computer skills in all Microsoft Office programmes
* STATA or equivalent quantitative analysis programme
* High motivation to learn new skills where necessary
* Excellent communication skills and ability to work as part of a team and under lead of the Principal Investigator
* Ability to take initiative
* Excellent organisational skills and ability to prioritise work and meet deadlines
* Excellent presentation skills

**Application Procedure**

Applicants should submit a full Curriculum Vitae to include the names and contact details of 2 referees (including email addresses), to:-

Name: Dr Samantha Smith

Email Address: ssmith1@tcd.ie

Queries can be directed to [ssmith1@tcd.ie](mailto:ssmith1@tcd.ie) or [drjoannebalfe@gmail.com](mailto:drjoannebalfe@gmail.com)

**Further Information for Applicants**

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| --- | --- |
| URL Link to Area | [www.tcd.ie](http://www.tcd.ie) |
| URL Link to Human Resources | <https://www.tcd.ie/hr/> |

**Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin**

Trinity is Ireland’s leading university and is ranked 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). Founded in 1592, the University is steeped in history with a reputation for excellence in education, research and innovation.

Located on an iconic campus in the heart of Dublin’s city centre, Trinity has 18,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students across our three faculties – Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Engineering, Mathematics and Science; and Health Sciences.

Trinity is ranked as the 17th most international university in the world (Times Higher Education Rankings 2020) and has students and staff from over 120 countries.

The pursuit of excellence through research and scholarship is at the heart of a Trinity education, and our researchers have an outstanding publication record and strong record of grant success. Trinity has developed [19 broad-based multidisciplinary research themes](https://www.tcd.ie/research/themes/) that cut across disciplines and facilitate world-leading research and collaboration within the University and with colleagues around the world. Trinity is also home to 5 leading flagship research institutes:

* Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute (TBSI)
* Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience (TCIN)
* Trinity Translational Medical Institute (TTMI)
* Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute (TLRH)
* Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN)

Trinity is the top-ranked European university for producing entrepreneurs for the past five successive years and Europe’s only representative in the world’s top-50 universities

(Pitchbook Universities Report).

Trinity is home to the famous Old Library and to the historic Book of Kells as well as other internationally significant holdings in manuscripts, maps and early printed material. The Trinity Library is a legal deposit library, granting the University the right to claim a copy of every book published in Ireland and the UK. At present, the Library’s holdings span approximately 6.5 million printed items, 400,000 e-books and 150,000 e-journals.

With over 120,000 alumni, Trinity’s tradition of independent intellectual inquiry has produced some of the world’s finest, most original minds including the writers Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett (Nobel laureates), the mathematician William Rowan Hamilton and the physicist Ernest Walton (Nobel laureate), the political thinker Edmund Burke, and the former President of Ireland Mary Robinson. This tradition finds expression today in a campus culture of scholarship, innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship and dedication to societal reform.

**Rankings**

Trinity is the top ranked university in Ireland and ranked 108th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). Trinity ranks in the top 50 in the world on 6 subjects and in the top 100 in 20 subjects (QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019). Full details are available at: [www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings](http://www.tcd.ie/research/about/rankings).

**The Selection Process in Trinity**

The Selection Committee (Interview Panel) may include members of the Academic and Administrative community together with External Assessor(s) who are expert in the area. Applications will be acknowledged by email. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within 1 day of submitting your application online, please contact the named Recruitment Partner on the job specification immediately and prior to the closing date/time.

Given the degree of co-ordination and planning to have a Selection Committee available on the specified date, the University regrets that it may not be in a position to offer alternate selection dates. Where candidates are unavailable, reserves may be drawn from a shortlist. Outcomes of interviews are notified in writing to candidates and are issued no later than 5 working days following the selection day.

In some instances the Selection Committee may avail of telephone or video conferencing. The University’s selection methods may consist of any or all of the following: Interviews, Presentations, Psychometric Testing, References and Situational Exercises.

It is the policy of the University to conduct pre-employment medical screening/full pre-employment medicals. Information supplied by candidates in their application (Cover Letter and CV) will be used to shortlist for interview.

Applications from non-EEA citizens are welcomed. However, eligibility is determined by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and further information on the Highly Skills Eligible Occupations List is set out in Schedule 3 of the Regulations <https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Highly-Skilled-Eligible-Occupations-List/> and the Ineligible Categories of Employment are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations <https://dbei.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/> . Non-EEA candidates should note that the onus is on them to secure a visa to travel to Ireland prior to interview. Non-EEA candidates should also be aware that even if successful at interview, an appointment to the post is contingent on the securing of an employment permit.

**Equal Opportunities Policy**

Trinity is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to employment policies, procedures and practices which do not discriminate on grounds such as gender, civil status, family status, age, disability, race, religious belief, sexual orientation or membership of the travelling community. On that basis we encourage and welcome talented people from all backgrounds to join our staff community. Trinity’s Diversity Statement can be viewed in full at <https://www.tcd.ie/diversity-inclusion/diversity-statement>.

**Pension Entitlements**

This is a pensionable position and the provisions of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 will apply in relation to retirement age for pension purposes. Details of the relevant Pension Scheme will be provided to the successful applicant.

Applicants should note that they will be required to complete a Pre-Employment Declaration to confirm whether or not they have previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment. Applicants will also be required to declare any entitlements to a Public Service pension benefit (in payment or preserved) from any other Irish Public Service employment.

Applicants formerly employed by the Irish Public Service that may previously have availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme of Incentivised early retirement or enhanced redundancy payment should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Such queries should be directed to an applicant’s former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

**Application Procedure**

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**Name** Dr Samantha Smith

**Email Address** [ssmith1@tcd.ie](mailto:ssmith1@tcd.ie)

