

The **Generation COVID** research project at the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin, is looking for a

Research Assistant

4 month contract (start date 1st of June 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter)

Salary: € 1,955 per month (in accordance with Point 2 of the Research Assistant scale of the Irish Universities Association)

Deadline for applications: **Wednesday 27th of May 2020**

This role entails working as a key member of a research team investigating the experiences of two groups of young people in Ireland during the Covid crisis: 6th year pupils about to finish secondary school (the Leaving Certificate cohort), and those about to graduate from third level (Class of 2020). The Research Assistant will focus on recruitment of participants, interviewing via video-calls and sourcing relevant online materials such as discussion forum content generated by young adults, but the tasks associated with the role may also comprise reviewing literature and performing some preliminary data analyses.

This is a full-time position and applicants must be in a position to work from home or similar setting that has excellent Internet connectivity.

Essential skills and qualities for this role are:

- Knowledge and experience of **qualitative research** and **interviewing** in particular
- Very strong **interpersonal skills** – the research interviews will be conducted via video or audio calls so the Research Assistant must be very good at building rapport
- Very strong **networking skills** – ability to sample for research participants across a variety of avenues and to snowball sample where necessary
- Excellent **online communication** and **social media skills** – research participant recruitment will rely heavily on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook etc.; and the Research Assistant must be able to collate and organise social media posts from relevant online sources
- Very strong **organisational skills** so as to be able to maintain momentum on interviewing and accurate records of online social media content collected
- Preparedness to supplement transcription software by checking and where necessary amending transcripts for accuracy; good typing skills
- Proven **ability to work independently**: the Research Assistant will receive detailed guidance and extensive support from team members but must be a self-starter
- Ability to work from home (location does not matter) and access to reliable ICT and Internet connection (a laptop can be provided)
- Strong grasp of the **Irish social and economic context**, including the education system
- Fluent spoken English; strong writing skills

Applicants are invited to write a **TWO-PAGE** application where they explain how and why they meet the above selection criteria, including any relevant qualifications and experience. The application must also contain email and phone contact details of the applicant and the name, position and email and phone contact details of ONE referee. Applications that are longer than two pages will not be considered. Interested applicants should be in a position to take up the role immediately and on a full-time basis, if offered the post.

Applications are invited by email for the attention of:

Professor Virpi Timonen (Principal Investigator) timonenv@tcd.ie