



Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

Post-Doctoral Researcher or Senior- Post Doctoral Researcher

School of Engineering and Architecture
2 Years, Fixed Term, whole-time Post

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A Welcome from our President

Many thanks for your interest in a career at University College Cork, and in joining a dynamic group of talented people working to secure the future of our people and our planet.

UCC is one of Ireland's oldest institutions of higher education, and our historic campus is in the heart of Cork city, a vibrant economic hub located in one of Ireland's most scenic regions, with a rich cultural heritage. Ranked in the top 250 universities in the world in the QS Rankings, UCC has a far-reaching impact that extends well beyond its campus. In 2010, UCC was the first third level education institution in the world to receive the Green Campus award, and today we proudly fly our Green Flag over our Main Quadrangle following continued successful renewals. UCC has held a top ten place in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings since 2010 and is now ranked 4th in the world for sustainability.

UCC is a comprehensive university providing a broad research-based Connected Curriculum from archaeology to zoology across its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. UCC is the top Irish Higher Education Institution for graduate employability, and our more than 220,000 alumni excel in every walk of life across the globe. Our true strength lies in the people who work and study here, and UCC's student body of more than 26,000 includes over 5,000 international students from more than 120 countries across all continents. Of the more than 3,500 professionals employed at UCC, over one third of academic staff have come from overseas.

UCC is a place of inclusion, and the diversity of our staff and students is key to realising our vision to connect and empower people to create knowledge that shapes a sustainable and inclusive world. UCC holds a silver Athena SWAN award, and 17 of our Schools, Departments and Centres hold department level awards.



With a strong focus on research and innovation, UCC is the leading Irish university for industry collaboration and for securing investment in Research and Innovation. The UCC Futures framework organises our research into thematic areas of excellence supporting the provision of impactful solutions to some of the most important global challenges of our time. UCC is home to several world class Research Centres including Tyndall National Institute, APC Microbiome Ireland and the UCC Sustainability Institute.

As we build on our 180-year history of university, committed to attracting and developing talented minds to secure our future.

This briefing pack contains information which I hope will be useful and informative should you be selected to attend for interview here in Cork. I trust that your experience of our recruitment process will be a positive one and I thank you, again, for considering a career at University College Cork.

Best wishes,

Professor John O'Halloran
-President



UCC, A Place of Values

BELIEVE

At UCC our mission is to meet the challenges of our time, together. When you work at University College Cork, you are joining a group of diverse thinkers and innovators committed to a sustainable future for our University, our society and our world. We rely on the collective power of our people working to create and innovate towards a common purpose.

As a leading research university, our ambition is to cultivate a distinctive research reputation in signature areas of excellence. As a community of learning, our connected curriculum underpins a relevant, dynamic and inclusive learning experience for our students. As the world's first Green Flag university, we are proud of our leadership in sustainability and we continue to radically reform our practices and use of space and technology to meet our ambitious sustainability and climate action goals.

BELONG

We are committed to providing a diverse, inclusive and equitable working environment where everyone's contribution is valued and everyone has the potential to shape change and make a difference. We value the unique background, experience, and contribution that each staff member brings to our community and are looking for people who will make a difference. If you believe in our vision and mission and would like to belong to community of people who are working together to make an impact, we would love to hear from you.

BECOME

When you become a member of UCC's community you will be eligible for a wide range of staff benefits and rewards including the following:

- High-quality professional and leadership development opportunities, including UCC-delivered postgraduate qualifications in Learning and Teaching, as well as Professional Practice and Leadership in Higher Education.
- Staff fee concessions for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- Outstanding sports facilities with subsidised membership for university staff and an active sports and social club and special interest groups.
- Access to comprehensive wellbeing supports.
- Opportunities to engage with staff within the University community through vibrant on-campus cultural events, networks and seminars.
- A University level awards scheme to recognise outstanding achievements

“ Like a flock of starlings, human systems are connected, complex and adaptive, with an extraordinary ability to synchronise with each other. Leadership, in the context of a starling murmuration, is inclusive, distributed, and wholly reliant on effective and multi-directional communication ”

Professor John O'Halloran
– President

About University College Cork

University College Cork (UCC) is an internationally renowned university where excellence in teaching and research is aligned with an inclusive and respectful environment, where all staff and students can flourish and thrive. Founded in 1845, UCC is a comprehensive research-intensive institution comprising four academic Colleges, delivering a rich tradition of collaborative teaching, research and scholarship that has true global impact.



UCC Facts – Our Impact

Economic Impact



€3.2 MILLION

Generated everyday for the economy



€1.18 BILLION

Economic impact, supporting more than 21,000 jobs



3RD LARGEST

Employer in Cork



€6 every €1 Invested

Return for every €1 of state investment



21,000

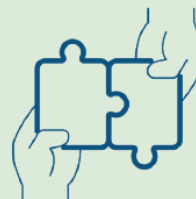
Jobs supported

Talent Capacity Building Mobility Impact



€113 MILLION

Investment in creation & discovery



4 SPIN-OUT

Companies created in 2023



€113 MILLION

Investment in creation & discovery



€10.4 MILLION

Investment in research & innovation by industry partners

Societal & Cultural Impact



21% Alternative Access

Undergraduate student intake through alternative access pathways.



TOP 30

TOP 30 in the world for its impact and advancement of 5 UN SDGS



7,000 Volunteer hours

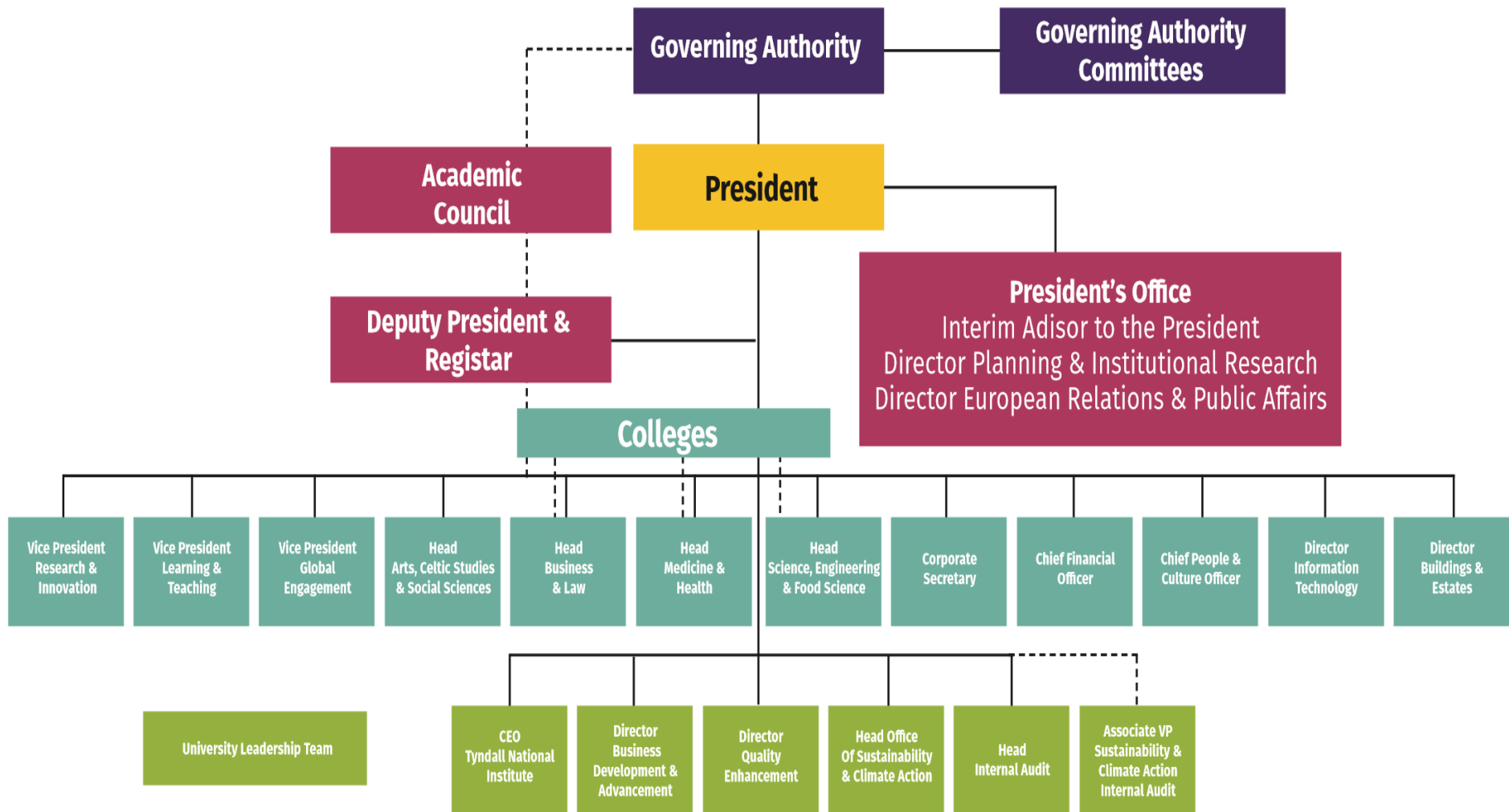
Volunteer hours annually by students



119 Student-led societies

Positively impacting student life

Organogram



School of Engineering

The School of Engineering at University College Cork offers a dynamic, research-intensive environment with strong international impact and interdisciplinary collaboration. It is closely aligned with leading centres including Tyndall National Institute, a global hub for microelectronics and photonics with 700+ researchers, and the Environmental Research Institute, which brings together 300+ researchers addressing climate and energy challenges. The School is embedded within Ireland's nationally coordinated and internationally competitive research system, with major programmes funded by Science Foundation Ireland, Met Eireann etc. and the EU's Horizon Europe framework, and delivered in partnership with leading international and industry collaborators. University College Cork is ranked in the global top 250 universities by QS World University Rankings and 2nd worldwide for sustainability (UI GreenMetric), providing an excellent platform for high-impact postdoctoral research.



Role Description

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

This title will apply to newly qualified Post-Doctoral Researchers and will be considered as a period of training as the researcher will have dual goals in terms of the research project and their own career development. The researcher will be mentored by a Principal Investigator (PI). It is expected that a researcher would spend not more than 3 years at the Post Doctoral level, subject to the term of the project and would then be eligible to compete for a Senior Post Doctoral post advertised by the University.

The primary focus of the Postdoctoral Researcher will be research however a particular emphasis during this stage should include:

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- To conduct a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of a Principal Investigator/Project Leader.
- To engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities as required by the Principal Investigator, School or College in order to develop research skills and competencies.
- To gain experience in grant writing.
- To engage in the dissemination of the results of the research in which they are engaged, as directed by, with the support of and under the supervision of a Principal Investigator.
- To become familiar with the publication process.
- To acquire generic and transferable skills (including project management, business skills and postgraduate mentoring/supervision).
- To engage in the wider research and scholarly activities of the research group, School or College.
- To interact closely with postgraduate research students who are studying for a Master's or a PhD and possibly have an agreed role in supporting these students in their day to day research in conjunction with an academic supervisor.
- To carry out administrative work to support the programme of research.
- To carry out additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post.
- To contribute to costing research grant proposals and assist in the financial management of a research project.

Note: As the university continues to expand and evolve, it is likely that flexibility in regard to the allocation of specific duties will be necessary. Accordingly, the list of duties specified above is not intended to be exclusive or restrictive; duties may be added or withdrawn but any such alteration will take place after consultation with the appointee.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful candidate will be expected to have:

Essential Criteria

- A PhD in Engineering or similar discipline
- Strong engineering and analytical skills
- Computer modelling skills (i.e. MATLAB or Python)
- A comprehensive understanding of statistics/statistical modelling
- Backgrounds in probabilistic modelling and quantitative risk assessment would be an advantage,
- A background in flood modelling or drainage system design/modelling would also be an advantage.
- The successful candidate will be fluent in both written and spoken English
- Appropriate research experience.
- Appropriate technical competence and accomplishment.
- A capability of working within a project team to achieve results.
- Good communication, organisation and interpersonal skills.
- A commitment to gaining practical experience working on a research project.
- Ability to work well within a team.

Please note that Garda vetting and international police clearance check may form part of the selection process and may be required after selection and during your term if relevant.

SENIOR POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Senior Post-Doctoral Researcher is an advanced research training role, building on their prior experience as a Post-Doctoral Researcher in UCC or elsewhere, where you will conduct a specified programme of research and research training under the guidance of a Principal Investigator. The primary purpose of the role is to deliver research results and objectives, develop new or advanced research skills and competencies, the successful development of funding proposals and to interact in the supervision and mentorship of graduate students, in conjunction with an academic supervisor.

The Post-Doctoral/Senior Post-Doctoral phase has an expected duration up to a maximum of 6 years, subject to the term of the project, on a full-time or part-time basis. Movement to the grade of Senior Post-Doctoral researcher in the University will be by competing for an advertised post. External appointments made directly to Senior Post-Doctoral research positions must have previous post-doctoral experience of at least 3 years.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- To conduct and lead a specified programme of research under the supervision and direction of a Principal Investigator/Project Leader.
- To secure competitive research funding for research proposals under the supervision and direction of a Principal Investigator/Project Leader and an Academic member of staff.
- To engage in appropriate training and professional development opportunities which are provided regularly by the HR Training and Development Team and as required by the

Principal Investigator, School or College in order to develop research skills and competencies.

- To assume a role in the design as well as the execution of research, contributing significantly to the development of research proposals and funding successes.
- To support the Principal Investigator and research group in the design and development of a research programme.
- To engage in the dissemination of the results of the research, as directed by and with the support of and under the supervision of the Principal Investigator.
- To engage in the wider research activities of the Research Group, Insight Centre, School or College.
- To interact closely with postgraduate research students who are studying for a Masters or a PhD and have an agreed role in supporting these students in their day to day research in conjunction with the supervisor or supervision team.
- To provide academic outputs results to Centre admin reps for reporting requirements to Centre Operations Staff, SFI, H2020 or other funder requirements. To use selected platforms as needed for collection and collation of associated metrics.
- To travel internationally if required by project needs.
- To work with industry partners and academic collaborators.
- To be responsible and competent in related research data management and data protection policies and protocols.
- Engage in and/or create opportunities in the area of Education and Public Engagement where applicable and appropriate for your project and report outputs as required.
- To conduct administrative and management work associated with the research project.
- To carry out any additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post.
- To engage in costing research grant proposals and take on financial management of projects.

Health & Safety

In addition to the statutory safety duties of all employees (as prescribed in safety legislation and the relevant local safety statement) each staff member is responsible for:

- Discharging any safety functions delegated to them by their Head of College / School / Department / Centre / Unit, in relation to the areas / activities under their control.
- Co-operating and assisting the University and the Head of College / School / Department / Centre / Unit in the discharge of their statutory safety responsibilities.
- Ensuring that all work under their control, is undertaken safely and without risk to health and complies with the provision of all relevant statutory legislation.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The successful candidate will be expected to have:

Essential Criteria

- A PhD in Engineering or similar discipline
- Strong engineering and analytical skills
- Computer modelling skills (i.e. MATLAB or Python)
- A comprehensive understanding of statistics/statistical modelling
- Backgrounds in probabilistic modelling and quantitative risk assessment would be an advantage,
- A background in flood modelling or drainage system design/modelling would also be an advantage.
- The successful candidate will be fluent in both written and spoken English
- Extensive competence and experience in a research area.
- Supervisory skills.
- Leadership potential.
- Experience of applying for and securing funding.

Please note that Garda vetting and international police clearance check may form part of the selection process and may be required after selection and during your term if relevant.

Candidates are requested to make a personal assessment of these criteria against their own qualifications, skills and abilities to assess whether they should apply for the post

Please note: Candidates who do not demonstrate that they meet the criteria as detailed above will not be short listed.

The University, at its discretion, may undertake to make an additional appointment(s) from this competition following the conclusion of the process.

Conditions Of Employment

Salary: Post-Doctoral Researcher: €46,805-€53,391 p.a. (IUA PD1 Salary Scale), Senior Post-Doctoral Researcher: €54,850-€59,654 p.a. (IUA PD2 Salary Scale).

The rate of remuneration for all appointments may be adjusted from time to time in line with government policy.

Normal hours of duty are 39 hours per week with 60 minutes for lunch daily.

Annual Leave will be 23 days per annum for Post-Doctoral Researchers and 25 days per annum for Senior Post-Doctoral Researchers. This leave is exclusive of public holidays and Good Friday. The leave year commences on 1 July annually and four days annual leave must be held for the Christmas closure period.

Sick Leave: Sick leave will be granted in line with University policy in this regard which may change from time to time. You should familiarise yourself with the University Sick Leave Policy and University Sick Leave Management Policy.

The tenure of the post is specific purpose whole time (for the duration of the award), based on the following provisions:

(a) A probationary period of twelve months shall apply from commencement of employment in the post during which the contract of employment may be terminated by either party in accordance with the Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts, 1973 to 2001. The probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the University.

(b) Except in circumstances of gross misconduct justifying immediate dismissal, the appointee will receive one month's notice of termination of employment, or, if greater, such notice as is provided for in a minimum notice in terms of Employment Act, 1973.

(c) The appointee is required to give one months' notice of termination of employment.

(d) Under the Public Service Superannuation Act 2004, for all new entrants to the Public Sector on or after April 2004, the normal retirement age is 65. It is no longer possible therefore to retire before age 65.

Pension: The appointee will become a member of the Single Public Service Pension scheme, which provides personal retirement benefits as well as benefits for spouses and children. The contribution rate comprises 3% of pensionable remuneration and 3½% of net pensionable remuneration. Tax relief is accrued on these payments.

Additional dependants' benefits can be provided by membership of the Supplementary Life Assurance Scheme. You will be automatically included as a member of the scheme on commencement of your employment but you may elect to opt out of the scheme at any stage. The current membership rate is 0.26% of your salary.

Membership of the Group Personal Accident Scheme shall apply to all employees, subject to individual acceptance by the Insurance Company. The salary quoted is subject to a deduction from salary at the rate of .06%

The UCC Income Continuance Plan (ICP) provides a source of income in the event of long or short-term temporary disability. As part of your contract of employment you will be automatically included in the ICP with effect from the same date provided you have not previously opted out of the plan or you have been declined for cover under previous contracts of employment with UCC. The cost of membership of the plan will be deducted from your salary. The current membership rate is 1.05% of your salary.

The Pay Related Social Insurance Class A1 rate of Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) applies to the post.

Voluntary Health Insurance: A VHI/Laya/ Aviva Health/ HSA/GloHealth group scheme is in operation and contribution may be deducted from salary, with effect from the Scheme's renewal date (May of each year).

Additional benefits: We offer progressive employment and training policies including opportunities for further studies. Staff can avail of membership of a variety of clubs and societies and a wide range of facilities on campus, including a leisure centre.

As an equal opportunity employer we offer a comprehensive suite of flexible working and family friendly initiatives. A list of such initiatives is available on our webpage.

An offer of appointment to a candidate who does not have EU nationality is subject to the granting of a Work Permit by the Department of Business, Enterprise & Innovation. The following is a list of employments in respect of which an employment permit shall not be granted

<https://dbe.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Workplace-and-Skills/Employment-Permits/Employment-Permit-Eligibility/Ineligible-Categories-of-Employment/>

Please note that if you are considering applying for this post you must be able to supply proof of the right to work in Ireland. If you do not have the right to work in Ireland you would need to obtain a work permit. We are obliged by European law to appoint people who are citizens of the European Economic Area (EEA) where possible. Where there is no skills shortage for a particular post, it is highly unlikely that a work permit would be granted.

Candidates are requested to make a personal assessment against their own eligibility as to whether they should apply for this post.

Certificates and Testimonials: These documents should not be sent with the application. Candidates who are selected for interview will be requested to submit the necessary documentation.

How To Apply

Applications must be submitted online via the University College Cork vacancy portal (<https://ore.ucc.ie/>). Queries relating to the online application process should be referred to recruitment@ucc.ie, quoting the job-title.

Informal enquiries can be made in confidence to Dr. Páraic Ryan, Senior Lecturer, Discipline of Civil Engineering, Tel: + 353 (0) 21 4903862; Email: Paraic.ryan@ucc.ie

For further information on the hiring unit, please see: [Engineering and Architecture | University College Cork](#)

Candidates should apply, in confidence, **before 12noon (Irish Local Time) on Friday, May 22nd, 2026.**

Please be advised no late applications will be accepted.

Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility.

Eligibility to apply for a position may be affected where applicants were formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body and previously availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme including:

- Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants
- Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)
- Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)
- Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter
- LG(P) 06/2013).

Applicants should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Any queries should be directed to an applicant's former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.



Equal Opportunities Statement

University College Cork is committed to being a fully inclusive global university which actively recruits, supports and retains colleagues from all sectors of society. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) are core values under our UCC Strategic Plan 2023-2028. UCC holds a Silver Athena SWAN award in recognition of our commitment to advancing equality in higher education. We value diversity as well as celebrate, support and thrive on the contributions of all our employees and the communities they represent. We are proud to be an equal opportunities employer and encourage applications from everybody, regardless of age, care-giving status, disability, ethnicity, gender and/or gender identity or expression status, nationality, marital status/civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion/creed, and/or sexual orientation. We are committed to supporting all staff through flexible working schemes, family-friendly policies, training and development, and staff networks. We value the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seek to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual in line with equality legislation. We encourage applicants to consult our Dignity and Respect Policy and learn more about our EDI related initiatives.

University College Cork is an equal opportunities employer. We encourage you to reach out to us directly should you require assistance or reasonable accommodation during the recruitment.

UCC Graduate Attributes Programme

The Graduate Attributes Programme (GAP) is an integral part of our Connected University Strategy and is enabling the UCC community to write this chapter of our story, together. It is a transformative student-centric programme with the overarching objective of optimising the student journey and preparing our students to live, lead and learn in a shared, co-created future.

Further information on the UCC Graduate Attributes Programme can be found on:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/graduateattributes/>



About Cork

Ireland's second city, proudly referred to by Corkonians as **'the Real Capital'** is a forward thinking, fast-growing and friendly city and an important business and cultural hub, making it a great place to live and work.

Home to **225,000 people**, Cork is a cosmopolitan city set against a backdrop of stunning coastline, countryside and picturesque coastal towns. It is easy to get around and **60% of people in Cork** get to work in **30 minutes or less**.

Located at the second largest natural harbour in the world Cork is the heartland of Ireland's energy, food, pharmaceutical and ICT industries. Seven out of ten of the world's top pharmaceutical companies and Ireland's top four food companies are located in the province. UCC graduates make a critical contribution to the local talent pipeline that is at the heart of innovation and competitiveness for the region.

Cork is the **fastest growing city in the country** and has been ranked as **one of Europe's top 25 cities of the future**.

