



## **International Office Erasmus+ Grants & Budgeting Manager**

### **GENERAL JOB SPECIFICATION**

#### **Duties and Terms & Conditions of Employment**

##### **1. PREAMBLE**

Mary Immaculate College (MIC) is an autonomous, university-level, Catholic College of Education and the Liberal Arts. Founded in 1898, and linked academically with the University of Limerick, MIC is the oldest higher education institution in Limerick. Significant expansion in recent decades has seen the College's offerings expand across two modern campuses, one based in Limerick City and one in Thurles, Co. Tipperary. The student community consists of more than 5,000 learners, participating in fifteen undergraduate degree programmes and several postgraduate programmes extending to PhD/Doctoral level. Academic staff engage in a wide range of academic research areas, and research underpins all teaching and learning at MIC.

MIC seeks to prepare its students for professional excellence and to nurture their capacity to lead flourishing lives.

##### **2. CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION**

The International Office was established in 2013 and facilitates exchange agreements, institutional linkages and coordinates externally-funded international projects and programmes. It plays a key role in the development of relationships between MIC and potential partners, nationally and internationally. Potential partners are institutions or organisations whose mission is broadly consistent with the mission of the College. External relationships may be strategic, academic, and/or collaborative, and will involve the reciprocal exchange of knowledge, staff/student exchanges and other joint activities.

The Erasmus+ Higher Education Mobility Programme for students and staff plays a crucial role in the internationalisation of the College by providing invaluable funded international learning and professional development opportunities for staff and students. It significantly contributes to achieving the goals set out in the MIC Strategy and enables MIC to deliver on the national strategy for higher education internationalisation. Within the ever-changing landscape of international higher education, this is a new position that is being created to meet the needs of international students and faculty as well as MIC students and faculty, availing of Erasmus+ funding.

The person appointed will play a key role in the internationalisation of the College. S/he will have responsibility for a wide range of duties relating to the functioning of the International Office including the management of the staff and day-to-day financial administration of the International Office. S/he will manage a busy function within the office, including all of the International Office's budgets and overseeing grant allocations to students and staff and Federal Aid disbursement to US students. S/he will be responsible for grant applications, financial coordination and reporting on Erasmus+ mobility of students and staff of the College as well as the coordination of various Erasmus+ programme activities, both cultural and academic.

The appointee will be required to engage with partner universities on behalf of the Director of International Engagement and will be involved in enhancing the College's international identity. The successful candidate should have a positive, goal-oriented and enthusiastic approach to the range of tasks associated with this role. He/she must have the ability to interact constructively, efficiently and effectively with staff and external clients of the College in a very discreet and confidential manner.

**Essential Qualifications & Skills** (i.e. those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job. Applications that have not clearly demonstrated that candidates possess the essential requirements will not be shortlisted):

**In order to be considered for this post, applicants will require:**

- 1) A third level qualification at level 7 or higher on the National Framework of Qualifications in Marketing, Communications, Business, Public Administration or related fields **and** a minimum of 2 years' experience in an administrative role within higher education, preferably at supervisory and/or management level;
- 2) Detail-oriented, with proven project management and organisational skills and the ability to develop and manage budgets, prioritise and complete a variety of tasks, delivering results under pressure and within deadlines.
- 3) Clearly demonstrated experience of using own initiative and judgement to analyse and solve problems in a positive and proactive manner.
- 4) Demonstrated team leadership and ability to work effectively and constructively within an established team environment.
- 5) Excellent interpersonal and communications skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to develop effective partnerships and work collaboratively with a range of key internal and external stakeholders and the wider educational community;
- 6) Willingness to travel, high motivation and flexibility in regard to work practices and working arrangements. A minimum of 1 week's travel per semester will be required.
- 7) Willingness to provide high-level pastoral care and a student-focused approach, as well as to make decisions, particularly in situations requiring a sensitive and timely response.
- 8) Proven IT skills, including a high proficiency in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access, and proven numeracy and report writing skills.
- 9) Working knowledge of marketing/communications strategies, student recruitment and third level education at national and international levels.
- 10) Have knowledge and sensitivity to cultural issues and experience of dealing with international organisations / individuals.

**Applicants must show clearly in their applications how they meet each of the above pre-requisites.**

**Ideally the appointee should also:**

- Be able to deal with diverse responsibilities in a complex setting and to liaise daily with other College staff, external organisations and clients of the College.
- Be able to deal with highly confidential information in a very discreet manner.
- Speak additional languages such as Spanish, Chinese, and/or Portuguese.

### **3. JOB DESCRIPTION**

The appointee is required to carry out the duties attached to the post, under the general direction of Director of International Engagement, to whom they report, and to whom they are responsible for the performance of these duties in the first instance.

The appointee will report through the Director of International Engagement to the College President and/or such other College Officers as the President may designate from time to time. The appointee will liaise with other College personnel and with relevant College bodies in carrying out the duties attaching to the post.

The reporting relationship is subject to review and may be altered from time-to-time in line with service needs and developments in the College.

The appointee will be required to report on visits made to other institutions and on meetings attended in a timely and comprehensive manner. As well as working normal office hours, this post will require flexibility to undertake international travel as well as occasional evening work and weekend work to support the delivery of International Office services.

The work set out below is broadly defined under the various headings as listed. This list is not exhaustive. The performance of the entire range of duties is not necessarily confined to any one individual, as the work requires that the staff function in a flexible manner, and work together as a team.

#### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The person appointed to this role will be involved in:

- Providing comprehensive support to the Director of International Engagement and the International Office Manager
- Managing IO expenditure and budgeting, including identification, securing and administration and reporting of funding streams and preparation for audits
- Developing and implementing quality assurance documents related to budgeting and grant allocation, including work instructions and Standard Operating Procedures.

- Developing and implementing procedures to ensure compliance with HEA protocol and MIC standards in relation to audit and risk.
- Managing staff of the IO (inductions, performance appraisals, timesheets, appropriate delegation of tasks, team building) particularly staff working on Erasmus activities, budgeting and Federal Aid
- Representing MIC at events/meetings as required by the Director of the International Office
- Responsible for overseeing and managing visits by Erasmus+ delegations to MIC
- Coordinating the administration required to maintain the Office's outstanding international student satisfaction ratings. This includes ensuring timely payments of grants, scholarships or Federal Aid
- Developing the College's relationships with the HEA, Ireland's National Agency, and other relevant agencies, in Ireland and overseas.
- Working with faculty to identify opportunities for sustainable, ethical and equitable Erasmus+ projects.
- Being professional and ensuring that a positive and consistent brand identity is conveyed to Mary Immaculate College's internal and external stakeholders.
- Undertaking such other functions as are necessary to the success of the International Office.
- Agresso approvals and IO tasks requiring HEO approval
- Sharing responsibility for out-of-hours responses to emergency situations with the other HEOs and Director, which includes taking turns to pick up any emergency calls and follow procedures

#### **4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

##### **General**

All persons employed will sign an appropriate contract, which will contain terms and conditions of the employment. A job description is given to all applicants for employment and this will form part of the contract documentation.

##### **Place of Work**

The appointee's normal place of work will be Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. The College reserves the right to require the appointee to work from any other location. It is a

requirement of the College that the appointee must reside within a reasonable distance of the College.

The appointee will be required to work onsite at other locations in the region such as schools and libraries in order to perform their duties.

MIC operates a blended working policy, which offers scope for the post holder to combine office attendance with remote working, subject to the provisions of the policy.

### **Exclusivity of Service and Outside Work**

The person appointed will be required to devote their full-time attention and abilities to their duties during their working hours in the College and to act in the best interest of the College at all times. Therefore, for as long as the successful applicant is working in the College, they may not, without the prior written consent of the Vice President Administration and Finance (VPAF), be actively engaged or concerned in any way, either directly or indirectly, in any other business or undertaking where this is or is likely to be in conflict with the College's interests or the performance of the duties that the person has been employed for.

The appointee will not, during their tenure of office, undertake paid outside work unless they have received the permission of the VPAF of Mary Immaculate College to undertake such work on the terms and conditions as agreed for the particular undertaking in question. In every case, it is the duty of the appointee to seek in writing the prior permission of the VPAF. It is also the duty, in every case, of the appointee to inform the person or body for whom the work is being undertaken, that the work is being conducted in a private capacity and that the College cannot in any circumstances be responsible for such work.

### **Probationary Period**

The appointment is subject to satisfactory completion of the standard 6-month probationary period. The probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the College but will not in any case exceed 11 months. Absences during the period of probation will extend the probationary period. Performance and conduct during the probationary period will be reviewed through a process of assessment meetings. Termination of the appointment during the probationary period, for any reason or no reason, will be at the discretion of the College. The disciplinary procedure will not apply to a dismissal during probation where the probationary employee has been employed by MIC for less than 12 months.

### **Hours of Attendance**

The full-time working hours are 35 hours per week.

The normal hours of duty are Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 05:00 pm, with a 1-hour unpaid lunch break each day and Friday, 9.00 am to 4.45 pm with a 45-minute unpaid lunch break. However, the duties attaching to the position are such that the post holder may be required to work evenings/weekends on occasion to accommodate service needs. Subject to

College policy, the post holder may avail of “Time-Off-In-Lieu (TOIL)” or overtime where working hours exceed the contract hours per week.

The College reserves the right to adjust starting and finishing times or days of duty to meet service needs.

### **Salary**

The Salary scale for this position has been approved by the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Higher Education Authority in line with Government Policy on Public Sector remuneration. The rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy. The appointment will be made on the salary scale at a point in line with current Government Pay Policy. New entrants to the Civil or Public Sector, as defined in Circular 18/2010, will commence on the first point of the salary scale.

This post is at Higher Executive Officer grade. With effect from 1st October 2024, the annual salary scale for Higher Executive Officer (Grossed up) is:

€57,124, €58,792, €60,458, €62,124, €63,793, €65,461, €67,128, €69,537(LSI 1) and €71,939(LSI 2)

Increments are awarded in line with national pay agreements.

Salary will be paid on a monthly basis on the 25th of each month, or the previous Friday if 25th falls on a weekend, using the Paypath facility. Payment of salaries and wages are subject to statutory deductions, i.e. Income Tax (PAYE), Superannuation Contributions, Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) and Universal Social Charge (USC).

### **Superannuation**

New entrants appointed will be required to participate in the Single Public Service Pension Scheme and pay Superannuation contributions at the appropriate rates in accordance with the provisions of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act, 2012. Details of this scheme can be obtained from the College’s website.

All other eligible appointees are automatically included in the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme on taking up appointment. In compliance with the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme, deductions amounting to 6.5% are made from salary. Details of the regulations concerning the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme may be obtained from the College’s Human Resources Office.

The appointee will be required to pay Additional Superannuation Contribution (ASC) under the provisions of the Public Service and Pensions Act 2017.

Appointees who commenced employment in the public service between 1st April 2004 and 31st December 2012 and have not had a break in employment of greater than 6 months will

have no mandatory retirement age. All other appointees will have a mandatory retirement age of 70.

### **Pension Abatement**

If an appointee has previously been employed in the Civil or Public Service and that appointee is entitled to or in receipt of a pension from the Civil or Public Service or where a Civil/Public Service pension comes into payment during the appointee's re-employment that pension will be subject to abatement in accordance with Section 52 of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and other Provisions) Act 2012.

Please note: In applying for this position, the applicant is acknowledging that they understand that the abatement provisions, where relevant, will apply. It is not envisaged that the College will support an application for an abatement waiver in respect of appointments to this position.

### **Annual Leave**

The annual leave entitlement for this grade is 27 working days per leave year. Annual leave should be taken when students are off campus and the taking of leave must have the prior approval of the relevant Line Manager.

Public Holidays are granted in accordance with the provisions of the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997.

### **Sick Leave**

There is a discretionary sick pay scheme, details of which are available from the Human Resources Office. Employees who have a minimum 3 months' continuous employment with the College may be granted sick pay subject to the terms of the Public Service Sick Leave Scheme. Sick pay is contingent on full cooperation and compliance with the College's absence management procedures.

### **Confidentiality**

In the course of working in Mary Immaculate College, the person appointed may have access to or hear information concerning staff and/or students and/or the functioning and the business of the College. Such information acquired in the course of employment with the College, including any aspect of the College's responsibilities or operations, is considered to be confidential information. On no account must information concerning students, staff or other College business be divulged or discussed except in the performance of normal duties and, unless authorised to do so, this information shall not be communicated to a third party. In addition, records must never be left in a manner that unauthorised persons can obtain access to them and must be kept in safe custody when no longer required.

## **Health & Safety**

Mary Immaculate College attaches the highest regard to the safety, health and welfare of its employees. It is the duty of each employee to take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of themselves and of other people in the workplace. Each employee must comply with all health and safety policies and procedures in operation in Mary Immaculate College and familiarise themselves with the Safety Statement.

Employees are obliged to wear any PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) that they may be provided with and no person shall intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse any appliance, protective clothing or other equipment provided in the workplace for health and safety purposes. Employees are statutorily/legally obliged to ensure that any accidents/incidents which may occur are reported promptly to the Health and Safety Officer on the MIC Accident/Incident Report Form.

## **College Policies, Rules and Regulations**

The College is a Public Sector employer and is bound by National Agreements. It is also bound by regulations, circulars and directives issued on behalf of Government by the Department of Finance, the Department of Education, the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and the Higher Education Authority.

Employees are at all times subject to the provisions of the Code of Conduct for Staff, College policies, rules and regulations. These policies include but are not confined to Disciplinary & Grievance Policies, Dignity at Work, Examination Rules & Regulations, Policy on Responsible Computing and Use of Information Technology Facilities. All employees are required to familiarise themselves with the contents of Policies and Procedures, available on the College's Staff Portal.

## **Termination of Employment**

At least 2 calendar months' written notice is required to resign this post.

On the termination of employment but before departing from the College, staff members are required to return to the College all books, reports, memoranda, correspondence, papers, records, reports, files including data held on electronic files, computer disks, electronically recorded discs, and any other documentation, and all other property, including office keys, belonging to the College or relating to its business or affairs which are in the possession of a staff member or under their control when the employment is terminated.



## 5. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

### Method of Selection for Recommendation

#### *Shortlisting*

An expert group will convene to conduct shortlisting of applicants, measured against pre-determined criteria.

*The criteria that will be used to shortlist candidates for this appointment are:*

- A third level qualification at level 7 or higher on the National Framework of Qualifications in Marketing, Communications, Business, Public Administration or related fields **and** a minimum of 2 years' experience in an administrative role within higher education, preferably at supervisory and/or management level;
- Working knowledge of marketing/communications strategies, student recruitment and third level education at national and international levels.
- Have knowledge and sensitivity to cultural issues and experience of dealing with international organisations / individuals.
- Proven IT skills, including a high proficiency in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access, and proven numeracy and report writing skills.
- Proven project management and organisational skills and the ability to develop and manage budgets, prioritise and complete a variety of tasks, delivering results under pressure and within deadlines.
- Willingness to provide high-level pastoral care and a student-focused approach, as well as to make decisions, particularly in situations requiring a sensitive and timely response.
- Speak additional languages such as Spanish, Chinese, and/or Portuguese.

Normally, the number of applications received for a position exceeds that required to fill the position. While a candidate may meet the eligibility requirements of the competition, if the numbers applying for the position are such that it would not be practical to interview everyone, the College may decide that a limited number will be called to interview. This is not to suggest that other candidates are necessarily unsuitable to undertake the job, rather that there are some candidates, based on their application, appear to be better qualified and/or have more relevant experience. It is incumbent, therefore upon the applicant, to ensure that all relevant information is included in their application and that they clearly identify how they meet the specified candidate criteria.

The selection process may include an aptitude assessment of one or more of the essential competencies for the post.

#### *Interview*

A recommendation for appointment will be made by an Interview Board. The appointment will be based on this recommendation, except where considerations of health or an unsuitable record in previous employment warrants a departure. A panel will be formed from which **International Office Erasmus+ Grants & Budgeting Manager** appointments to the position of may be filled during the life of the panel (12 months).

Candidates must produce satisfactory documentary evidence of all training and experience claimed by them, if required.

### **Pre-Employment Health Assessment**

For the purpose of satisfying requirements as to health, successful candidates, before being appointed, may be required to participate in pre-employment health screening.

### **Garda Vetting**

Successful applicants may be required to participate in Garda vetting. Specific instruction on this process will be given at the appropriate time. Applicants who do not comply with the College's requirements in this regard will be excluded from consideration for appointment. Applicants who have resided outside Ireland for a cumulative period of 36 months or more over the age of 18 years must furnish a Foreign Police Clearance (FPC) from the country or countries of residence. Please note that any costs incurred in this process will be borne by the applicant.

### **Applicants Outside European Economic Area (EEA)**

Mary Immaculate College welcomes applications from candidates outside the EEA, however such applicants should familiarise themselves with relevant Government policy before making an application. Further information from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment is available here: [Economic migration policy - DETE \(enterprise.gov.ie\)](https://www.enterprise.gov.ie/en/economic-migration-policy)

### **Making of Applications**

Applications must be submitted on an official application form in typed format. Handwritten or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Application forms for this post may be downloaded from the Mary Immaculate College website - [www.mic.ul.ie/about-mic/vacancies](http://www.mic.ul.ie/about-mic/vacancies). Applications must be submitted by e-mail to [recruitment@mic.ul.ie](mailto:recruitment@mic.ul.ie) with the subject title **International Office Erasmus+ Grants & Budgeting Manager** - no later than:

**2pm Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

The Human Resources Office will acknowledge receipt of your application by sending an email to the email address provided. Please be sure to check Spam and Junk folders as it may be redirected here by your account preferences. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your application form within 2 working days, please contact [hr@mic.ul.ie](mailto:hr@mic.ul.ie).

Late applications will not be accepted.

The College will not be responsible for any expenses, including travelling expenses, which candidates may incur in connection with their candidature.

Any attempt by a candidate either personally or through any other person, on their behalf, to canvass or otherwise influence the outcome of the selection/interview process in their favour

will lead to disqualification from the competition. Any representations made on behalf of a candidate, without their knowledge will be ignored.

Mary Immaculate College is an equal opportunities employer. Mary Immaculate College holds an Athena SWAN Bronze Institution award in recognition of our commitment to advancing equality and opportunity for all in higher education.

November 2024