



## **DARE HEAR Research Officer**

The Irish Universities Association (IUA), the representative body for Ireland's eight research intensive universities, invites applications for a fixed term contract position of DARE HEAR Research Officer.

Reporting to the IUA Access Programme Manager, the successful candidate will undertake research and compile the *DARE HEAR Facts and Figures Report 2023* (covering data from 2018-2022).

Reporting directly to the IUA Access Programme Manager, the DARE HEAR Research Officer will be primarily responsible for the following work:

- Following the model of the [DARE HEAR Facts and Figures report 2018](#)<sup>1</sup> deliver a full report and executive summary on the 2018-2022 DARE HEAR datasets, to add to the body of longitudinal data on DARE and HEAR and enhance future policy decisions.
- Provide a data report on the impact of the changes to the Specific Learning Difficulty category of DARE using the 2022 dataset, including the creation of the Dyslexia / Significant Literacy Difficulties, and Dyscalculia / Significant Numeracy Difficulties categories.
- Produce a set of individual and bespoke DARE HEAR data reports for each HEI (contextualised by the full data set) including a linked schools report for each HEI.

### **Other Responsibilities and tasks include:**

- Disseminate/present information to the DARE HEAR committee structures as required.
- Compile reports (as described above) for a variety of internal and external stakeholders and audiences.
- Support the dissemination of analyses, findings, emerging trends, areas for further development etc., relating to the reporting work above.
- Supporting the IUA Access Programme Manager with any other tasks as required from time to time.

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<sup>1</sup> [DARE-HEAR-Facts-and-Figures-2017-2018-Summary-Report.pdf \(iua.ie\)](#)

### **Contract details:**

The position of DARE HEAR Research Officer, is offered on a 16-week fixed term contract, from September/October 2023 and subject to a period of probation and meeting on-going performance requirements. The role may require domestic travel within Ireland.

The IUA operates a flexible working model, and this role can be partially fulfilled through remote working. However, the role will require some in-office working at our office on Merrion Square, Dublin 2, especially in the early stages, with routine face-to-face engagement with key stakeholders as required.

Salary in the region of €45,000 - €50,000 (pa pro rata) commensurate with experience will be offered.

A secondment arrangement for existing public-sector employees may be possible, subject to concluding an appropriate agreement between the IUA and the candidate's current employer.

### **Candidate Skills and Attributes:**

Already experienced in HE access or disability initiatives, the successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and team work skills, combining a capacity for research, evaluation and effective administration.

The candidate will have a 3rd level qualification and demonstrated experience of working with large datasets and delivering detailed quantitative and qualitative analysis of same.

### **Critical qualities for this role include:**

- Strong research, evaluation and report writing skills.
- Effective and persuasive communicator with strong IT, organisational, planning and writing skills.
- In-depth knowledge of access policies, practices and programmes in the higher education sector in Ireland.
- Time and project management skills; analytical and methodical approach, and ability to plan, monitor progress, assimilate, interpret and apply information quickly.
- Experience of similar complex projects in this or a related field would be an advantage.
- A self-starter with the ability and drive to work independently.

### **About the IUA:**

The Irish Universities Association (IUA) is the representative organisation for Ireland's eight research intensive universities including DCU, MU, TCD, TU Dublin, University of Galway, UCD, UCC and UL. IUA acts as the sectoral 'voice' of its university members and is committed to:

- clearly and publicly articulating the importance and value of university education
- acting as an advocate for the university system

- providing effective liaison and dialogue with the State and its agencies
- ensuring the system is resourced and prepared for the challenges of the future
- developing sectoral policies and strategies
- maximising the contribution of higher education in all its dimensions to society and the economy.

### **Overview of the DARE HEAR Initiatives:**

Irish universities and Government are committed to the objective of promoting equality of access to higher education, irrespective of social class, age or disability. To widen access to higher education, the Irish universities – along with several partner colleges – play an important role in supporting social mobility and access to higher education. Across the eight IUA university campuses, the student body is increasingly reflective of our diverse society by supporting social mobility and access to higher education for those from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds and for those with disabilities.

Information about the DARE and HEAR Schemes can be found on

<https://www.iua.ie/ourwork/access/dare-hear/>

### **Application Details:**

Please forward a detailed but concise CV and cover letter (max 500 words), demonstrating the competencies and experience listed above, by email by 23:59 18 June 2023 to: [marguerita.lardner@iua.ie](mailto:marguerita.lardner@iua.ie) Tel. 01 6764948. Interviews will be held in June.