



Research Assistant

The Irish Fiscal Advisory Council (IFAC) is an independent, statutory body established under the Fiscal Responsibility Act 2012. The Council performs a monitoring function with respect to the Government's fiscal policy. In particular, the Council is required to assess the official forecasts contained within each Budget and the Stability Programme Updates. The Council also assesses the fiscal stance and compliance with legislated fiscal rules. More information about the Council can be found at www.fiscalcouncil.ie.

The Council is seeking to recruit a Research Assistant. This position will be attractive to persons with a keen interest in policy and eager to further a career in economics. The position provides an opportunity to work as part of a dynamic team supporting the Council in fulfilling its mandate.

Job Specification

The successful candidate will work mainly with economists in the Secretariat but also directly with highly experienced Council members drawn from academia, think-tanks and international organisations. Dedicated supervision and additional training will be provided. Skills acquired on completion of the term could be applied to PhD research or to roles in the private or public sectors. Key duties will include:

- Providing support to the Secretariat in assessing macroeconomic and budgetary developments.
- Contributing to IFAC's publications.
- Assisting in the development of analytical tools for forecasting and policy analysis and contributing to the Council's research agenda.
- Ongoing data analysis.

The successful candidate would be required to have:

- A Master's qualification in economics.
- A good grounding in economic theory and public finance issues.
- Excellent writing skills.
- Excellent interpersonal, teamwork and communications skills.

Terms & Conditions

The successful candidates will initially be appointed on a 2-year basis, with a possibility of extension. There is a probationary period of six months, on terms and conditions in line with those in the Irish civil service. The position will be based in the IFAC offices, which are shared with the Economic and Social Research Institute in Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2.

Salary

The salary for the Research Assistant will be linked to the civil service scale for Administrative Officer (Standard Scale PPC): €30,221; €32,575; €33,247; €36,194; €39,967; €42,838; €45,711; €48,593; €51,466; €54,329; €56,314 (LSI1); €58,294 (LSI2). Candidates should note that entry will normally be at the minimum of the scale and the rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy. Different pay and conditions may apply if immediately prior to appointment the appointee is already a serving Civil Servant or Public Servant.

Application Procedure

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter indicating their suitability for the post, together with a completed application form and a detailed CV by email to jobs@fiscalcouncil.ie by no later than Friday 21st April 2017. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Secondment arrangements will be considered. The start date is negotiable, particularly for candidates completing studies.