TITLE: Biochemistry/Biology Technician
(1 Year Fixed Term Half-Time Post: 19.5 Hours Per Week)

REPORTING TO: Head of Department of Biopharmaceutical & Medical Science

The School of Science & Computing delivers a range of undergraduate honours degree programmes and conducts post-graduate research to PhD level in a number of fields. The technician role is to provide support to lecturers and students in a laboratory setting.

REQUIREMENTS:

Minimum:

- A Level 7 degree in Biochemistry or Biology [as specified in the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)] or equivalent.
- One year’s relevant post-qualification experience in a biochemical or analytical science environment or equivalent.
- The recommended candidate must also pass a medical examination prior to taking up duty.

Desirable:

- Relevant experience with biochemistry and/or analytical instrumentation.
- Good interpersonal skills and an ability to work in teams.
- Relevant experience in an industrial field.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.

The range of duties assigned to a Technician may vary from discipline/area to discipline/area within an Institute and between Institutes. The nature of the post requires the appointee to work closely with lecturing and other staff.

Technician grades will, in the main, report to the Head of Department or the Senior Technical Officer as designated by the President. In some exceptional cases, they may report to the Manager as listed above or to a researcher designated by the President.

The Senior Technical Officer to whom the Technician reports may not necessarily be in the same Department/School/Functional area as the Technician.

Following appointment, the appointee will be assigned to a particular location and post – Institutes may operate a number of different locations in addition to the main campus. The appointee may be reallocated to another post dependent on Institute requirements and
subject to skill set requirements. However, appointees should note that the nature of the post may change over time. Training and re-training will be provided if required. On assignment to the particular post, the Institute will provide a detailed list of duties and responsibilities applicable to the post.

Main Duties:

The following indicate some of the principal duties and responsibilities that may be assigned depending on the post/Institute in question:

- Organising, preparing and setting up for practical classes, demonstrations, particularly chemistry and biochemistry laboratory sessions, assessments, practical examinations, project and research work in laboratory and other areas.

- To undertake commissioning of new equipment.

- Installing and testing of software, making software available to appropriate users, ensuring anti-virus software is installed and kept up to date, network management where appropriate.

- To carry out routine maintenance of equipment.

- Provide technical assistance to lecturers and students to ensure the safe and smooth running of events.

- To ensure that laboratories, materials and equipment are kept clean, tidy and in good order.

- To provide support for delivery and receipt of goods.

- To undertake such other duties as the President, Head of School/Department, Senior Technical Officer or other authorised officer may assign from time to time.

Sample range of duties across different expertise areas

- Providing consultative, advisory and analytical technical services for staff and students in laboratory techniques.

- Providing first and second line support for students and staff in information technology e.g. running local help desks.

- Provide technical support for the delivery of Institute wide student, staff and managing/administration of computer network systems/information Technology and visual aids facilities.
• Management/administration of computer networks, installing and testing of software.

• Specifying technical specification for the development of new and updating currant laboratories, workstations, workshops and computer networks systems/information technology and visual aids facilities.

• In conjunction with other Technicians, assist the IT Manager in ensuring that there is an effective, efficient and user-orientated IT available to all users in their designated area.

• Be responsible for the maintenance of computer equipment and peripherals.

• Liaise with Senior Technical Officer and Technical Officer grades and other designated manager grades to define service requirements and monitor service levels in their designated area.

• Assisting in Programme quality assurance and development.

• Organising, assisting and advising lectures and students on the safe operation and use of equipment and materials.

• Organising, supervising, assisting and advising staff and students doing project work at certificate, diploma, degree and postgraduate level and project reports.

• Designing, modifying, building, testing and installation of equipment for teaching and research needs.

• Carry out and assist in research.

• Organising, preparing and setting up practical classes, assisting and advising lectures and students on the safe operation and use of equipment and materials in laboratories and other areas.

• Organising, preparing and setting up equipment and materials for practical examinations.

• Writing and updating technical instruction manuals for staff and students.

• Carrying out of safety audits in all areas of operation in cooperation with other grades of staff.

• Monitoring, testing and recording of condition of safety equipment and class materials to comply with Health and Safety Regulation and other Regulations specific to work area i.e. RPII, EPA and Material Safety Data Sheets.

• Arranging for safe disposal of used materials e.g. biological, chemical and materials containing toxic, hazardous and volatile materials.
• Assist in the organising and scheduling of work of laboratory aides.

• Repairing, maintaining, securing and storing of laboratory equipment, and consumable materials.

• Stock control of equipment and consumable materials.

• Assist in consulting with suppliers of equipment and consumable materials, and assist in obtaining technical specifications, quotations and ordering new equipment and consumable materials.

• Taking delivery of equipment and consumable materials and commission new equipment.

Salary:
Technician Grade: €29,092.00 - €42,822.00 (11 Increments)
€14,546.00 - €21,411.00 (11 Increments) (Half Time Salary)