

## Job Description and Person Specification

### **Basic Grade Physicist Permanent Vacancy**

**Reference: HR18E012**

**Closing Date for Applications: Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018**

Resourcing and Retention Division  
Human Resources Business Services,  
St Vincent's University Hospital,  
Elm Park,  
Dublin 4.

Contact: 01 221 6020 or [recruitment@svuh.ie](mailto:recruitment@svuh.ie)

**Overview:**

Undertake a range of clinical and scientific tasks as appropriate to the role. These may include procedures involving ionising and non-ionising radiation. Duties may include assisting in the provision of medical physics services to other hospitals.

**Job title / Grade:** Basic Grade Physicist

**Reports to:** Chief/ Principal Physicist

**Key Working Relationships:** Senior Physicists, Clinical Engineering Technicians, Medical, Radiography, Nursing staff, Clinical Services Manager and Chief Medical Physicist.

**Key Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. To perform quality control measurements on diagnostic imaging equipment – X-ray, PET/CT, Ultrasound and Nuclear Medicine
2. To perform quality control measurements on PACS workstations
3. To perform quality control in phototherapy
4. To assist in the provision of scientific support in phototherapy and lasers
5. To assist RPAs in data collation, environmental surveying and testing of adequacy of protection measures.
6. To assist in the calibration of monitoring equipment
7. To perform contamination monitoring
8. To perform low level gamma and beta counting
9. To perform image analysis
10. To assist in medical physics aspects of waste management
11. To perform nuclear medicine imaging therapy and laboratory procedures.
12. To contribute to audits to inform patient management and clinical care
13. To participate in departmental seminars and scientific meetings to disseminate knowledge acquired through study or research
14. To carry out any other reasonable duties to achieve learning and experience that may be required, which are commensurate with the grade and nature of the post
15. To undertake other duties to maintain existing services or assist in the development of new services

The Basic Grade Physicist must:-

16. Acquire and maintain a high level of professional competence in the performance of all tests, investigations and measurements carried out
17. Interpret and act upon results of tests, investigations and measurements in accordance with departmental policies, procedures and quality systems
18. Comment and advise on new proposals and protocols, especially for service improvements
19. Assist in the provision of advice to medical, nursing and other healthcare staff on the optimal and safe use of scientific procedures and highly complex equipment, including assisting in the design of new facilities

20. Be responsible for the safe use of complex scientific and medical equipment, including recording all maintenance and calibration procedures performed and any corrective actions undertaken
21. Use reagents, consumables, hazardous materials and equipment safely and in accordance with Health and Safety policies
22. Comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Legislation
23. Comply with quality and governance procedures within the department including risk management and risk mitigation
24. Maintain high standards of professional and personal conduct
25. Participate in a staff review.
26. Retain sufficient flexibility and adaptability in learning in order to ensure full contribution to improving services in response to changing health care needs
27. Maintain knowledge of recent scientific developments and undertake supplementary training to develop both knowledge and skills
28. Attend mandatory training as required

**The above Job Description is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently, the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office. This document must be regarded as an outline of the major areas of accountability at the present time, which will be reviewed and assessed on an on-going basis.**

**The Hospital Structure is currently under review and therefore, reporting relationships may change.**

**Informal Enquiries or Role Specific Enquiries:** Dr Julie Lucey, Chief Medical Physicist, [J.Lucey@svuh.ie](mailto:J.Lucey@svuh.ie) or 01 221 6144

## Person Specification

Factors	Essential	Desirable
<b>Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a first or second class Hons Degree (level 8) in which Physics was taken as a major subject and honours obtained in that subject</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a recognised qualification to at least equivalent thereto.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a Medical Physics MSc / enrolled in a MSc programme.</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have carried out some research independently with submission of a written report. Ideally, the research should have had a practical component.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have experience of QA and radiation protection in diagnostic X-ray and Nuclear Medicine.</li> <li>• Have experience of QA in MRI, Ultrasound and phototherapy QA.</li> <li>• Have laser safety experience.</li> <li>• Possess good laboratory skills.</li> <li>• Be proficient in the use of spreadsheets</li> <li>• Have familiarity with sample counting and spectral analysis.</li> <li>• Have experience drafting and reviewing protocols.</li> <li>• Have successfully completed a hospital based Medical Physics training program.</li> </ul>
<b>Core Competencies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent verbal &amp; written and communication skills.</li> <li>• Capable of making and keeping accurate records.</li> <li>• Ability to work as part of a team and also on own initiative.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a commitment to assuring high standards and strive for a user centred service.</li> <li>• Competence in use of Information Technology.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a commitment to continuing professional development.</li> <li>• Demonstrate initiative, flexibility and openness to change.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an excellent understanding of the physics and the application of physics in medicine</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate experience in carrying out research</li> <li>• Demonstrate experience in scientific writing.</li> <li>• Must be capable of working in an unsupervised capacity in the relevant institutions in the SVUH healthcare Group.</li> <li>• Demonstrate good problem solving and decision making skills.</li> <li>• Demonstrate strong presentation skills.</li> </ul>	
--	--	--

### **Particulars of Office:**

**The appointment is:** Whole-time, Permanent, Pensionable

**Annual Salary:** €36,856-€63,522

These particulars are subject to change in line with overall public pay policy.

Candidates should expect to be appointed on the minimum of the salary range and in accordance with the Department of Finance guidelines.

**Probationary Period:** The appointee shall hold office for a probationary period of six months – The Hospital’s Probation and Induction policy will apply.

**Pension Scheme:** The candidate will be entered into one of the Hospital Superannuation Schemes.

**Working Hours:** The person appointed will work a basic 37 hour week. You will be required to work the agreed roster / on call arrangements advised to you by your line manager. Your contracted hours of work are liable to change between the hours of 8am – 8pm over seven days to meet the requirements for the extended day services in accordance with the terms of the Framework Agreement. (Reference HSE HR Circular 003/2009). Flexibility on hours of attendance in response to service needs will be a requirement.

**Annual leave entitlement:** 24 working days per annum pro rata. Annual leave accrued must be taken within the duration of the contract or calendar year and as agreed between the candidate and the Head of Department.

## **Additional Information**

### **Confidentiality:**

During the course of employment staff may have access to, or hear information concerning the medical or personal affairs of patients, students, staff and / or other health service business. Such records and information are strictly confidential and unless acting on the instruction of an authorised officer, such information must not be divulged or discussed except in the performance of normal duty. In addition records must never be left in such a manner that unauthorised persons can obtain access to them and must be kept in safe custody when no longer required.

### **Hygiene:**

During the course of employment staff are required to ensure that the hospital's hygiene and infection control policies are adhered to at all times. All employees have responsibility to prevent transmission of infection by adhering to and implementing optimal hand hygiene and adhering to the Hospital's Hygiene processes. Hygiene is a fundamental component of St Vincent's University Hospital's quality system to ensure the safety and well being of its patients and staff and plays a role in the prevention and control of healthcare associated infection.

### **Policies / Legislation:**

All Hospital policies and procedures form an integral part an employment contract and may be subject to update and revision, from time to time, in consultation with union representatives as appropriate. Employees are required to comply with all hospital policies, procedures (e.g. Dignity at Work, Trust in Care, Computer Usage Policy) and the Hospital's ethical codes of practice.

Employees are required to abide by the hospital's code of behaviour and the code of practice as defined by their relevant professional body.

### **Please note the following:**

- The Hospital Board is not responsible for loss or theft of personal belongings
- Fire orders must be observed and staff must attend the fire lectures periodically
- All accidents within the department must be reported immediately.
- In line with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act (2005), smoking within the Hospital Building is not permitted.
- All staff are advised to avail of Hepatitis B Vaccination with Occupational health
- The use of personal mobile phones is prohibited.
- St. Vincent's University Hospital buildings and grounds are **smoke-free**.

**Application Process:** St. Vincent's University Hospital is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to promoting an environment free from discrimination in accordance with the Employment Equality Acts 1998 and 2004. The Hospital values diversity and recognises the benefits of having a workforce that reflects the community we serve. We are committed to equality of access to positions within the Hospital. All recruitment activity and documentation will encourage applications from all potential candidates without discrimination.

Interested candidates should apply for vacancies of interest by visiting the Hospital Careers pages: <http://www.stvincents.ie/Home/Careers.html>

- Note the closing date(s) for the submission of on-line applications are specified on the list of vacancies. St. Vincent's University Hospital are not able to accept late applications.

- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they apply well in advance of the closing date.
- Any applications which are still in progress but have not been submitted after the closing date will not be registered by our Web Recruitment System.
- Applications for St. Vincent's University Hospital job vacancies will only be accepted through our Web Recruitment System.
- St. Vincent's University Hospital may only take into account technical issues raised by an applicant if advised to our Human Resources Department prior to the advertised closing date.

**Non-European Economic Area Applicants:** While St. Vincent's University Hospital is an equal opportunities employer, in line with current Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Employment Permit requirements, applications from non European Economic Area (EEA) will only be considered in the event that an EEA citizen cannot be found to fill the vacancy. Please note that if you are a NON-EEA applicant and are unable to supply documents (listed on [www.djei.ie](http://www.djei.ie)), you are not entitled to participate in this recruitment competition. This is in accordance with the EU Community Preference Rule. Further information is available at [www.djei.ie](http://www.djei.ie).

**Former Public Service employees:** Eligibility to compete may be affected where applicants were formerly employed by the Irish Public Service and previously availed of an Irish Public Service Scheme including:

- Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)
- Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)
- Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants

Applicants should ensure that they are not precluded from re-engagement in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. This is a non-exhaustive list and any queries should be directed to an applicant's former Irish Public Service Employer in the first instance.

**Shortlisting:** Shortlisting will be carried out on the basis of information supplied on your curriculum vitae. The criteria for shortlisting are based on the requirements of the post as outlined in the Person Specification. Failure to include information regarding these requirements on your CV may result in you not being called forward to the next state of the recruitment process.

All overseas qualifications must be validated. No candidate can work in the Hospital without validated qualifications. If professional registration is also a requirement, candidates must provide documentation of same.

Canvassing will automatically disqualify.

Please note that you will be contacted mainly by mobile phone and email. It is important that your mobile phone number, postal address and email address are correct. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to your mobile voice mails and emails. We recommend that you use an email address that you have regular access to.

Competency based interviews follow the shortlisting stage of the recruitment process. Credit is awarded by the interview panel to candidates who demonstrate at interview that they possess the experience, competencies and skills listed in the person specification. Candidates will normally be given at least one weeks' notice of interview. Interviews are held in person only, no subsequent or alternative dates to dates given will be offered to candidates. All interviews are held in the HR Department of St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4 unless it is specifically noted otherwise in the Job Description.

All posts are located in St. Vincent's University Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4 unless it is specifically noted otherwise in the Job Description.

**Disability:** Please let us know if you need any special assistance at interview, e.g. if you have difficulty in moving up or down stairs or have hearing or speech difficulties.

Candidates are notified of the result of their interview at the earliest possible date after the interview. The recommendation of the interview panel does not constitute a job offer. The process continues after the interview and includes clearance checks such as references, Garda clearance, occupational health clearance, validation of qualifications and experience. A job offer is made pending satisfactory clearances. SVUH reserves the right to remove candidates from specific recruitment panels and retract job offers if satisfactory clearances cannot be obtained or are deemed unsatisfactory.

For some recruitment competitions a panel of successful candidates may be formed as a result of the interviews. Candidates who obtain a place on the panel may, (within the life of the panel), be considered for subsequent approved vacancies. Candidates are placed on a panel in order of merit. A panel is typically live for 6 months.

It is normal procedure that candidates be placed on the first point of the relevant salary scale in accordance with the Department of Finance guidelines.

**Declaration:** Please read your application carefully and check for any errors or omissions. False declaration or omission in support of your application will disqualify you from appointment.

**This document must be regarded as an outline of the major areas of accountability at the present time, which will be reviewed and assessed on an on-going basis.**

**Date: January 2018**