

Contact Management Programme Health Service Executive, Dr. Steevens Hospital Dublin 8

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Deputy David Cullinane Dail Eireann Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE. PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the colleges and universities from which graduates were considered for jobs in contact tracing; the reason an exhaustive list was provided; if this limited those shortlisted for interview; the reason notable universities such as TU Dublin were excluded from the list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane

Contract Tracers are currently being recruited by CPL Healthcare as CPL agency employees using two criteria.

Level 1 Clinical Contact Tracers:

At this point we particularly need Level 1 Clinical Contact Tracers. Level 1 Contact Tracers are clinically qualified in the areas of health and social care, medicine, nursing, or patient and client care. We are interested in applications from those who will work full time or part time (a minimum number of hours to maintain clinical competence). If people have a clinical background they can apply for this on the link below

https://hbsrecruitmentservices.ie/

Level 2 non clinical Contact Tracers:

Level 2 Contact Tracers do not need a clinical qualification. At the moment we have sufficient applications for these roles- these roles are full time (37 hours per week). If people do not possess a clinically qualified but are still interested in becoming a Level 2 Contact Tracer they can send an email with CV attached to BeOnCall@hbsrecruitmentservices.ie saying if they are interested in working in Dublin, Galway, Limerick or Cork (that is where the Contact Tracing Centres are). They will contact you if there are Level 2 (non clinical) Tracer further possibilities for employment or for volunteering.

This recruitment campaign was undertaken in a phased and targeted fashion. In developing its response to the Covid-19 pandemic early in 2020, with particular reference to the contact tracing element, the HSE worked very closely with the

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third level educational sector. Contact tracing centres at the request of the HSE were established in a number of third level institutions including Cork University, Limerick University, TCD, DCU, UCD Galway and GMIT in the initial wave of the pandemic. These CTCs were staffed by both third level staff and graduate and postgraduate volunteers of the institutions. Therefore in developing a phased approach to the recruitment process, the first phase included faculties and institutions which had been involved in the establishment of the initial suite of contact tracing centres with a view to harnessing pre-existing knowledge and experience in this area. Institutions were also included in the first phase that have public health graduates with a view to having these competencies and skill sets available within the contact tracing centres.

As the recruitment campaign has been progressed, CPL have also accessed their existing recruitment databases including applications received via the Be-On-Call for Ireland. To date, 3,166 applications have been received to date for the role of contact tracing. Almost 60% of the applications received are outside those institutions identified in the first phase.

Yours sincerely

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Kilian McGrane Contact Management Programme

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