



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Roman Catholic Hospital Chaplain – Grade Code 6404

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 22 of the Health Act 2004, I hereby approve the qualifications, as set out hereunder, for the appointment and continuing as **Roman Catholic Hospital Chaplain**.

1. Professional Qualifications, Experience, etc

Candidates must

(i) At least one year's theology at a recognised institute

and

(ii) Three units of Clinical Pastoral Education in an approved centre

or

Equivalent qualifications/s (as determined by the Healthcare Chaplaincy Board)

2. Age

No age restriction shall apply to a candidate except where he/she is not classified as a new entrant (within the meaning of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2004). In this case the candidate must be under 65 years of age on the first day of the month in which the latest date for receiving completed application forms for the office occurs.

3. Health

Candidates for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

4. Character

Candidates for and any person holding the office must be of good character.

Dated this ^{9th} day of December, two thousand and nine.

Séan McGrath,
National Director of Human Resources.

APPENDIX 1

Job Description for Hospital Chaplains

1. Visiting:

Patients on all wards, especially acute wards, and clinical departments will be visited by the members of the Chaplaincy Team appropriate to the patient's denomination as soon as possible after admission.

The patient will control continuing contact.

Patients who specifically request no Chaplaincy visit will have their wishes honoured.

2. Availability:

The on-call Chaplain will operate a 24-hour on-call emergency service, via the Hospital pager system where appropriate.

All referrals will receive attention. The Chaplaincy service will be offered irrespective of gender, race, creed or colour.

3. Pastoral Care:

The Chaplaincy will provide 24 hour cover to respond to the pastoral need of patients, relatives and staff within the resources available.

4. Spiritual/Religious:

The Chaplaincy will recognise and value other people's belief systems in a developing multi-cultural society through co-ordination with representatives or minister of all faiths.

As appropriate to faith and culture, the Chaplaincy will provide opportunities and resources for individual and corporate prayer and worship.

5. Professional Developments:

The Chaplaincy will be committed to continued professional development through in-service training as provided by the Chaplaincy organisations and associations to which members of the department are affiliated.

The Chaplaincy shall follow the professional codes of conduct of the Health Service Executive/Hospital and the Chaplaincy organisation.

6. Managerial:

The Chaplain will accept managerial accountability and will be directly responsible to the designated office of the Health Service Executive/Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital or designate, as well as to the appropriate Ecclesiastical Authority.

The Chaplain will liaise and link with all staff in providing an appropriate service to the patient.

The Chaplain shall receive all internal communication directly.

The Chaplaincy shall, if required, provide a report on departmental issues and initiatives.

7. Training, Education and Development:

The Chaplain will:

- (a) Have an input into nursing and staff training modules as requested
- (b) Provide ongoing training for Chaplaincy staff
- (c) If applicable will provide training for students in pastoral ministry
- (d) Recruit on a voluntary basis people to assist him/her in their duties and to provide training for them in pastoral ministry as may be approved by the Health Service Executive or Hospital and in accordance with such procedures as may be set down by the Health Service Executive or Hospital from time to time.

8. Theological and Ethical Issues of Healthcare:

The Chaplain will keep informed about current ethical issues of healthcare and shall be prepared to address ethical issues with those in authority within the Health Service Executive / Hospital.

9. Personnel Policies:

The Chaplain will acquaint himself or herself with the existing policies.

10. Miscellaneous:

All religious groups and individuals offering a Chaplaincy service, other than those accredited by the Health Service Executive / Hospital shall firstly be approved by the Chaplaincy and shall be co-ordinated by the appropriate Chaplain.