



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



## Graduate Positions

### Research Assistants – Construct Innovate Work Ready Graduate Programme

School of Engineering – College of Science and Engineering

Ref. No. 010909

## JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for full-time, fixed term positions as Research Assistants on the [Construct Innovate Work Ready Graduate Programme](#) with School of Engineering and Construct Innovate at University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by Enterprise Ireland (Construct Innovate) under the 2025/2026 Work Ready Graduate Programme and is available from 01.09.2025 to contract end date of 31.08.2026.

**Salary:** The salary is point 8 of the Research Assistant scale i.e. €37,420 per annum if offered for the position. In addition, the fees associated with the Postgraduate Diploma in Construct Innovation through University of Galway are covered by the programme and do not fall to either the candidate or the industry member organisation participating in the programme.

**Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.**

## JOB DESCRIPTION

### Job Description:

**Construct Innovate** is Ireland's national centre for construction technology & innovation (<http://www.constructinnovate.ie>). The Centre is an Enterprise Ireland funded Technology Centre, hosted by University of Galway. It was established in December 2022 to help address the challenges facing the Irish construction and built environment sector to improve its efficiency, sustainability and find the required building capacity to deliver the demands on the sector over the next decade and onwards.

Construct Innovate is a member-based Technology Centre linking academia and industry through its membership structure. The Centre's members include Research Performing Organisation (RPO's), such as University of Galway, UCD, Trinity College, UCC, Irish Green Building Council, TU Dublin SETU & ATU, and over 90 industry organisations with a stakehold in the Irish construction industry. A full list of members can be found on the Construct Innovate website: <https://constructinnovate.ie/about-us/members>

Construct Innovate has received funding from Enterprise Ireland for a 12 month "Work Ready Graduate Programme", an Enterprise Ireland funded programme, which will commence in September 2025.

This is a year-long programme which will match recently qualified graduates with our industry members, while also providing training, mentorship and support to the graduates through Construct Innovate.



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Training will occur in parallel to an industry focused secondment and will involve participants undertaking a [Post-Graduate Diploma \(PGDip\) in Construction Innovation](#) from University of Galway over the course of the 12-month programme. Upon successful completion, graduates will receive a fully accredited qualification from University of Galway. The delivery of this course will include mentorship and support from Construct Innovate and University of Galway for the candidate and participating industry organisation throughout the programme.

The successful candidates will be employed by the University of Galway for the duration of the 12-month programme. They will be matched with, and seconded to, one of Construct Innovate's 92 industry members working in an area of the Irish construction & built environment sector which fits with the successful graduates' skillset and qualifications for the duration of this period. They will predominantly be based in the member organisation's company for the duration of the programme.

Some of our industry member companies who have expressed interest in the programme to date include (but not limited to):

- Arup - <https://www.arup.com/>
- Evolusion Innovation Ltd - <https://www.evolusioninnovation.com/>
- Ecocem - <https://www.ecocemglobal.com/en-ie/>
- OCC Construction - <https://occo.ie/>
- Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers - <https://www.rod.ie/>
- Scott Tallon Walker Architects - <https://www.stwarchitects.com/>
- John Sisk and Son - <https://www.johnsiskandson.com/>
- FutureCast - <https://futurecast.info>
- Strata - <https://stratadigital.io/>

On completion of the programme, the candidate will have received valuable exposure to an industry working environment including real-world projects, while receiving both organisation and Construct Innovate support. They will also receive a Post-Graduate Diploma qualification in Construction Innovation from University of Galway upon successful completion of the training programme. In addition to valuable upskilling, they will undertake during the programme, the candidate's understanding and appreciation for the value of research and the work of Construct Innovate as they begin their post-academic careers will also stand them in good stead. The network of academics, industry colleagues and other programme graduates with whom they will develop relationships over the duration of the programme can be a significant source of knowledge and support in their future career development also.

For the duration of the programme, successful candidates will receive one to one mentoring from Construct Innovate mentors, academics, researchers and the in-house operational team, as well as from within the industry organisations to which they are seconded.

In the case where follow on research funding (e.g.: Construct Innovate Seed Fund Call or other collaborative research proposal with an Associate Member) has been successfully secured by the industry member organisation, the graduate's contract may be extended to assist with the delivery of the funded project.

#### **Duties:**



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- Partake in duties assigned to you by the industry organisation to which you are seconded for the duration of the programme. This is to include all organisational policies and procedures to ensure safety and integrity of the work being undertaken while carrying out tasks assigned to you.
- Follow instruction and direction of the line manager to which you are assigned within the industry company to which you are seconded for the duration of the programme.
- Partake in any in-house graduate training scheme or courses run within the industry organisation to which you are seconded.
- Partake, in full, in the activities required while undertaking the Postgraduate Diploma in Construction Innovation at University of Galway. This will include both remote and in-person work to complete each module of the course. It will also include an Innovation Project where participants, working in teams will complete a project on a real-world challenge in the construction/built environment area.
- Actively participate as a member of any project or research team to which you are assigned, either as part of the work undertaken in the industry organisation or as part of the Postgraduate Diploma course work.
- Where opportunities arise over the course of the programme, the candidate can be expected to write research grant proposals, such as Construct Innovate [Seed Fund Call](#), to assist their industry organisation in applying for research funding. If successfully funded, the candidate's contract may be extended to assist with the delivery of the proposed research project.
- Seek support from the Construct Innovate Programme Manager and Construct Innovate assigned mentor as required for the duration of the programme. This will also require the provision of feedback and some light reporting to Construct Innovate at points throughout the programme.
- Travel to industry organisation offices, sites, field locations may be required. Travel to University of Galway for in-person events as part of the programme training schedule will be expected.
- Travel to participate in other relevant Construct Innovate upskilling events and opportunities as required.

### **Management**

- Keep appropriate records as directed and in line with Industry Organisation/University policy.
- Manage own personal capacity and resources (including, where required, laboratories and specialist equipment) appropriately to ensure both workload of the industry organisation and training coursework are completed to a satisfactory level.
- Work under the direction of an academic mentor and industry line manager. Plan and manage own day-to-day activity within this framework and direction. Report information as required to either or both.
- To carry out any additional duties as may reasonably be required within the general scope and level of the post under the WRGP.

### **Other**

- Continue to update knowledge and develop skills.
- Develop internal and external contacts with researchers in related areas, mentors and operational staff within Construct Innovate.
- May contribute to work of the College/School/Research Unit through activities such as student Open Days, other promotion activity as appropriate.



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- Any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### Qualifications/Skills required:

A suitable candidate will have at least a Level 8 degree or equivalent in disciplines relevant to the construction and built environment sector. They should also have a specific interest in/focus on modern methodologies and ideologies being deployed in the construction and built environment sector such as MMC, digital tools and sustainability.

Candidates should have excellent communication and organisational skills; and have strong documentation, oral and interpersonal skills.

### Essential Requirements:

- A suitable candidate will have at least a Level 8 degree or equivalent in disciplines relevant to the construction and built environment sector.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills (English language)
- Demonstrable time management skills showing ability to fulfil multiple tasks and responsibilities in parallel to a satisfactory conclusion for all stakeholders.
- Demonstrable suitability of fit with industry organisations who express interest in taking part in the programme.

### Desirable Requirements:

- Interest in/focus on modern methodologies and ideologies being deployed in the construction and built environment sector such as MMC, digital tools and sustainability.
- Demonstrable experience in both independent and collaborative research/project work.
- Evidence of innovative thinking, able to work both independently and in cross-disciplinary teams
- Evidence of innovative research and innovative research methodologies undertaken as part of undergraduate or postgraduate studies.
- Evidence of grant writing, research publication and dissemination of results at conferences and/or journals is desirable but not essential.

**Start date:** Candidates must start the role on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 and position is for a 12 month period.

## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Continuing Professional Development/Training:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.



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## FURTHER INFORMATION/LINKS

Further information is available at:

- Construct Innovate - <https://constructinnovate.ie/2024/12/work-ready-graduate-programme-2025/>

Informal enquiries concerning the post may be made to Colm McHugh, Centre Manager, Construct Innovate ([info@constructinnovate.ie](mailto:info@constructinnovate.ie)).

- **TO APPLY:** [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online.
  - [How to apply guide](#)
- [University's Strategic Plan](#)
- [Working in Research at University of Galway](#)
- [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)
- [Applicant Information](#)
- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.

