

Job Description and Person Specification

Psychology Assistant

Specified Purpose Contract, Part-Time

Reference: HR25E268

***The successful candidate would need to be available to work a full day
on Wednesdays***

**Closing Date for Applications: Wednesday, November 19th 2025
Date for Interviews: Friday, December 5th 2025**

HR Business Services,
St Vincent's University Hospital,
Elm Park,
Dublin 4.

Contact: +353 (1) 221 6062 or recruitment@svuh.ie

Job title / Grade: Psychology Assistant

Reports to: Principal Specialist Neuropsychologist for clinical supervision
and Principal Psychology Manager for line management

Description:

This is an exciting opportunity for an early career Assistant Psychologist to join the Neuropsychology Service serving the Neurology Department at St. Vincent's University Hospital (SVUH) on a fixed term, part-time basis.

The SVUH Neuropsychology Service sits within the expanding SVUH Psychology Department, which provides a variety of acute psychology services to several specialist medical teams across the hospital. The Neuropsychology Service provides highly specialist services to the SVUH Neurology Department and SVUH Stroke team.

The SVUH Neurology Department is a dynamic, well-established department with excellent clinical, research, and academic links. In its remit to the SVUH Neurology Department, the Neuropsychology Service provides high-calibre, evidence-based neuropsychology services for patients with neurological conditions under the care of SVUH Consultant Neurologists, adhering to internationally recognised standards of best practice. The service offers specialist assessments and therapeutic interventions which aim to support patients to understand and live well with their neurological conditions. The SVUH Neuropsychology Service for the Neurology Department currently comprises one full time Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist and one full time Staff Grade Psychologist. As scientist-practitioners, these psychologists have a clinical, teaching, and research remit aligned with the profile of patients attending the SVUH Neurology Department.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist in the Psychology and Neurology Departments. The primary role will be to assist the Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist in the delivery of an effective clinical neuropsychology service. This will involve:

- Administering standardized neuropsychological assessments for patients with neurological conditions
- Administering standardized mood screening tools for patients with neurological conditions
- Scoring cognitive and mood screening tools
- Inputting clinical data to a database and maintaining the database
- Appropriately flagging up any concerns with supervisor and consultant neurologists
- Conducting literature reviews as relevant to the post
- Supporting ethics application completions for research studies

- Conducting clinical audits
- Supporting analyses and write-up of service evaluation projects, clinical audit, and research studies for publication
- Providing clinical interventions under supervision, such as psychoeducation, behavioural activation, and cognitive rehabilitation for people with neurological conditions
- Co-facilitating group-format interventions (in person and online) for individuals with MS and FND
- Assisting in the development and delivery of group-based interventions for individuals with other neurological conditions
- Managing the clinical administration of the SVUH Neuropsychology Service, including referral triage and waiting-list management and other day-to-day operational tasks that support the delivery of clinical services
- The successful candidate will also have the opportunity to support the team members of the Department of Psychology in the running of their specialist services, including co-facilitating groups and clinical audits, as time allows.

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 Sarah Casey, Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist, email: sacasey@svhg.ie or Dr Clíodhna O'Donovan, Principal Psychology Manager, email: cliodhnaodonovan@svhg.ie

Person Specification

Factors	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	Have a Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) accredited qualification at not less than a Level 8 at 2.1 honours grade on the QQI qualifications framework in which psychology was a major subject. Or	Further post-graduate education in psychology (e.g., Applied or Research Master's degree or PhD in a related area)

	<p>A Level 8 honours degree in another subject together with an accredited conversion qualification at a minimum of (2.1) as conferring eligibility for graduate membership of the Psychological Society of Ireland.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>A qualification equivalent to the above accredited by the British Psychological Society for graduate membership of the British Psychological Society.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>A qualification equivalent to either (i) or (ii) which would allow the applicant to become a graduate member of the PSI.</p>	
Experience (length and type)	<p>Candidates must possess the requisite knowledge and ability, including a high standard of suitability and administrative ability, for the proper discharge of the duties of the office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with service users with neurological, mental health, and/or physical difficulties. • Experience working with service users in health or social care settings • Experience working with Psychologists and/or Health and Social Care professionals (e.g., as part of a multidisciplinary team or in services with multidisciplinary clinical inputs) • Experience in undertaking research using quantitative and qualitative methods

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of dissemination of research • Evidence of commitment to ongoing professional development in areas relevant to professional psychology (e.g., attendance at CPD events, completion of clinical or research skills courses, etc.)
Core Competencies	Planning & Managing Resources Decision Making & Judging Situations Setting Standards & Ensuring Quality Team working Embracing Change & Service Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in clinical neuropsychology. • Interest in the role of a psychologist within a hospital setting. • Strong interpersonal and team-working skills. • Where appropriate, the ability to work autonomously and demonstrate initiative. • Awareness of and ability to work within the limits of one's competence. • Ability to reflect on own practice and to use supervision structures appropriately. • An awareness of risk and risk management in supporting mental health, psychological

		<p>wellbeing, and community participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to use tools/develop and implement processes to manage data. • Strong oral and written communication skills. • Reliable administration and organisational skills. • Excellent time management skills.
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.	
Character	Candidates for and any person holding the office must be of good character	

Particulars of Office:

The appointment is: Part time, Temporary and Pensionable.

Panel: A panel may be formed to fill upcoming permanent, temporary, whole and part-time vacancies over the next 6 months.

Annual Salary: €33,569 pro rata, (Psychology Assistant) (6521).

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 17.5 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: 22 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.

Protected Disclosure Policy:

See link below for more information on our Protected Disclosure Policy as per the Protected Disclosure (Amendment) Act 2022;

[Protected Disclosures - St. Vincent's University Hospital \(stvincents.ie\)](http://stvincents.ie/ProtectedDisclosures)

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), 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.

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.

Persons in receipt of a pension from specified Superannuation Schemes: Former Health Service and Public Sector Employees must adhere to the relevant prohibition of re-employment provisions where they have previously availed of a Public Service Voluntary Early Retirement or Ill Health Retirement Pension from any of the following Pension schemes:

- Local Government Superannuation Scheme (LGSS)
- Health Service Executive Employee Superannuation Scheme
- Voluntary Hospitals Superannuation Scheme (VHSS Officers/Non Officers)
- Nominated Health Agencies Superannuation Scheme (NHASS)
- Other Public Service Superannuation Scheme

Among the Voluntary Early Retirement Schemes referred to above are the following:

- Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement (ISER)
- Voluntary Early Retirement Scheme 2010 (VER)

Prospective candidates must satisfy themselves as to their eligibility to be employed applying / competing for posts to be filled through this recruitment campaign.

Abatement of Pension (Section 52 of Public Service Pensions Act 2012): Where a person who is in receipt of a Public Service Pension (e.g. retired on voluntary age grounds) is subsequently appointed to another Public Service post, the Abatement of Pension Regulations apply. This means that in a situation where the total of a person's pension combined with their salary from their new post, exceeds the uprated (current) salary of the position from which they retired, his/her pension is reduced by any such excess amount. This provision applies irrespective of whether the relevant pension was accrued in the

same Pension Scheme which applies to the new appointment, or in another Public Service Pension Scheme.

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.

St Vincent's University Hospital buildings and grounds are **smoke-free**.

October 2025