

Job Vacancy: Development Advisor

Background

Skillnet Ireland is a Government agency dedicated to the development of leading-edge talent for Irish enterprise. Our mission is “*Helping businesses in Ireland to be the best they can be, through innovative and enterprise-driven people development*”. We partner directly with companies and industry groups to ensure we understand their needs and talent priorities. We also help companies understand the future of work and how to embrace innovation, driving more successful and competitive businesses. By combining Government and private sector investment, our approach incentivises talent development and drives quality and impact in the programmes delivered. Through our joint-investment model with industry, we invested ca. €70m in Ireland’s workforce during 2021, supporting over 20,000 companies nationwide. As part of our continued development, Skillnet Ireland is inviting applications for the position of Development Advisor.

Role Overview

The Development Advisor will work with funded industry groups to maximise the potential of their Skillnet Business Network or Initiative, to champion innovation and collaboration, and to implement a programme of work that delivers on agreed targets and supports business growth. The successful candidate will play an important part in our contribution to national enterprise priorities, including digital acceleration and the development of talent for sustainable business, as committed to in Skillnet Ireland’s Strategy *Transforming Business Through Talent*.

Key Responsibilities

- Advise and support funded industry groups to undertake a diagnostic evaluation of the talent needs of their sector, cluster or region and to implement a programme of work that addresses both the strategic challenges and opportunities.
- Take a central role in the future development of Skillnet Business Networks by promoting best practices, by stimulating forward-thinking enterprise initiatives, by facilitating collaboration and the innovative application of Skillnet funding.
- Lead on the delivery of activity that optimises the effectiveness and impact of Skillnet Ireland-funded initiatives, ensuring the delivery of contracted outputs and efficient grant management, while engaging in new initiatives that address national industry priorities and prepare enterprise for the future world of work.
- Act as a champion for talent development, at the forefront of contemporary trends, disseminating new insights across the Skillnet Ireland organisation and with its stakeholders.
- Build and maintain effective relationships with businesses and Skillnet Ireland stakeholders, whilst coordinating efficiently with the support functions within Skillnet Ireland.
- Analyse performance trends and indicators across the organisation, providing data and insights to inform decision making, and support the production of internal reports and external publications.

The Individual

- A Minimum of 3 years' experience in business capacity-building, ideally with enterprise groups, industry clusters, enterprise clients or funded initiatives.
- Experience in one or more of the following specialisms:
 - Driving business growth within SMEs and/or the FDI base in Ireland.
 - Supporting strategic enterprise initiatives at national, sectoral or regional level.
 - Talent development, as a key driver of business enablement and transformation.
- Possess an understanding of national policy as it relates to enterprise development, innovation, competitiveness, workforce development and Ireland's Labour Market.
- Hold a degree (or equivalent relevant professional experience) in Business, Innovation Management, Talent Development or related discipline.
- An independent thinker, self-directed, taking personal responsibility for the delivery of objectives and overcoming challenges.
- Possess compelling inter-personnel and communication skills (both verbal and written), with an ability to collaborate effectively, and gain the commitment of a broad stakeholder group.
- Capable of demonstrating political, commercial and financial acumen, with a track record in delivering success through people.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities, with evidence of delivery on high value and complex projects.

Application Details

A competitive package which includes generous Annual Leave, employer pension contribution and excellent development opportunities will be offered to the successful candidate.

This is a permanent position, subject to a standard probationary period, based in Sandyford, Dublin.

Interested candidates should email a comprehensive CV and supporting letter to: recruitment@skillnetireland.ie. The closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday, January 28th, 2022.

Skillnet Ireland is an Equal Opportunities Employer.