



Physiotherapy Clinical – Role Description 2025

UCDVO is seeking applications for Physiotherapy Clinical Tutors for the **2025 Volunteer Programme**. Clinical Tutors form a crucial part of the UCDVO Programme – you will be responsible for leading and managing a group of volunteers throughout the volunteer programme and will travel to one of UCDVO's projects in 2025.

The UCDVO Volunteer Programme is a 10-month global citizenship education programme which includes weekend workshops, pre-departure training, and post placement de-briefing, plus one-month overseas volunteering.

The 2025 volunteer projects will take place with UCDVO's partners in Tanzania, Uganda and Cambodia. Full details of the health projects are available on [our website](#).

Physiotherapy Elective Placements

Since 2015, the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science (SPHPSS) in association with UCD Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO) offers a number of part-funded Physiotherapy Clinical Tutor roles. The role is a Clinical Tutor position to supervise student volunteer elective placements with UCDVO's overseas partners in Tanzania and Uganda.

Students of Stage 3 BSc Physiotherapy, and Stage 2 Professional Masters in Physiotherapy are eligible to carry out part of their elective placements with UCDVO.

Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Applicants may be UCD students, alumni, staff or faculty members.
- ✓ Applicants with suitable skills and experience from outside the UCD Community may also apply.

- ✓ Must be a member of the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists and hold CORU registration.
- ✓ Minimum 3 years clinical experience – experience in paediatric physiotherapy an advantage.
- ✓ Age 24 or above.
- ✓ The Physiotherapy Clinical Tutor role will require applicants to be in a position to volunteer overseas for four weeks in the summer of 2025 (dates likely to be in June) and participate in the full [UCDVO Volunteer Programme](#) (including global citizenship education, project planning, safeguarding, health & safety training, etc.).

Competencies

The following is a list of some of the competencies UCDVO looks for in clinical tutors and team coordinators. You don't need to have them all, but a willingness to learn and challenge yourself is important. You should also be committed to [UCDVO's values](#).

- ✓ **Leadership** – ability to influence others in a positive way; ability to guide, support and listen to your team; ability to problem solve and take initiative when needed.
- ✓ **Relationship Building** – can develop good working relationships and work in a spirit of collaboration with a wide variety of stakeholders, including UCDVO team and local partners.
- ✓ **Communication** – you should be a confident communicator with an ability to engage with and listen to a diverse range of perspectives and stakeholders, including volunteers and partner organisations.
- ✓ **Flexibility and adaptability** – things will not always go according to plan. The ability to be flexible, open to change, and adapt to new (challenging) situations is essential.
- ✓ **Planning/organisational skills** – Good ability to plan and organise your work effectively and to set clear priorities and ensure deadlines are met.
- ✓ **Inter-cultural awareness and sensitivity** – UCDVO works with a diverse range of students, communities and partner organisations from many cultures and backgrounds.

Listening to, respecting and learning about one another's cultures and perspectives is one of the joys of the UCDVO programme.

Roles and Responsibilities

The clinical tutors are accountable to and report to the UCDVO manager, the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science and ultimately the charity board of trustees. Full training will be provided, and the team coordinators will be expected to support the implementation of all of UCDVO's policies and procedures. The main responsibilities include:

- ✓ **Clinical Supervision** – in partnership with UCDVO's partners in Uganda and Tanzania, the clinical tutor will coordinate the health projects and jointly supervise the physiotherapy student volunteers with the partner physiotherapist. Training and guidance will be provided by the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science.
- ✓ **Health and Safety** – the clinical tutor will usually be the first point of contact while overseas and will liaise closely with UCDVO's partners and UCDVO manager on all aspects of health, safety and security. The health and safety of all participants is of paramount importance to UCDVO at all times. UCDVO engages specialist safety and security experts for the programme and uses the services of a health and security risk management company.
- ✓ **Child and vulnerable adult safeguarding** – in keeping with UCDVO's child safeguarding policy, and local partner policies, the team coordinator has an important role in raising awareness of, and supporting volunteers to act in accordance with the policy.
- ✓ **Project planning and implementation** - The clinical tutors assist in the planning of the volunteer projects in collaboration with UCDVO's local partners. While the UCDVO manager manages the partnerships and sets the overall objective of each project with the local partners, the clinical tutors also undertake a planning trip to meet the partners, gain an understanding of the context and agree on the activities for the project. Full training is provided. Draft plans are submitted to the UCDVO manager for feedback and presented to the Board of Trustees for approval. During the volunteer project, the clinical tutor liaises with the local partner on the project implementation, making adjustments as necessary and being

guided by the partner. At the end of the project, there will be a final project report and feedback to the manager and board of trustees.

- ✓ **Team leadership** – the clinical tutor leads a small team of about 10 volunteers, helping to motivate the group and encouraging a culture that upholds UCDVO's values. You will learn about and develop your own leadership style and gain experience dealing with challenging situations and problem solving.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

UCDVO as a part of UCD is committed to creating an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated, and everyone is afforded equality of opportunity. Diversity is highlighted in the university's strategic plan as one of the core values of UCD, and its EDI commitment is further demonstrated through the strategic objective relating to the attraction, retention, and development of an excellent and diverse cohort of students, faculty and staff.

UCDVO welcomes applications from everyone, including those who identify with any of the protected characteristics that are set out in our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy. The university adheres to a range of equality, diversity and inclusion policies. We encourage applicants to consult UCD's equality, diversity and inclusion policies [here](#).

Funding

- ✓ The UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science (SPHPSS) covers the costs of participating in the programme (with the exception of some personal costs detailed below).
- ✓ Clinical tutors are actively encouraged to also take part in fundraising initiatives to support the work of UCDVO's overseas partners. Fundraising targets available on UCDVO's website, and training and support are provided.
- ✓ Clinical Tutors are responsible for other personal costs such as vaccinations and medications, travel insurance for travel after the projects.

Benefits

- ✓ Opportunity to contribute to UCDVO's Vision of a vibrant, global community working together for a fair and sustainable world in a meaningful way.
- ✓ Opportunity to further develop and practice your leadership skills.
- ✓ Opportunity to contribute to responsible international volunteering projects developed in collaboration with UCDVO's partner organisations in Uganda, Tanzania and Cambodia.
- ✓ UCD staff can take advantage of the [Employee Volunteering Policy](#) – many employers have similar schemes.

Applications:

Applications are open online from **9th October - 18th November 2024**. Clinical Tutor roles may be allocated prior to the closing date, so please apply early. Following your application, you will be contacted for a short interview.

Further information:

For Physiotherapy specific queries, please contact:

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