



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

**SCHOOL OF
BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES**

IGFS

**THE INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL
FOOD SECURITY**

**GRADUATE AND PLACEMENT
RECRUITMENT (AGRI-FOOD)**

What types of employment do our students seek?

Agriculture – Students have previously secured graduate positions and placements in a range of agricultural production related roles and supporting industries. Areas include – Industry based roles including Meat, Dairy and Poultry industries (farm quality assurance, primary production, traceability), trainee farm management, farm liaison and support, industry related farm trials, sales and business development activities, harvesting, agronomy, plant breeding and crop related roles, horticulture, animal feeds companies and nutrition, agricultural stakeholder organisations, agricultural research institutes working on a broad range of agri-research projects. Many students have gained experience internationally and links are currently established with employers in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US.

Food – Students have previously secured graduate positions and placements in a range of food manufacturing industries, food research related roles as well as organisations working in health related sectors. Areas include industry based roles – product development (development assistant, development technology and nutritional input), technical and quality (quality assurance technician, food technology) HACCP and food safety, audit preparation (BRC and SALSA) and additional regulatory related roles, supplier liaison and buying, marketing and business development, product promotion, social media presence, waste minimisation and environmental management projects, food research within industry and research institutes working on a broad range of food science laboratory based projects. Students will have completed the CIEH Level 3 Qualification in Food Safety Supervision for Manufacturing prior to commencing placement.

Programmes with work placement integrated

- BSc Hons Food Quality, Safety and Nutrition
- BSc Hons Food Science and Food Safety (the above courses are also offered as MSci)

- BSc Hons Agricultural Technology (Provided in conjunction with CAFRE Greenmount campus)

Work placement recruitment options

Placement is carried out between second year and final year of the student programme

- Option one - 16 week placement to be carried out between Easter and September
- Option two - 46 week placement to be carried out after second year enabling the student to return to final year commencing late September
- Based on a 35 hour working week

Benefits of recruiting a Work Placement Student

- Cost effective extra resource with relevant knowledge and skills
- New ideas and fresh perspectives in the workplace
- A means of training and evaluating placement students for potential graduate opportunities
- Develop links with Queen's University Belfast, can lead to additional partnerships
- Students bring new skills and knowledge of modern practices and technologies
- Provide existing staff the opportunity to develop supervisory skills through mentoring a student on placement

Preferred Recruitment Timeline

Work Placement Student

- October to March – advertise and promote opportunities. It is also possible to come on campus to meet students
- January to March – a busy time for placement interviews. Interviews can be accommodated on site
- May to September – students typically commence placement

Graduate Recruitment

- Graduate recruitment is now an all year round activity. Please provide details of vacancies as early as possible to allow adequate time for selection
- October to June – a busy time for Graduate recruitment, email any vacancies directly to m.gallagher@qub.ac.uk and recruit@qub.ac.uk
- Vacancies can also be circulated through staff and our Alumni networks
- The above is a preferred timeline, if your requirements falls outside this please contact Mark directly.
- Please note that opportunities can also be promoted to MSc/Postgraduate students on courses in: Advanced Food Safety, Business for Agri-food and Rural Enterprise, Global Food Security, Sustainable Development, Ecological Management and Conservation Biology, Animal Behaviour and Welfare, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Parasitology and Pathogen Biology. A number of these programmes also integrate a work placement.

Recruitment Process

Contact the Work Placement and Careers Adviser for the School of Biological Sciences for information on the recruitment of graduates or work placement students

Contact Mark Gallagher directly - email your vacancy to m.gallagher@qub.ac.uk

Our students on work placement undertake an assessed Module. The experience provided should enable the students to undertake the Module and guidance can be provided by the Module

Co-ordinator Dr Karen King at k.king@qub.ac.uk or Mark Gallagher

It is also possible to raise your profile with students through presentations on campus, or attendance at our Career fairs throughout the academic year

Queen's University Employer Engagement Team can help your organisation recruit students from broader areas such as IT, Accounting, Management amongst others – email recruit@qub.ac.uk



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