

Postgraduate Scholarship Information Sheet

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| Scholarship Project Title | The Experiences of Black Professionals in Irish Social Care Work |
| Advert Reference number | SETU_2024_127 |
| Supervisor(s) | Dr Morgan O'Brien (SETU Carlow) Dr Hazel O'Brien (SETU Waterford) |
| Research Group | |
| Department /School/Faculty | Humanities |
| Duration | 4 Years/48 Months |
| Status: Full-time / part-time | Full Time |
| Funding information | SETU 2024 Presidents Scholarship Programme |
| Value of the scholarship per year for four years | Stipend: €18,500 per annum Fees of €5,750 per annum Research costs: €2,000 per annum |
| Closing date and time | Wednesday 14th August at 4 pm Irish time |
| Interview date | To be confirmed |
| PhD commencement date | To be confirmed |

Project Key Words: social care, professionalisation, race

Post summary

As social care further develops under the regulation of CORU, the professionalisation of the occupation will continue to present particular challenges and issues that necessitate further inquiry. Within this changing context this research seeks to explore the experiences of Black social care workers (SCWs) in the Republic of Ireland.

Existing evidence indicates that underrepresentation, lack of career advancement opportunities, and racial stereotyping and discrimination impinge upon the status of Black professionals across a host of occupational roles (McGinnity et al, 2018; Gurau and Bachoo, 2022). In examining these issues within the Irish social care context, the successful candidate would be expected to address the project aims:

- 1) to increase knowledge and awareness of issues relating to race, discrimination, and racism within social care work to inform policy and practice for the future;
- 2) to establish whether, and the extent to which, Black SCWs have experienced discrimination or racism interpersonally and institutionally
- 3) to identify relevant recommendations for policy to reduce racism and discrimination within social care work

It is anticipated that the research would comprise both quantitative and qualitative methods in addressing these aims.

Knowledge & Experience

Essential

- An interest in and knowledge of the development of social care in the Republic of Ireland, specifically the process of regulation and professionalisation currently ongoing.
- An interest in and demonstrable experience of conducting academic research.

Desirable

- Relevant professional experience in social care contexts.
- An awareness and understanding of relevant academic theory relating to race, ethnicity, and social professions.
- Experience and/or training in both qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Skills & Competencies

Essential

- Applicants should hold, as a minimum, a 2.1 Honours degree or equivalent, in social science related area at undergraduate or professional level.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must demonstrate on application that they meet [SETU's English language requirements](#) and provide all necessary documentation. See Page 7 of the Code of Practice
- In order to be **shortlisted for interview**, you must meet the SETU English speaking requirements so please provide evidence in your application.

Desirable

- Applicants should hold or expect to attain a Master's Degree in social science related discipline.
- Communication and presentation skills (written and verbal).
- Self-motivation, organisation and time management skills and focus to fulfil the research process.

Further information

For any informal queries, please contact Dr Morgan O'Brien on email morgan.obrien@setu.ie

For queries relating to the application and admission process, please contact the Postgraduate Admissions Office researchadmissions@setu.ie or telephone +353 (0)51 302883.

For queries relating to the funding programme, please email scholarships2024@setu.ie

University Website <https://www.setu.ie/>

Application procedure

Download the Research PhD/MSc Application Form from the SETU website and return the completed application to researchadmissions@setu.ie quoting **SETU_2024_127** in the email subject line.

Please note that paper submissions will not be accepted.

The University may decide to interview only those applicants who appear from the information they provided, to be the most suitable in terms of experience, qualifications and other requirements of the post.

The University will short-list and interview those applicants who provide the most suitable information in terms of experience, qualifications and other requirements relevant to the scholarship.

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