



Looking for work in *Ireland*

Looking for work in another country requires more than just the obvious CV translation. You will be confronted with issues that probably didn't even cross your mind when you decided to go for an international career, but don't underestimate the big impact they can have on the outcome of your adventure! Think for example about the different rules and habits regarding immigration, job application procedures, the selection procedures and the management culture.

Expertise in Labour Mobility has prepared practical fact sheets to support you in your job-hunting abroad. A thorough preparation will give you a head start in the country of your choice. Here is some info on Ireland:

Work permits in Ireland

- EEA citizens are free to move and work wherever they want to, within the EEA (including Ireland).
- You need to apply for a residence permit. This is valid for five years and should be issued within six months of your arrival.
- Contact the Irish embassy in your home country for more information.

The application procedure in Ireland

- In Ireland, speculative applications are worth trying if they are well researched in advance.
- Realise the importance of language skills. Having a social conversation is very different from a business negotiation.
- Realise that Ireland is not the United Kingdom. Compared to the UK, Ireland focuses more on the personal development of the applicant, and not as much on results.

Writing a CV in Ireland

- The key focus of your CV should be to persuade the employer to invite you for an interview. Therefore your CV is a marketing tool, which should be adapted to the market in which you intend to use it.
- Irish CV's have no standard length but many employers prefer them to be short (maximum of two pages).
- A CV in Ireland should only give facts and figures.
- A reverse chronological order is common in a CV. Start with your personal details, then education and next work experience.

The application letter in Ireland

- In Ireland application letters can be typed or handwritten.
- When your letter is a response to an advertisement, it should be brief and merely introduce your CV.
- A lot of companies in Ireland use application forms, especially for junior managerial/supervisory staff.

Dos

- In Ireland bring copies of your CV, diplomas and employer testimonials to the interview with you.
- Be prepared for an assessment centre. Assessment centre tests are quite common in Ireland.
- Be prepared for questions about your extracurricular activities.
- Ask for clarification if you don't understand the question.
- Look interested – ask questions.
- Be able to provide examples to illustrate your achievements.

Don'ts

- Mention your skills and motivations in your CV in Ireland, this should be mentioned in your application letter.
- Sit until invited in an Irish application interview.
- Be deceived by the chatty style in which interviews are held. This can be a way to find out about the 'real' you.
- Criticise former employers.
- Go over the top – stay calm and stick to the facts.

Management culture in Ireland

- Irish people are considered flexible and are great at improvising.
- In Ireland, planning and strategy are usually short term.
- In an Irish business meeting it is best to only give your opinion about a subject if you are well informed.
- Irish people are tough and skilful negotiators underneath the friendliness they will display.
- In Ireland, you should always shake hands when you meet someone and again when you leave.
- After work colleagues often go for a drink. However be prepared to be on time again the next morning!

This information is based on the *Looking for work in Ireland* guide (ISBN 978-90-5896-070-2), written by Expertise in Labour Mobility. This one-pager is one step to making your international career aspirations become reality. The full *Looking for work in Ireland* guide tells you everything you need to know. If you want to order or find out more about our services, have a look at www.labourmobility.com.



Good luck with your application in the Ireland!