



Appointment to the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council:

Person with experience and competence in domestic and international macroeconomic and fiscal matters

Closing Date: Midnight on Thursday, 5th February 2015

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State Boards.ie operates under the auspices of the Public Appointments Service.

The Public Appointments Service (PAS), established under statute in 2004, provides an independent shared service in recruitment, assessment and selection to organisations across the Civil and Public Services. On 30 September 2014, the Government decided that PAS should also be given responsibility for putting in place an open, accessible, rigorous and transparent system to support Ministers in making appointments to State Boards. Our dedicated website, www.stateboards.ie, is the channel through which PAS advertises vacancies on State Boards. It is also the means through which accomplished, experienced and qualified people, including people who might not previously have been identified as available for appointment, can then apply to be considered for particular vacancies.

1. **Entity:** Irish Fiscal Advisory Council
2. **Location:** Meetings will be in Dublin.
3. **Number of Vacancies:** 1
4. **Remuneration:** €11,970, where applicable
5. **Time Requirements:** Monthly Board meetings with additional commitments (see Section 2 - below)

1. Background

The Minister for Finance, Michael Noonan, invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced persons interested in being appointed to fill a vacancy that has arisen for a Member of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council.

The Irish Fiscal Advisory Council is an independent statutory body with a range of functions specified under the [Fiscal Responsibility Acts 2012](#) and [2013](#). These include:

- To endorse, as it considers appropriate, the macroeconomic forecast prepared by the Department of Finance on which the Budget and Stability Programme Update are based.
- To assess the official forecasts produced by the Department of Finance. These are the macroeconomic and budgetary forecasts published by the Department twice a year.
- To assess whether the fiscal stance of the Government is conducive to prudent economic and budgetary management, with reference to the EU Stability and Growth Pact.
- To monitor and assess compliance with the budgetary rule as set out in the Fiscal Responsibility Act. The budgetary rule requires that the Government's budget is in surplus or in balance, or is moving at a satisfactory pace towards that position.
- In relation to the budgetary rule, to assess whether any non-compliance is a result of 'exceptional circumstances'. This could mean a severe economic downturn and/or an unusual event outside the control of Government which may have a major impact on the budgetary position.

The Council comprises five Council Members and a Secretariat of five. Further information about the Council, its work and its publications may be found on its website – www.fiscalcouncil.ie.

2. Time commitment

Council Members are expected to participate at monthly full-day Council meetings, as well as some additional meetings relating to the endorsement of the Budget and Stability Programme Update forecasts and to appear before the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure & Reform. Council Members have responsibilities both as Members of the Council and to input into and review of the Council's substantive work.

3. Person Specification

Expressions of interest in serving as a Member are being sought from persons with competence and experience in domestic or international macroeconomic or fiscal matters.

In particular, skills, knowledge and experience in areas relevant to the Council's statutory mandate are sought. These include a:

- minimum of 10 years forecasting experience in macroeconomics and/or public finances; or
- minimum of 10 years academic experience in macroeconomic and/or fiscal policy; or
- minimum of 10 years spread across both the areas above.

In accordance with the [Fiscal Responsibility Act 2014](#), the term of office for the appointed Board Member is four years from date of appointment.

Members may be re-appointed by the Minister for another term.

4. How to Apply

Applicants are requested to review the self-assessment questionnaire which can be found on www.stateboards.ie. Please note that you are not required to submit the questionnaire as part of the application process.

Having considered your overall suitability for membership of a State Board, you should consider how you meet the specific appointment criteria set out in the "Person Specification Section" above.

If you wish to be considered for appointment, you should submit an application via the following link www.stateboards.ie together with a detailed Curriculum Vitae and cover letter.

In order to submit your application, please:

- i. Go to www.stateboards.ie.
- ii. On the bar at the top of the page click on "Available Appointments".
- iii. This brings you to a page with all our advertised vacancies, select whichever position would like to apply for (you are welcome to apply for more than one if you wish).
- iv. On the relevant page please click on the button at the bottom of the page saying "apply for this position".
- v. This will bring you to a page on www.publicjobs.ie and, if you already have a publicjobs.ie account, will prompt you for your username and password. If you do not have an account you will be asked to set one up.
- vi. Once you input your details you will be brought to a page where there is a prompt in the middle of the page which says "apply here" click on the link to the online application form beside it.
- vii. A form will appear on your screen, some of the text boxes will be populated with information from your publicjobs.ie profile (Name, address etc). You will need to complete the rest of the fields and enter your name and the date at the bottom of the form. Click on continue.
- viii. You will then be brought to a screen where you should upload your CV and Cover Letter. These are required documents and your application cannot be processed without them. Once you have selected these and uploaded them, please click on "submit" at the bottom of the page.
- ix. You will receive an e-mail confirmation (to the address listed in your publicjobs.ie profile) to confirm that your application has been submitted.

You must confirm that you do not have any conflicts of interest or legal impediment which would be likely to interfere with your ability to play a full part on the Board. You must also confirm that you can make yourself available to attend meetings and to carry out the duties of a Board member.

5. Appointments Process

A Board Selection Panel (the "Panel") will be convened by PAS to consider and assess the expressions of interest received by the PAS via www.stateboards.ie. The Panel shall:

- review and discuss the expressions of interest received against specific appointment criteria for the role to be agreed by the panel;
- Assess potential candidates further once they meet the specified appointment criteria by undertaking any or all of the following steps:
 - Consideration of the written applications; and/or
 - Meeting/conference call; and/or
 - Referee checks;
 - Any other selection method deemed appropriate.
- Arrive at a shortlist of suitable candidates to be sent forward for consideration by the Minister.

If you have any questions regarding the application process please email info@stateboards.ie.

6. Data Protection Acts 1988 & 2003

For further information on Data Protection please follow the [link](#)