



Commission for Aviation Regulation

Economist

Role	Economist
Reporting to	Director of Economic Regulation
Location	3 rd floor, 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2 (currently remote due to COVID-19)
Position	Full-Time
Duration	Permanent

The Commission for Aviation Regulation

The Commission for Aviation Regulation was established in 2001 and is an independent public body under the auspices of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and is accountable to the Houses of the Oireachtas. The role of the Commission is to protect the interests of air passengers by delivering:

- Efficient, high-quality and safety conscious airport and air navigation services;
- Safe and financially robust airlines based in Ireland and groundhandlers at the three state airports;
- Financially strong Irish travel agents and tour operators;
- A robust framework to enforce passenger rights in all Irish airports; and
- A regulatory framework that represents best international practice.

In 2018, the Government decided to separate the Irish Aviation Authority's (IAA) regulatory functions from its commercial air traffic control services and to merge the Commission (CAR) with the IAA Safety and Regulation Division (IAA SRD) creating a single aviation regulator. This project is ongoing, on completion this role will transfer to the new regulator.

The Commission currently has a staff of 23 persons. Further information in relation to the full range of the Commission's roles and functions, including all papers relating to economic regulation, is available on www.aviationreg.ie.

Job Description

An opportunity exists in the Commission for Aviation Regulation for a qualified, high-achieving individual to join the organisation focusing on its economic regulation and customer protection functions.

The successful candidate will be given the opportunity to become an expert in economic regulation, financial analysis, policy formulation and implementation, the airport/air traffic control business models, communication, and leadership.

There will be the opportunity for professional learning and development, allowing you to maximise your potential.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

The Commission maintains a small team of regulatory economists. As a member of this team you will contribute, both technically and theoretically to:

- Price regulating Dublin Airport, including setting a maximum level of airport charges levied by Dublin Airport
- Regulating the cost efficiency of the provision of air navigation services in Ireland
- Setting the terminal/airfield capacity of Dublin Airport for the purposes of airport slot coordination.
- Quantitative analysis such as benchmarking, forecasting and financial modelling.
- Capital and operational efficiency analysis of Dublin Airport and Air Traffic Control in Ireland.
- Engaging in significant consultation and dialogue with key stakeholders in the aviation industry.
- Developing methods to engage with passengers on regulatory and quality of service issues.
- Setting quality of service standards for passengers/airlines and monitoring compliance.
- Drafting consultation and decision reports, internal reports and giving presentations both internally and externally.
- Approving fees paid by ground handlers and fees charged for passengers with reduced mobility.
- Feeding into policy development and the formulation of implementation methods and guidelines both domestically and at a European level.
- Maintaining an awareness of economic regulatory practice in Ireland and internationally.
- Data analysis and modelling for all areas of the Commission.
- Inputting to policy development and implementation in other areas of the Commission's work.

Skills, Competencies, and Qualifications

The successful candidate will work as part of a team but should have the ability to work autonomously, setting their own day-to-day priorities and at times working to tight deadlines. They should have the following qualifications and skills.

Essential:

- A postgraduate degree in economics or a related relevant field, or significant related experience.

Desirable:

- A keen interest in industrial organisation theory or applied microeconomics and a familiarity with utility regulation.
- Ability to undertake original economic and policy analysis to a high standard.

- An interest in, or experience in, the aviation industry.
- Good communication skills in English, especially in writing reports as well as short and concise notes.
- Excellent analytical and quantitative skills, a familiarity with econometrics packages and spreadsheet analysis and modelling.
- Good interpersonal skills and experience in teamwork.
- Demonstrate the confidence to represent the Commission at meetings and presentations.
- Affinity to detail, accuracy and ability to work independently.
- An interest in current affairs that relate to the work of the Commission.

SELECTION PROCESS

Candidates will initially be assessed on the basis of their application consisting of a CV, letter of motivation, and a sample of your writing (e.g. dissertation, essay, or work report which you have written previously) and may be shortlisted for interview. The interview process may include up to two interviews and aptitude testing. Interviews may be held remotely via video conferencing.

SALARY RATE

The position is permanent. A salary of €46,412 rising, subject to satisfactory performance assessment, in annual increments to €64,818 based on the Administrative Officer Higher scale. Entry will be at the minimum of scale and the rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy. Candidates should note that different pay and conditions may apply if immediately prior to appointment the appointee is a serving civil or public servant.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

The position is subject to a probationary period of 6 months from the date of actual commencement and is subject to the provision of satisfactory performance during that period.

HOURS OF WORK

The hours of work are 37 hours per week. Standard working hours at the Commission are:

Monday to Thursday: 09:00 to 17:30 with 1-hour lunch break

Friday: 09:00 to 17:00 with 1-hour lunch break

Flexible working hours are also available to staff members of the Commission.

ANNUAL LEAVE

Annual Leave excluding public holidays is 25 days per annum pro rata.

PENSION

The successful candidate will be offered public service pension terms and retirement age conditions in accordance with pension arrangements in the Commission depending on the status of the successful appointee:

- In general, an individual who has no prior pensionable Public Service history in the 26 weeks prior to appointment becomes a member of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme (Single Scheme) which commenced from 1 January 2013 [Section 10 of the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act, 2012 refers];
- An individual who was a member of a “pre-existing public service pension scheme” as construed by the Public Service Pensions (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act, 2012 and who does not qualify for membership of the Single Scheme will become a member of the Commission’s DB Scheme.

OTHER BENEFITS

- Access to cycle to work scheme
- Tax free Bus/ Luas/ Rail to assist with travel costs to and from work
- Access to Employee Assistance Programme
- Access to Commission health and wellbeing initiatives
- Learning and Development opportunities

LOCATION

The Commission is based on the 3rd floor, 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2 opposite the National Concert Hall. We are convenient to the Luas St. Stephen’s Green stop; several Dublin Bus routes including 46a, 44, 145, and 184 are nearby and we are about 15 minutes from Pearse Station on Westland Row. We are also a two-minute walk from the Matthews UCD route Bus stop on Leeson Street Lower.

Due to COVID19, the role will initially be remotely based and appropriate technology will be provided by the Commission.

APPLICATION

Applications must consist of a CV, letter of motivation, and a sample of your writing (e.g. dissertation, essay, or work report which you have written previously) to be considered for shortlisting. Applications should be emailed to info@aviationreg.ie or posted to the above address to be received no later than **5pm on Friday, 4th December 2020**.

We process your personal data in line with the GDPR 2018; see our privacy statement here: <https://www.aviationreg.ie/about-the-commission-for-aviation-regulation/current-vacancies.526.html>.