



Software Developer Digital & Information Services

Closing date: 27 October 2019
Interview date: 08 November 2019
Reference number: ITS189A



Introduction

The Applications Management Division of Digital & Information Services provides software systems and tools to support the administration, teaching and research functions at institutional, school and departmental levels across the organisation.

The division is organised into a number of groups, both development and operational, including Web Applications, Sites & Operations; Teaching & Learning Applications; Corporate Applications; Library Applications; and Database Administration.

Digital & Information Services provides information and communication services for staff and for students at the University of Aberdeen in support of teaching, learning, research and business.

Digital & Information Services is responsible for the management, operation and support of the University's wired and wireless networks, server infrastructure, IT classrooms, telecommunications, audio visual services, software and hardware, email and calendaring, web resources, and corporate applications.

The IT component is comprised of four divisions:

- Applications Management
- Infrastructure Management
- Relationship Management
- Service Management



Job description

Main purpose of the role:

The role is a fixed-term engagement, working alongside members of the Academic Applications team, to develop various web-based projects related to the institutional Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) - Blackboard.

Key responsibilities:

Software Developer

- *Management and development of our institutional VLE (Blackboard), including development of LTI integrations.*
- *Maintaining the User Experience (e.g. theme, localisation) and accessibility (A11y) of the application.*
- *Developing, testing and maintaining a web-based applications using PHP, JavaScript, CSS & HTML.*
- *Working with the Team Lead, Project Lead and Development Manager to inform strategic development decisions.*
- *Ensuring that technical documentation is created and maintained to a high standard.*
- *Ensuring that application development complies with recommended security practices and the coding is performed in a security and privacy conscious manner.*
- *Maintaining an up-to-date knowledge of technologies and recommended practice within the domain.*

At a glance

Salary:

£33,797 - £40,323 per annum

Hours of work:

Full time, 37.5 Hours

Contract type:

Fixed-term (ending 31st December 2021)

Candidate background

We are seeking an experienced Software Developer to join the Academic Applications Development Team.

You should be educated to degree level (or equivalent qualification) or have considerable equivalent experience. You should have practical experience working as a Software Developer producing Web Applications in Object-Oriented PHP 5.6+ and the range of related technologies including, but not limited to, HTML5, CSS3 (including Sass), SQL and JavaScript (jQuery and Vue.js or similar).

Knowledge and interest in Virtual Learning Environments is vital and a familiarity with Blackboard is preferred. Expertise in developing LTI integrations would be a significant advantage.

You should have a strong software development background, including familiarity with the full development lifecycle. Practical experience of test-driven development is useful, as is an awareness of agile methodologies, ideally Scrum.

You should possess good analytical skills and the ability to confidently interact with a broad range of people. Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, are a requirement alongside strong organisational skills.



Terms of appointment

Salary will be at the appropriate point on the Grade 6 salary scale and negotiable with placement according to qualifications and experience.

Any appointment will be made subject to satisfactory references and a 12 month probation period.

This post does not meet the minimum requirements as issued by UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) to qualify for an employer-sponsored visa. We are therefore unable to consider applications from candidates for this post who require sponsorship to work in the UK.

For further information on various staff benefits and policies please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/working-here



Person specification

| | <i>Essential</i> | <i>Desirable</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Education/Qualifications Academic, technical and professional education and training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Educated to degree level (or equivalent qualification) or considerable equivalent experience</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PHP Certification</i> |
| Work and Other relevant experience (including training) eg Specialist knowledge, levels of experience, supervisory experience, research | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knowledge and interest in Virtual Learning Environments.</i> • <i>Experience using database technologies including MySQL and Oracle. Experience using SQL and/or PL/SQL.</i> • <i>Extensive development experience using PHP 5.6+ including the use of MVC frameworks.</i> • <i>Extensive web development experience using HTML, CSS & JavaScript.</i> • <i>Proven experience of the Software Development Lifecycle.</i> • <i>Experience developing and consuming RESTful APIs.</i> • <i>Experience of UI design and awareness of UI/UX/A11y considerations.</i> • <i>Experience writing documentation for both users and technical staff.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Experience developing VLE's such as Blackboard using LTI</i> • <i>Experience of image manipulation (e.g. Adobe Photoshop)</i> • <i>Knowledge of Agile Methodologies including Scrum.</i> • <i>Experience of Test Driven Development.</i> • <i>Knowledge of ITIL.</i> |
| Personal qualities and abilities eg initiative, leadership, ability to work on own or with others, communication skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An analytical and proactive approach to problem solving and development.</i> • <i>Customer driven service-oriented outlook and approach</i> • <i>Excellent interpersonal skills</i> • <i>Excellent written & verbal communication skills</i> • <i>Ability to work individually or as part of a multi-disciplinary team</i> • <i>Flexible, able and willing to adapt to change.</i> | |
| Other eg special circumstances (if any) appropriate to the role such as unsocial hours, travelling, Gaelic language requirements etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Willing to occasionally work outside normal office hours when the need arises.</i> | |

The University

Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is Scotland's third oldest University and the fifth oldest in the UK. Ranked within the world top 140 in the recent QS global league table, Aberdeen is the 'global University of the north'.

Aberdeen is a broad based, research intensive University, which puts students at the head of everything it does. It has significant academic strengths and potential across a wide variety of disciplines. Outstanding in a wide range of discipline areas across the entire research spectrum, Aberdeen has also been credited for its international reach and its commercialisation of research ideas into spin out companies.

The University has over 14,000 matriculated students and 3,600 staff representing 120 nationalities. We encourage bold thinking, creativity and innovation and we nurture ambition with many opportunities for professional and personal development in an inclusive learning environment which challenges, inspires and helps every individual to reach their full potential.

The University combines a distinguished heritage with a forward looking attitude. In the past few years, the University has encouraged creativity in its academic staff, broken new ground with an innovative curriculum, and developed state-of-the-art facilities including the new Sir Duncan Rice Library and the Aberdeen Sports Village and Aquatics Centre. In looking to the future, the University seeks to enhance its reputation as one of the world's leading Universities by moving forward with ever more ground breaking research; ensuring students have an intellectual and social experience second to none; and capitalising upon the dual role as one of the major institutions of the north and as a cornerstone of regional economic and cultural life.

The city and the region

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire

Aberdeen is world renowned as the oil capital of Europe and the region is both the agricultural heartland of Scotland and a hub of the food and drink industry.

With the population approaching 230,000, Aberdeen is big enough to provide all the advantages of city life, yet compact enough to enjoy the more intimate atmosphere usually associated with small towns.

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland's most appealing regions. Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park are within easy access of the city, and there are a variety of towns and villages scattered along the coastline.

Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire cater for a wide range of tastes in sporting and cultural activities.

To find out more about Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire go to www.VisitScotland.com



How to apply

Online application forms are available at www.abdn.ac.uk/jobs

The closing date for receipt of applications is **27 October 2019**

Should you wish to make an informal enquiry please contact
Mr Scott Reid, Software Development Lead
01224 437008
scottreid@abdn.ac.uk

Please do not send application forms or CVs to Mr Reid

Please quote reference number ITS189A on all correspondence

The University pursues a policy of equal opportunities in the appointment and promotion of staff.

