Research Projects – CSOF3

Role summary for potential applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Research Technician – Proficiency Testing |
| Reference Number**:** | 56633 |
| Classification**:** | CSOF3.6 to CSOF3M |
| Salary Range: | AU $71,906 - $78,177 plus up to 15.4% superannuation  |
| Location**:** | Geelong AAHL, Victoria, Australia |
| Tenure: | Two year Term |
| Hours: | Full time |
| Relocation assistance**:** | Relocation expenses will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to: | * Australian Citizens with a 10 year Australian residential history – appointment subject to obtaining AGSVA high level security requirements
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| Functional Area**:** | Research Projects |
| % Client Focus - Internal: | 80% |
| % Client Focus - External: | 20% |
| Reports to the: | Proficiency Team – Team Leader |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |

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| **Role Overview:** |
| The Diagnosis, Surveillance and Response Program at the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) provides diagnostic and research capability for the investigation of emergency diseases affecting livestock and other animals. We seek to appoint a Research Projects Officer to provide support and assist in the production, quality assurance testing and distribution of proficiency testing and diagnostic reagents to a large range of external clients.The Research Projects Officer will contribute to the curation of the proficiency testing and reagent sample library used in the provision of services to national and international clients. The role will also contribute to the analysis and reporting of proficiency testing results, for the various proficiency testing programmes run. Participation in in-house training in serology, molecular and virology diagnostics is also expected.The appointee must be able to meet AAHL’s microbiological and security assessment requirements. A willingness to travel nationally and internationally is preferred for this position |

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| **Duties and Key Result Areas:** |
| * Under the guidance of team and project leaders organise, prepare and dispatch proficiency testing samples, reagents and reference material for serology and molecular diagnostic testing in a timely fashion.
* Operate under and help maintain the laboratory’s quality assurance and accreditation, and assist other laboratories in the establishment and maintenance of quality systems.
* Assist in the analyses of proficiency testing results and writing of reports for participating laboratories, helping to maintain and enhance the laboratory’s delivery of service to customers.
* Communicate effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* As required, participate in in-house training between serology, molecular and virology diagnostic laboratories
* Work as part of a multi-disciplinary team to carry out tasks under limited direction.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Abide by and promote AAHL’s microbiological security regulations.
* Other duties as directed.
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| **Selection Criteria:** |
| *Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed****Pre-Requisites:**** **AAHL Requirements:**  An ability and preparedness to meet CSIRO AAHL’s microbiological and security requirements. To meet the security clearance applicants must be an Australian citizen. Applicants seeking sponsorship or who only hold residency status will not be considered
* **Education/Qualifications:** Relevant tertiary degree in Biological Science and/or equivalent experience in laboratory diagnostic testing.
* **Collaboration:** A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment.
* **Adaptability:** The ability to effectively manage a number of competing priorities simultaneously, and carry out non-routine tasks under technical direction from Senior Technical/Research staff.
* **Problem Solving:** Proven ability to investigate underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develop appropriate responses by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions**.**

***Essential Criteria:***1. Knowledge and experience at a professional level in the requirements for quality assurance and quality systems in diagnostic testing.
2. A demonstrated record of technical competence and achievement in laboratory diagnostic testing (for example molecular (PCR) testing, serology (ELISA, HI) and virology).
3. A proven track record as team player showing initiative, self-motivation, plus an ability and willingness to perform with minimal supervision and follow defined procedures accurately and consistently.
4. Demonstrated ability to build and maintain positive, professional relationships that support stakeholders including internal and external customers.
5. Strong organisational skills including the ability to effectively manage a number of competing priorities simultaneously.
6. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (both written and oral), including the ability to interact well with others.
7. The ability to work effectively and collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team, to manage and deliver on expectations to project deadlines and to carry out tasks with limited supervision in support of diagnostic outputs.

**Desirable Criteria:**1. Working experience with a Laboratory Information Management System data entry and reporting activities at an ISO 17025 or ISO 17043 level.
2. Experience in data analysis, report writing and comparing the performance of diagnostic assays (PCR, ELISA and HI).

***Other special requirements:*****Applicants must:**Be willing and able to adhere to CSIRO AAHL microbiological security requirements and HSE policies. **CSIRO Values:**As Australia’s Innovation Catalyst, CSIRO has strategic actions underpinned by behaviours aligned to Excellent science, Inclusion, trust & respect, Health, safety & environment and Deliver on commitments.  In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate alignment with these behaviours.**Security Assessment and Microbiological Security Requirements for Personnel Working on the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) Site:**The nature of our work requires that each person working on site must comply with the conditions described below.The appointee is required to pass a security clearance at a level appropriate to duties of the position. Confirmation of the appointment is subject to obtaining that clearance.It is essential that all work on exotic or emerging diseases carried out at AAHL is conducted in a safe manner to prevent the escape of the disease agents used, and to this end, all activities and personnel will be subject to appropriate microbiological security measures. Consequently, while working at AAHL, you may not reside on a property on which are kept any of the following animals: sheep, cattle, pigs, goats, horses, asses and mules, any other cloven-hoofed animal, fowls, turkeys, geese, domestic ducks, caged birds, emus or ostriches. Personnel working with diseases of aquatic animals may not keep aquarium fish at their place of residence and personnel working with cane toad material must avoid contact with amphibians.In addition, for a period of seven days after working in the microbiologically secure area of AAHL, personnel may not have close contact with any of the above animals, amphibians or birds or the actual places where these animals are held, or visit any aquatic animal farm or aquatic animal hatchery.Working in the barrier maintained Small Animal Facility requires avoidance of additional animals such as mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits and poultry 3 days prior to arrival.Personnel must abide by Occupational Health, Safety and Environment regulations. Safety signs and directives issued by CSIRO personnel must be complied with at all times.Access restrictions apply to the Werribee Animal Health Facility (WAHF) site that is associated with, but remote from, the AAHL site. |

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| **Other Information:** |
| **How to Apply**Please provide enough information relevant to the selection criteria for this position to enable the assessment panel to determine your suitability, and upload **one document** containing your **CV/resume** and cover letter addressing the ***essential and desirable selection criteria.***If you experience difficulties applying online call 1300 984 220 and someone will be able to assist you. Outside business hours please email: csiro.careers@csiro.au. **Referees**: If you do not already have the names and contact details of two previous supervisors or academic/ professional referees included in your resume/CV please add these before uploading your CV.**Contact:** If after reading the selection documentation you require further information please contact:Dr Gemma Carlile via email: gemma.carlile@csiro.au or phone: +61 3 5227 5000.Please do not email your application directly to Gemma Carlile. Applications received via this method will not be considered.**About CSIRO**Australia is founding its future on science and innovation. Its national science agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is a powerhouse of ideas, technologies and skills for building prosperity, growth, health and sustainability. It serves governments, industries, business and communities across the nation. Find out more! [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au). **We work flexibly at CSIRO, offering a range of options for how, when and where you work. Talk to us about how this role could be flexible for you.** **Find out more!** <https://www.csiro.au/en/Careers/A-great-place-to-work/Work-life-balance> **About the CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL):** The CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) has a national and regional role in the diagnosis and research of emergency (exotic, emerging and serious) and zoonotic diseases of animals. This responsibility extends to provision of ongoing analysis of outbreak isolates, monitoring and characterization of the biological significance of strain variation, and assisting in the establishment of disease freedom. Recognition that diagnostic excellence is better achieved and sustained when underpinned by related research efforts, the research focus includes not only improvements in diagnostic methods but also molecular virology and studies into the pathogenesis and immunology of viral diseases. The purpose of the last is to support the development of new diagnostic methods and provide new insights into pathogenesis, and possibly epidemiology, leading to new methods of disease control. The disciplines involved in this work include experimental and diagnostic pathology, virology, serology, electron microscopy, immunology, genomics and molecular biology, all of which may be undertaken under stringent microbiological security conditions. Access to both BSL3 and BSL4 containment facilities supports investigations utilizing live viruses, including serious zoonotic agents, in both cell and whole animal systems. The laboratory has an enviable track record in scientific research related to emerging infectious diseases and outputs from these activities contribute data to CSIRO’s area of focus around biosecurity within the National Innovation System.<http://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Facilities/AAHL>  |