# Postdoctoral Fellowship – CSOF4

Role summary for potential applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellowship in catalytic aqueous methanol dehydrogenation with integrated carbon capture |
| Reference Number**:** | 58807 |
| Classification**:** | CSOF4 |
| Salary Range: | AU $82k to AU $93k plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location**:** | Newcastle, NSW |
| Tenure: | Specified Term of up to 3 years (or part time equivalent) |
| Relocation assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to: | [ ]  Australian Citizens Only[ ]  Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents Only* [x]  All Candidates
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| Functional Area**:** | Research Scientist / Engineer - Postdoc |
| % Client Focus - Internal: | 100% |
| % Client Focus - External: | 0% |
| Reports to the: | Research Team Leader |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |

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| **Role Overview:** |
| **Postdoctoral Fellowships** at CSIRO provide opportunities to scientists and engineers who have completed their doctorate and have less than three years relevant postdoctoral work experience. These fellowships will help launch their careers, provide experience that will enhance their career prospects, and facilitate the recruitment and development of potential leaders for CSIRO. Postdoctoral Fellows **are appointed for up to three years or part time equivalent** and will work closely with a leading Research Scientist or Engineer in their respective field. They carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO with the possibility of novel and important scientific outcomes. They present the findings in appropriate publications and at conferences.Hydrogen will play a critical role in future energy systems. The ability to store and distribute hydrogen is crucially important so it can be dispatched where and when it is required. CSIRO is developing new ways to combine the control of carbon dioxide emissions with the production and use of methanol as a hydrogen carrier. This project will focus on the development of new catalysts for the dehydrogenation of aqueous methanol into hydrogen and carbon dioxide via homogeneous or heterogeneous catalysis. This will be integrated with the capture of carbon dioxide that is produced to provide both a pure stream of hydrogen and avoid the formation of unwanted by-products.  |

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| **Duties and Key Result Areas:** |
| * Under the direction of senior research scientists, carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO that will, where possible, lead to novel and important scientific outcomes.
* Gain a detailed understanding of the chemistry and catalyst/amine systems suitable for the dehydrogenation of methanol/water mixtures into carbon dioxide and hydrogen.
* Optimise the selection of catalyst/amine system, equipment set up, and the conditions for methanol dehydrogenation.
* Critically evaluate all results in terms of technically and economically practical systems for scale-up.
* Undertake regular reviews of relevant literature and patents.
* Produce high quality scientific and/or engineering papers suitable for publication in quality journals, for client reports and granting of patents.
* Prepare appropriate conference papers and present those at conferences as agreed with your supervisor.
* Contribute to the development of innovative concepts and ideas for further research.
* Make a contribution to the effective functioning of the research team and help deliver CSIRO’s organisational objectives and plans.
* Work collaboratively with colleagues within your team, the business unit and across CSIRO.
* Communicate effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Undertake an appropriate training and development program developed by CSIRO.
* Other duties as directed.

**CSIRO’s postdoctoral training program**is developed between the Postdoctoral Fellow and a CSIRO scientist or engineer. The program will focus on enhancing the Fellows’ capabilities to the level expected of an independent researcher and will include on-the-job and course-based development encompassing:* Discipline-specific techniques and protocols
* Professional growth
* Project management
* Communication and influencing skills
* Working and collaborating with others

<http://www.csiro.au/en/Careers/Student-and-graduate-programs/Postdoctoral-fellowships> |

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| **Selection Criteria:** |
| *Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed****Pre-Requisites:***1. **Education/Qualifications:** A doctorate (or will shortly satisfy the requirements of a PhD) in a relevant discipline area, such as Chemistry or Chemical Engineering.

***Please note:*** *To be eligible for this role you must have* ***no more than 3 years (or part time equivalent)*** *of relevant postdoctoral experience.*1. **Communication: High level written and oral communication skills with the ability to represent the research team effectively internally and externally, including at national and international conferences.**
2. **Publications: A record of publications in quality, peer reviewed journals.**
3. **Behaviours:** A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment.

***Essential Criteria:***1. The ability to investigate, understand, and optimise chemical reaction mechanisms.
2. Catalyst synthesis and characterisation.
3. Familiarity with techniques such as IR spectroscopy, NMR spectroscopy, and chromatography to identify and characterise chemical species.
4. Experience with the development and characterisation of gas-liquid reactions.
5. **The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, plus the motivation and discipline to carry out autonomous research.**
6. A record of science innovation and creativity, plus the ability & willingness to incorporate novel ideas and approaches into scientific investigations.

**Desirable Criteria:**1. Experience with catalysis in aqueous environments.
2. Familiarity with CO2-amine chemistry for gas separation processes.

**As Australia’s Innovation Catalyst, CSIRO has strategic actions underpinned by behaviours aligned to**:* Excellent science
* Inclusion, trust & respect
* Health, safety & environment
* Delivery on commitments.

**In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate alignment with these behaviours.**To be appointed as a Postdoctoral Fellow within CSIRO, candidates are required to have **submitted** their PhD at the time of commencement, as a minimum requirement, if PhD conferment has not been obtained. If a candidate has submitted, but their PhD has not yet been formally attained, the starting salary will be CSOF4-1 (AU$82,450).Upon CSIRO receiving written confirmation that the PhD has been awarded (within a six month period from commencement date), the salary will be increased to the negotiated level and the difference will be back-paid to the Officer’s start date.***Special requirements:***Appointment to this role may be subject to conditions including security/medical/character clearance requirements. Applicants who are not Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents may be required to undergo additional security clearance processes; which may include medical examinations and an international standardised test of English language proficiency (i.e. IELTS test).- <http://www.ielts.org/default.aspx> |

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| **Other Information:** |
| **How to Apply**Please apply for this position online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/> and enter requisition number **58807**. Internal applicants please apply via ‘Jobs Central’ in SAP (click ‘Recruitment’) Please load your CV (Maximum 2MB). You may also be required to respond to some screening questions.  If you experience difficulties applying online call 1300 984 220 for assistance. Outside Australian business hours please email: csiro-careers@csiro.au. **Referees**: Please provide contact details of two previous supervisor or academic/professional referees in your resume/CV. We will ask your permission before making contact. **Contact:** If after reading the position details above you require more information please contact: **Dr Graeme Puxty**via email: Graeme.Puxty@csiro.au or phone: **+61 2 4960 6196**Please do not email your application directly to Dr Puxty. Applications received via this method may not be considered by the selection panel.**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! [CSIRO Balance](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/the-csiro-experience/balance) **CSIRO Energy** is pioneering low-emission technologies that create value for industry and households and provide the knowledge which will help guide Australia towards a smart, secure energy future. |