# Position Description

# *Research Scientist ‐ Observational Radio Astronomy*

## Research Scientist – CSOF6

The following information is for applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Research Scientist - Observational Radio Astronomy |
| Job Reference: | 60422 |
| Location | Sydney, NSW or Perth, WA |
| Relocation Assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required. |
| Applications Are Open To: | * All Candidates |
| Percentage of Client Focus - Internal: | 70% |
| Percentage of Client Focus - External: | 30% |
| Reports to the: | Team Leader |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |
| Name and Contact Details For Applicant Enquiries | Elaine Sadler – Elaine.Sadler@csiro.au |
| Contact Details For Applying | Call 1300 984 220 or email [careers.online@csiro.au](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au). |
| How to Apply: | Please apply online at [jobs.csiro.au](https://jobs.csiro.au/) and enter the requisition number**.** Internal applicants please apply via ‘Jobs Central’ through the ‘People Hub’ icon |

## Role Overview:

CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science (CASS) manages the Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF), including the Parkes radio telescope, the Australia Telescope Compact Array and the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder. CASS also contributes to the development of the international Square Kilometre Array (SKA), and is a partner institution of the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA).

The role of the Research Scientist ‐ Observational Radio Astronomy is to carry out world‐class research using facilities associated with CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science (CASS) and its partners, including the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder, the MWA, and future SKA-low prototypes. The Research Scientist will also be involved in the support of National Facility operations. CASS is committed to building a safe and welcoming workplace culture, and to implementing initiatives to improve diversity and equity within our workplace. CSIRO offers a range of flexible working arrangements to support these initiatives.

## Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Incorporate novel approaches to scientific investigations by adapting and/or developing original concepts and ideas for new, existing and further research.
* Conduct independent research in areas closely related to CASS ATNF science
* Supervise and mentor students
* Provide scientific support to the commissioning and operation of National Facility telescopes
* Maintain and re-enforce national and international collaborations
* Communicate effectively and respectfully in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Produce high quality scientific papers suitable for publication in quality journals and for presentation at national and international conferences.
* Work collaboratively and honestly with internal and external colleagues, clients and partners to develop and progress challenging but realistic research plans for a range of research projects.
* Lead small research projects and assist with elements of larger projects including the negotiation of resource requirements.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Other duties as directed.

## Competencies:

1. **Teamwork and Collaboration: Cooperates with others to achieve organisational objectives and may share team resources in order to do this. Collaborates with other teams as well as industry colleagues.**
2. **Influence and Communication: Identifies critical stakeholders and influences them via an influential third party, for example through an established network, to gain support for sometimes contentious proposals/ideas.**
3. **Resource Management/Leadership: Sets up and maintains effective and efficient work teams and manages performance and resources, to achieve objectives. Chooses appropriate management strategies and communication styles to maintain high levels of motivation and productivity. Gives feedback for development purposes and provides support and direction for improvement.**
4. **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Anticipates and manages problems in ambiguous situations. Develops and selects an appropriate course of action and provides for contingencies. Evaluates, interprets and integrates complex bodies of information and draws logical conclusions, synthesises proposals and defends options with reasoned arguments.
5. **Independence: Assesses the risk and opportunity of identified strategies, options and actions. Overcomes problems and setbacks in achieving goals. Invariably includes consideration of value-added future impact on bottom line when determining the optimal and efficient use of resources.**
6. **Adaptability:** Demonstrates flexibility in thinking and adapts to, and manages, the increasing rate of organisational change by adjusting strategies, goal and priorities.

## Selection Criteria:

*Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all selection criteria can be appointed.*

1. A doctorate in astrophysics or a closely related discipline and at least three years of postdoctoral experience.
2. Demonstrated research interests and expertise in astronomy closely related to ATNF science
3. Expertise in radio astronomy techniques
4. **The ability to work effectively as a member or leader of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team, and carry out independent individual research, to achieve organisational goals.**
5. A record of science innovation and creativity plus the ability to apply well developed research skills to scientific investigations.
6. **Excellent written and oral communication skills, evidenced by high-level reporting, presentation and negotiation abilities, and the capacity to identify and influence critical stakeholders to gain support for contentious proposals/ideas.**
7. **A record of quality publications in high impact, peer reviewed journals.**
8. A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment.

## Desirable Criteria:

1. Experience in radio astronomy instrumentation and/or instrument commissioning
2. Thorough understanding of aperture synthesis

## About CSIRO:

We imagine. We collaborate. We innovate. To find out more visit us [online](http://www.csiro.au/)!

Find out more about the CSIRO [Astronomy and Space Science](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Astronomy)