# Position Description

## Technical Services – CSOF5

Role summary for potential applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Astronomy Support Specialist |
| Job Reference: | 61459 |
| Relocation Assistance**:** | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required. |
| Applications Are Open To: | All candidates |
| Percentage of Client Focus - Internal: | 80% |
| Percentage of Client Focus - External: | 20% |
| Reports to the: | Director of Strategic Projects and Engagement |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 0 |
| 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 |
| Contact details to discuss this position: | Dr Jenni Harrison via email [jenni.harrison@csiro.au](mailto:Elina.Islamova@csiro.au)  *Please do not email your application directly to Jenni Harrison. Applications received via this method will not be considered.* |
| If you have difficulty applying please contact: | Call 1300 984 220 or email [csiro.online@csiro.au](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au) between 8.30 am and 5 pm Australian east coast time. |

## Role Overview:

The Pawsey Supercomputing Centre (Pawsey) is a $150M investment by the Australian Government in the National Research Infrastructure program, to develop a supercomputing and data intensive science capability for general science but with a particular focus on support for radio astronomy as well as geosciences, minerals and resources research.

Pawsey is a long-standing and successful unincorporated joint venture of the CSIRO, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and the University of Western Australia that provides services in the areas of supercomputing, data management and analysis, and visualisation.

As part of the Pawsey Supercomputing Centre team, the Astronomy Support Specialist will be specifically part of a new initiative, funded by Astronomy Australia Ltd, via the Australian Data and Compute Services (ADACS) project. ADACS provides astronomy focused training, support and expertise to assist astronomers to maximise the scientific return from data and computing infrastructure across Australia.

This Astronomy Support Specialist will enable the post holder to become embedded within a national astronomy project (or projects), to assist researchers to optimise new and existing workflows, software and processes.

## Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Provide specialist advice and software enhancement to astronomy research groups.
* Effectively utilise the supercomputing and data resources at Tier 1 national facilities (such as Pawsey and the NCI) as well as Tier 2 facilities.
* Engage with astronomy research groups and associated communities and disciplines (in conjunction with the Pawsey Supercomputing, Data and Visualisation teams).
* Assist astronomy research groups to integrate highly parallel codes into their workflows (including testing and versioning to maintain high quality code).
* Maintain accurate records and documentation of all improvements (i.e. supporting code optimisation).
* Ensure effective issues and responses are provided via request tracking.
* Identify suitable technologies, tools and algorithms relevant to astronomy activities.
* Encourage and support the adoption of new technologies to improve the productivity of astronomy research projects.
* Engage in and undertake strategic astronomy projects.
* Assist in the development of materials such as case studies and papers demonstrating the results of astronomy research projects.
* Identify technical areas of astronomy researcher knowledge for improvement and develop appropriate training material for delivery by other members of the ADACS team.
* At all times maintain a client focus.
* Communicate openly, effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary, often regionally dispersed research team, and business unit to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO scientific objectives.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Other duties as directed.

## CSIRO 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:** Uses knowledge of other party's priorities and adapts presentations or discussions to appeal to the interests and level of the audience. Anticipates and prepares for others reactions.
3. **Resource Management/Leadership:** Chooses appropriate 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:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
5. **Independence:** Plans, sets and works to meet challenging standards and goals for self and/or others. Recognises where endeavours will make the most impact or difference, decides on desired outcome and sets realistic goals to reach this target.
6. **Adaptability:**Copes with ambiguity or situations that lack clarity. Adapts readily to changing circumstances and new responsibilities (which may include activities outside own preferences) in the interests of achieving team objectives. Recognises the need for and undertakes personal development as a result of changes.

## Selection Criteria:

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

* Relevant tertiary qualifications or demonstrated significant experience in tertiary level education.
* Excellent verbal and written communication skills with a high level of literacy.
* Strong organisational, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
* Demonstrated ability to work as a team, including senior members of staff.
* Demonstrable experience in:
  + Engaging with stakeholders to obtain technical requirements to enhance, build, develop and support applications.
  + Engaging with stakeholders to ensure that new features and / or services being provided are fit for purpose.
  + Being adaptable and flexible to modify project scope to satisfy client needs.
  + Developing training materials to support new tools.
  + Developing and maintaining technical documentation.
* Demonstrable ability to work under limited direction and be able to assist researchers (even when external or remote)

## Desirable Criteria:

* Professional or post graduate qualification (e.g. Master’s Degree)
* Knowledge of supercomputing and / or data science

## Special Requirements:

* Must be willing and able to travel interstate.

## About CSIRO:

At CSIRO we solve the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. See more [online](http://www.csiro.au/)!

Find out more about CSIRO [Pawsey](https://my.csiro.au/orginfo/structure/facilites-collections/pawsey)