# Position Details

## CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Postdoctoral Fellowship– CSOF4

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| The following information is for applicants | |
| Advertised Job Title | CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellowship in Emerging Infectious Diseases |
| Job Reference | 69972 |
| Tenure | Specified Term of 3 years (Full-time) |
| Salary Range | AU$83,687 to AU$94,679 pa + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Townsville, QLD |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | Australian/New Zealand Citizens, Australian Permanent Residents and Australian temporary residents currently residing in Australia (visa sponsorship may be provided to eligible candidates). |
| Position reports to the | Science Leader for Emerging Infectious Diseases |
| Client Focus – Internal | 70% |
| Client Focus – External | 30% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Roslyn Hickson via email at: Roslyn.Hickson@csiro.au or phone: +61 (0) 448 286 295 |
| How to apply | Apply online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/>  Internal applicants please apply via **Jobs Central**  If you experience difficulties when applying, please email [careers.online@csiro.au](mailto:careers.online@csiro.au) or call 1300 984 220. |

### Role Overview

**CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Postdoctoral Fellowships** provide opportunities to scientists and engineers who have completed their doctorate and have less than three years relevant postdoctoral work experience. These fellowships aim to develop the next generation of future leaders of the innovation system through:

* A differentiated career development program to deliver capability excellence and breadth across all facets of the national innovation system.
* Research training via strategic research and development projects with a clear focus that will deliver real impact through science and engineering excellence;
* An innovative culture supporting the development and demonstration of original thinking and expertise leading to peer-recognition; and
* Opportunities to develop skills and experience in collaborative research teams to effectively work within national and global multi/transdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder environments.

CERC Postdoctoral Fellows **are appointed for three years or part time equivalent.**

Emerging infectious diseases are of global concern, as highlighted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. More than 75% of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic in origin (transmitted from animals to humans), and their incidence has tripled over the past 30 years. The increase of outbreaks been driven by a variety of factors including human encroachment into wildlife habitats, increasing urbanisation and climate change; Asia in particular is a global hotspot for zoonotic infectious disease emergence. CSIRO and JCU have partnered to build a research programme on emerging infectious diseases, focussing in Northern Australia and the IndoPacific region. This research programme is interdisciplinary, encompassing all aspects of emerging infectious diseases, including the following:

* **I**nnovative surveillance techniques (Internet of Things, sensing, other existing data, citizen science and Indigenous knowledge)**.**
* Development of new diagnostics and treatments.
* Understand the host-pathogen response (e.g. through cell culture/animal model, Next gen seq, in-silico or molecular analysis).
* Identify and develop possible responses (including vaccine or drug development where needed).
* Understand sociocultural aspects (community engagement, change management, well-being aspects of One Health, behaviour change and communication).
* Identify human and animal health systems ideal roles and gaps.
* Develop decision support systems for decision makers.

The focus of this position is on developing a digital decision support platform for detection and monitoring of emerging and neglected tropical diseases in Northern Australia and the IndoPacific region. The successful candidate is also expected to contribute more broadly to the overall research programme, based on their skills and interests.

### Duties and Key Result Areas:

* Develop a platform to inform the public, policy makers, and/or scientists for the detection, monitoring and decision support of emerging or neglected tropical diseases in Northern Australia and the IndoPacific region.

Under the direction of senior research scientists and engineers, CERC Postdoctoral Fellows:

* Carry out innovative, impactful research of strategic importance to CSIRO that will, where possible, lead to novel and important scientific outcomes.
* Recognise and exploit opportunities for innovation and the generation of new theoretical perspectives, and progress opportunities for the further development or creation of new lines of research.
* Utilise design thinking methodology to plan and prepare research proposals, and apply non-academic impact methodology to research projects.
* Carry out research investigations requiring originality, creativity and innovation.
* Record, manage, and analyse data/information using relevant domain data science techniques.
* Proactively undertake development to grow effective researcher capabilities to support career goals.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment procedures and policy, Diversity initiatives and Making Safety Personal goals.
* Other duties as directed.

[**The CERC Postdoctoral Fellow learning and development program**](http://www.csiro.au/en/Careers/Student-and-graduate-programs/Postdoctoral-fellowships)is developed between the CERC Postdoctoral Fellow and their CSIRO supervisor. 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

## **Required Competencies:**

* **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.
* **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.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Allocates activities, directs tasks and manages resources to meet objectives. Provides coaching and on the job training, recognises and supports staff achievements and fosters open communication in the team.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
* **Independence:** Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).
* **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**

#### Essential

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

1. A doctorate (or will shortly satisfy the requirements of a PhD) in a relevant discipline area, such as data science/statistics, machine learning, IoT, applied mathematics, computer science, bioinformatics, epidemiology, sociology, other infectious diseases disciplines.

Please note: To be eligible for this role you must have **no more than 3 years** (or part time equivalent) of postdoctoral research experience.

1. Quantitative skills, including cleaning and analysing data.
2. Demonstrated scientific computing experience.
3. Experience working collaboratively in interdisciplinary groups.
4. High level written and oral communication skills with the ability to represent the research team effectively internally and externally, including the presentation of research outcomes at national and international conferences.
5. A sound history of publication in peer reviewed journals and/or authorship of scientific papers, reports, grant applications or patents.
6. A record of science innovation and creativity, including the ability & willingness to incorporate novel ideas and approaches into scientific investigations.

## **Desirable:**

1. Wet lab and field experience.
2. GIS modelling experience.
3. Grant writing experience.

To be appointed as a CERC 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$83,687). 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 will be subject to the following condition:

The successful candidate will be asked to obtain and provide evidence of a National Police Check or equivalent. Please note that people with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.

**Our value proposition**

We want CERC Postdoc Fellows to join our world class science, engineering and digital teams to solve big, complex problems that make a real difference to the future of Australia and the world.

You'll get to work with some of the most talented minds in their fields, not just in Australia, but in the world. At CSIRO, we spark off each other, learn from each other, trust each other and collaborate closely to achieve more than we could individually.

CSIRO Early Research Career (CERC) Postdoctoral Fellow Experience Employee Value Proposition (EVP). Find out more [here](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/postdoctoral-fellowships)!

## **About CSIRO:**

We solve the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. To find out more visit us [online](http://www.csiro.au/)!

Find out more about CSIRO [Health and Biosecurity](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF)