# Position Description

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

The following information is for applicants

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| Advertised job title**:** | CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellowship in Statistical Genetics and Bioinformatics |
| Job reference: | 64018 |
| 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   * All Candidates |
| Percentage of client focus - internal: | 100% |
| Percentage of client focus - external: | 0% |
| Reports to the: | Team Leader |
| 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 Natalie Twine via email at Natalie.Twine@CSIRO.au |
| 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:

**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.**

We are seeking a PhD qualified Statistical Geneticist or Bioinformatician to join the Genomics Insights Team. The ideal candidate has practical experience in statistical genetics as well as advanced programming abilities. Together we aim to improve clinical genomics by revolutionizing the variant annotation and prioritization field.

You will join the high-performing Transformational Bioinformatics Group from the Australian e-Health Research Centre (AEHRC) and collaborate closely with Australian genomics initiatives in Queensland, Victoria and NSW, the Global Alliance for Genomics and Health as well as Australian and International companies operating in the genomic testing space.

The Australian e-health research centre (AEHRC) is CSIRO’s digital health research unit delivering innovation to the health system. It is the largest eHealth research group in Australia with 100 research scientists working with clinicians and industry to identify the clinical and/or health challenges. AEHRC is worldwide unique in covering the full value chain from basic science through to clinical application and assessing their impacts on Australian and international health systems.

Within the AEHRC, the charter of the Transformational Bioinformatics Group is to develop novel bioinformatics solutions for research and industry using the latest in cloud and BigData infrastructure. Supported by CSIRO’s Future Science Platform in precision health, the candidate will be developing and leading a new initiative to prioritize actionable genomic variants from sequencing data that go beyond simple annotation and rule-based assessments. Specifically, the candidate will help develop a machine learning methods that can learn from historic expert annotations to automatically prioritize the variants in a similar fashion.

## Duties and Key Result Areas:

* 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.
  + Develop innovate concepts, theories, tools and techniques related to statistical genetics and variant prioritisation.
  + 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.
  + Work collaboratively with colleagues within your team, the business unit and across CSIRO.
  + 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.
  + 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 plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals.
* Other duties as directed.

**The CERC Postdoctoral Fellow learning and development program**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

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

## 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: 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.**
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: Recognise and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).**
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 selection criteria can be appointed.*

1. A doctorate (or will shortly satisfy the requirements of a PhD) in a relevant discipline area, such as Bioinformatics or Statistical Genetics.

***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. Practical experience with statistical genetics applications in humans, such as GWAS, or eQTL
2. Evidence of advanced data analytics and programming capabilities in more than one language relevant for bioinformatics (e.g. Python, Java, C++, Scala, BASH, R, Julia).
3. 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.
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, please provide impact criterion on your papers (IF, or number of citations)**
6. A record of science innovation and creativity, including the ability & willingness to incorporate novel ideas and approaches into scientific investigations.

## Desirable Criteria:

1. Proven impact from developing solutions on public cloud infrastructure (AWS, Alibaba cloud, GCP Azure) or high-performance compute (HPC) with demonstrated software engineering practices (use of repositories, deployment standards, efficiency analysis).
2. Experience in human clinical trials.
3. Experience with Machine Learning concepts

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 ($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.

**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! <https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/postdoctoral-fellowships>

Besides recent publications in high impact peer reviewed journals like Blood, Nature Communications and Genome Research, our work was highlighted by ComputerWeekly as one of the Top-10 IT stories of 2017, presented by Amazon Web Service (AWS Summit), as well as GenomeWeb, one of the largest online news outlets for genomics and life Science developments. We partner with both industry (AWS, Alibaba cloud, Microsoft research), as well as national and international academic research institutes (Project MinE, AIBL, Harvard, ANU, MQ, PeterMac, JCSMR, WEHI, FU Berlin).

## 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 [Health and Biosecurity](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF)

Find out more about the CSIRO [Australian Animal Health Laboratory](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Facilities/AAHL)