# 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 computational geomechanics |
| Job Reference | 71068 |
| Tenure | Specified Term of 3 years  Full-time |
| Salary Range | AU$86,434 to AU$94,679 pa (pro-rata for part-time) + up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Kensington, WA |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | * Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents * Australian temporary residents currently residing in Australia (visa sponsorship may be provided to eligible candidates) |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader |
| Client Focus – Internal | 80% |
| Client Focus – External | 20% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Dr Thomas Poulet via email at thomas.poulet@csiro.au or phone +61 8 6436 8665 |
| 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 of 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.**

The Postdoctoral Fellow will leverage newly developed numerical techniques and geomechanical models to assess the stability and safety of Tailings Storage Facilities (TSF), a massive global issue with significant societal, environmental, and economic consequences. The Postdoctoral Fellow's responsibilities will include developing a new multi-physics constitutive model using critical state soil mechanics; implementing a corresponding numerical solver for the model; quantifying uncertainty and analysing risk.

The successful candidate will lead the implementation effort at all stages of the project in collaboration with a team of experts at CSIRO and Curtin University (the latter led by Prof. Victor Calo), with opportunities to explore the topic and steer the project evolution to the desired application level based on communication between the research team members, external stakeholders, and the community.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Develop a chemo-hydro-mechanical constitutive model using critical state soil mechanics.
* Develop an efficient numerical solver for poromechanics with automatic mesh adaptivity.
* Perform sensitivity and risk analyses to assess TSF stability and safety.

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

* Undertake regular reviews of relevant literature and patents.
* 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
* Proactively undertake development to grow effective researcher capabilities to support career goals.
* Contribute to the effective functioning of the research team between CSIRO and Curtin University and help deliver CSIRO’s organisational objectives and plans.
* Produce high-quality scientific papers suitable for publication in leading journals, report to clients, and apply for patents.
* Prepare conference papers and present those at conferences as agreed with your supervisors.
* Represent CSIRO externally, including in public forums, with industry or the research sector or with Government
* Work collaboratively and professionally with colleagues within the team, the business unit, across CSIRO, and other institutions including external stakeholders and the community.
* 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, 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 Mathematics, Physics, Computing, Civil/Mechanical/Mining/Environmental Engineering or a related field with a focus on geomechanics and numerical analysis.

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. Demonstrated strong mathematical/analyticalbackground.
2. Demonstrated experience in developing mechanical models and their use in numerical simulation.
3. Demonstrated numerical programming experience.
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. Experiencein building multiphysical models for geomechanical applications.
2. Experience in finite element programming including adaptivity and high-performance computing.
3. Experience in constitutive modelling.
4. Good programming skills (e.g., Julia, C/C++, Python).
5. Geotechnical and engineering experience.
6. Experience with risk modelling and probabilistic methods.
7. Remain productive, positive and resilient in complex, ambiguous and/or uncertain environments.
8. **The ability to work effectively as part of a multi-disciplinary, potentially regionally dispersed research team, plus the motivation and discipline to carry out autonomous research.**

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.

Special Requirements

Appointment to this role may be subject to conditions including provision of a national police check as well as other security/medical/character clearance requirements.

• 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/)!

CSIRO is a values-based organisation.  In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:

* 1. People First
  2. Further Together
  3. Making it Real
  4. Trusted

Find out more about CSIRO [Mineral Resources](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/MRF)