# Research Projects – CSOF6

Role summary for potential applicants

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| Advertised Job Title**:** | Proficiency Testing Team Leader |
| Reference Number**:** | 81071 |
| Classification**:** | CSOF6 |
| Salary Range: | AUD117,917 to AUD138,176 plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location**:** | Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness, Geelong, VIC |
| Tenure: | Indefinite |
| Relocation assistance**:** |  |
| Applications are open to: | Australian Citizens Only |
| Functional Area**:** | Research Projects |
| % Client Focus - Internal: | 50% |
| % Client Focus - External: | 50% |
| Reports to the: | Group Leader, Emergency Disease Investigation |
| Number of Direct Reports: | 6 |

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| **Role Overview:** |
| The role of Research Projects staff in CSIRO is to collaborate in scientific activities with other research staff by assisting with detailed planning, undertaking or assisting with experimental and observational work, and in carrying out the more practical aspects of the work.  The Diagnosis, Surveillance and Response Program at the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP) provides diagnostic and research capability for the investigation of emergency diseases affecting livestock and other animals. We seek to appoint an experienced scientist who will lead the team responsible for the production, quality assurance testing and distribution of proficiency testing and diagnostic reagents to a large range of external clients.The RPO will also oversee the analysis and reporting of proficiency testing results, for both national and international proficiency testing schemes.  The appointee must be able to meet ACDP’s microbiological security and security assessment requirements. |

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| **Duties and Key Result Areas:** |
| * Work with the Group Leader and Technical Manager to develop and deliver on a sustainable strategy for the team. * Manage and maintain effective and efficient work teams; manage performance and resources, to achieve strategic objectives. * Enhance and develop effective partnerships with external and internal partners and stakeholders to ensure effective service delivery and develop future options. * Operate under and ensure maintenance the laboratory’s quality assurance and accreditation and assist other laboratories in the establishment and maintenance of quality systems. * Oversee the analysis of proficiency testing results and writing of reports for participating laboratories, helping to maintain and enhance the laboratory’s delivery of service to customers * 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, Health, Safety and Environment plans and policies, Diversity initiatives and Zero Harm goals. * Abide by and promote ACDP’s microbiological security regulations. * Other duties as directed. |

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| **Selection Criteria:** |
| *Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed*  ***Pre-Requisites:***   1. **ACDP Requirements:**  An ability and preparedness to meet CSIRO ACDP’s microbiological security and security requirements. 2. **Education/Qualifications:** Relevant tertiary degree &/or equivalent experience Biological Science or equivalent experience in laboratory diagnostic testing. 3. **Communication:** Excellent communication skills, both written and oral, including the ability to anticipate the interests and knowledge level of an audience and present information and feedback accordingly**.** 4. **Collaboration:** A history of professional and respectful behaviours and attitudes in a collaborative environment. 5. **Adaptability:** The ability to effectively manage a number of competing priorities simultaneously, and carry out non-routine tasks under limited direction. 6. **Problem Solving:** Proven ability to investigate underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develop appropriate responses by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions**.**   ***Essential Criteria***   1. Demonstrated experience administering Proficiency Testing programs under ISO 17043. 2. Knowledge at a professional level and experience in the requirements for quality assurance and quality systems in diagnostic testing. 3. Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to interact well with technical staff and engage with external clients in a professional role. 4. The ability to manage a multi-disciplinary team to ensure delivery of objectives.   **Desirable Criteria:**   1. A demonstrated record of technical competence and achievement in laboratory diagnostic testing requiring skills and an understanding of molecular (PCR) and serology (ELISA, HI) and virology. 2. Working experience with a Laboratory Information Management System data entry and reporting activities at an ISO 17025 or ISO 17043 level. 3. Experience in data analysis, report writing and comparing the performance of diagnostic assays (PCR, ELISA and HI).   **CSIRO is a values based organisation. You will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:**   1. Integrity of Excellent Science 2. Trust & Respect 3. Creative Spirit 4. Delivering on Commitments 5. Health, Safety & Sustainability   **Security Assessment and Microbiological Security Requirements for Personnel Working on the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP) Site:**   1. The nature of our work requires that each person working on site must comply with the conditions described below. 2. The appointee is required to pass a security clearance at a level appropriate to duties of the position. Confirmation of the appointment is subject to obtaining that clearance. 3. It is essential that all work on exotic or emerging diseases carried out at ACDP is conducted in a safe manner to prevent the escape of the disease agents used, and to this end, all activities and personnel will be subject to appropriate microbiological security measures. Consequently, while working at ACDP, you may not reside on a property on which are kept any of the following animals: sheep, cattle, pigs, goats, horses, asses and mules, any other cloven-hoofed animal, fowls, turkeys, geese, domestic ducks, caged birds, emus or ostriches. Personnel working with diseases of aquatic animals may not keep aquarium fish at their place of residence and personnel working with cane toad material must avoid contact with amphibians. 4. In addition, for a period of seven days after working in the microbiologically secure area of ACDP, personnel may not have close contact with any of the above animals, amphibians or birds or the actual places where these animals are held, or visit any aquatic animal farm or aquatic animal hatchery. 5. Working in the barrier maintained Small Animal Facility requires avoidance of additional animals such as mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits and poultry 3 days prior to arrival. 6. It is usual practice in laboratories where work with infectious disease agents is carried out, to collect a blood sample from personnel and store serum for future reference. This is a safety precaution, so that if any person becomes ill in the future, serum samples are available for testing. 7. Personnel must abide by Occupational Health, Safety and Environment regulations. Safety signs and directives issued by CSIRO personnel must be complied with at all times. 8. Access restrictions apply to the Werribee Animal Health Facility (WAHF) site that is associated with, but remote from, the ACDP site.   ***A medical and/or security assessment is required prior to commencement in the role.*** |

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| **Other Information:** |
| **How to Apply**  Please apply for this position online at [www.csiro.au/careers](http://www.csiro.au/careers). You may be asked to provide additional information (online) relevant to the selection criteria. If so, then responding will enhance your application so please take the time to provide relevant succinct answers. Applicants who do not provide the information when requested may not be considered.  If you experience difficulties applying online call 1300 301 509 and someone will be able to assist you. Outside business hours please email: [csiro-careers@csiro.au](mailto:csiro-careers@csiro.au).  **Referees**: If you do not already have the names and contact details of two previous supervisors or academic/ professional referees included in your resume/CV please add these before uploading your CV.  **Contact:** If after reading the selection documentation you require further information please contact:  Dr James Watsonvia email: James.Watson@csiro.au or phone: +61 5227 5117  Please do not email your application directly to Dr Debbie Eagles. Applications received via this method will not be considered.  **About CSIRO**  Australia is founding its future on science and innovation. Its national science agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is a powerhouse of ideas, technologies and skills for building prosperity, growth, health and sustainability. It serves governments, industries, business and communities across the nation.  Find out more! [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au).  **CSIRO Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness**  The CSIRO Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP) has a national and regional role in the diagnosis and research of emergency (exotic, emerging and serious) and zoonotic diseases of animals. This responsibility extends to provision of ongoing analysis of outbreak isolates, monitoring and characterization of the biological significance of strain variation, and assisting in the establishment of disease freedom. Recognition that diagnostic excellence is better achieved and sustained when underpinned by related research efforts, the research focus includes not only improvements in diagnostic methods but also molecular virology and studies into the pathogenesis and immunology of viral diseases. The purpose of the last is to support the development of new diagnostic methods and provide new insights into pathogenesis, and possibly epidemiology, leading to new methods of disease control. The disciplines involved in this work include experimental and diagnostic pathology, virology, serology, electron microscopy, immunology, genomics and molecular biology, all of which may be undertaken under stringent microbiological security conditions.  Access to both BSL3 and BSL4 containment facilities supports investigations utilizing live viruses, including serious zoonotic agents, in both cell and whole animal systems. The laboratory has an enviable track record in scientific research related to emerging infectious diseases and outputs from these activities contribute data to CSIRO’s area of focus around biosecurity within the National Innovation System. |