# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF6

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| The following information is for applicants |
| Advertised Job Title | Observatory Manager – Parkes Observatory |
| Job Reference | 99097 |
| Tenure | Indefinite, Full-time (Job share may also be considered) |
| Salary Range | AU$131k - AU$153k per annum (pro-rata for part-time)plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) | Parkes, NSW |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents |
| Position reports to the | Head of NSW Observatory Operations |
| Client Focus – Internal | 90% |
| Client Focus – External | 10% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 5 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Peter Mirtschin via email at peter.mirtschin@csiro.au or phone +61 02 6790 4058 |
| 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 or call 1300 984 220. |

**Acknowledgement of Country**

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the areas that we live and work on across Australia. We acknowledge their continuing connection to their culture and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. View our [vision towards reconciliation](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/Indigenous-engagement/Reconciliation-Action-Plan).

**Child Safety**

CSIRO is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people involved in our activities and programs. View our [Child Safe Policy](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/policies/child-safe-policy).

### Role Overview

CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, operates a number of world-class radio astronomy observatories that are collectively known as the Australia Telescope National Facility or ATNF. The facility offers a powerful view of the southern hemisphere radio spectrum and supports world-leading research by Australian and international astronomers. Observatories in NSW are located at Parkes, Narrabri and Coonabarabran with Headquarters and laboratories located at Marsfield, Sydney.

CSIRO also manages the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory, which is home to the Australia Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP) Telescope and where the Square Kilometre Array telescope infrastructure in Australia is to be centred.

CSIRO is seeking a highly motivated Engineer to work at the iconic Parkes Observatory, home of Murriyang, our Parkes radio telescope (“The Dish”). You will lead the Parkes Observatory technical team and take the lead role for day-to-day operation of the site, by supporting the local staff in their work activities to maintain high levels of reliability and performance of Observatory systems and infrastructure.

As a skilled engineer you will contribute to the engineering maintenance, operations and upgrades for the Parkes 64-m and 12-m telescopes and provide engineering expertise to support other ATNF facilities as required.

You will also act as the Site Leader to provide a local leadership presence for staff on site and be responsible for representing CSIRO locally. The Site Leader plays a critical role in supporting team cohesion and will have oversight of Health, Safety, Environmental and Emergency Management on site.

In this role you will report formally to the Head of NSW Observatory Operations.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Lead the Parkes Observatory team to ensure smooth day-to-day operations of the Observatory.
* Use your specialised engineering and/or advanced technical skills to contribute actively to the maintenance, operations and upgrades of Observatory systems and equipment.
* Work closely with the Parkes Senior Systems Scientist and other local and remote ATNF staff to maintain high levels of availability and scientific productivity of the Observatory
* Coordinate, and participate actively in, out-of-hours support for Observatory operations.
* Work closely with the Head of NSW Observatory Operations and other senior ATNF staff to coordinate and prioritise work activities supporting key projects, major maintenance and other activities at Parkes and the other ATNF Observatories.
* As Site Leader, maintain team cohesion and take leadership in health and safety to ensure high standards of safety on site.
* Act as the Observatory’s point of contact, coordinating and liaising actively with engineering and science staff from other sites and with other CSIRO and community stakeholders.
* Represent CSIRO and the ATNF at local events and provide support for visits from VIPs, stakeholder events and the media
* Exercise financial and asset management responsibilities, including financial delegations.
* 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, regionally dispersed team to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO scientific objectives.
* 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 duties of the role are not limited to the above and a flexible approach and ability to adapt to evolving situations is required.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

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

1. A degree in electrical engineering, computing or closely related field, and demonstrated experience in managing and leading staff in an operational environment.
2. A sound understanding of a broad range of engineering principles including radio-frequency receiver systems, servo systems, digital and analogue electronics, electrical and mechanical.
3. Excellent hands-on technical and problem-solving skills.
4. Ability and willingness to travel to other ATNF Observatories for up to a week at a time.
5. Evidence of ability to build productive relationships, work collaboratively and manage complex professional relationships.
6. Excellent English oral and written communication skills.
7. Ability to access telescope structures and work at heights.
8. An Australian Class ‘C’ driver’s licence (or equivalent).

## **Desirable**

1. Formal qualifications in Health and Safety, Leadership or Management.
2. Experience in maintaining safety and compliance standards of electrical systems and infrastructure.

## **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 team as well as industry colleagues.
* **Influence and Communication:** Identifies critical stakeholders and influences them via an influential third party, for example through an established network, to gain support for sometimes contentious, proposals / ideas.
* **Resource Management/Leadership:** Sets up and maintains effective and efficient work teams and manages performance and resources, to achieve objectives. Chooses appropriate management strategies and communication styles to maintain high levels of motivation and productivity. Gives feedback for development purposes and provides support and direction for improvement.
* **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Anticipates and manages problems in ambiguous situations. Develops and selects an appropriate course of action and provides for contingencies. Evaluates, interprets and integrates complex bodies of information and draws logical conclusions, synthesises proposals and defends options with reasoned arguments.
* **Independence:** Assesses the risk and opportunity of identified strategies, options and actions. Overcomes problems and setbacks in achieving goals. Invariably includes consideration of value-added future impact on bottom line when determining the optimal and efficient use of resources.
* **Adaptability:**Demonstrates flexibility in thinking and adapts to and manages the increasing rate of organisational change by adjusting strategies, goals and priorities.

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 Clearance or equivalent. Please note that individuals with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
* *If you have any queries regarding finalising the Duties and Key Result Areas or the Special Requirements for this position, please consult with In-business HR or the Talent Acquisition Team.*

## **About CSIRO**

We solve the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. Visit [CSIRO Online](http://www.csiro.au/) and [Space and Astronomy](https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Astronomy) for more information.

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

* People First
* Further Together
* Making it Real
* Trusted