

Position Description – Research Assistant

Updated 10 November 2025

POSITION DETAILS

College	College of Medicine and Public Health
Organisational Unit	Pharmacology
Supervisor Title	Senior Research Fellow
Classification	Higher Education Officer 5
Employment Type	Fixed-term, (available for 2 years), Full Time

POSITION SUMMARY

Under general direction of the Chief Investigator, the Research Assistant will undertake research in Pharmacology for the NH&MRC funded project “Dissecting the genetic diversity and therapeutic potential in targeting trace amine receptor 1 (TAAR1) for psychiatric disorders”. In working with the Chief Investigator and the research team, the incumbent will assist in the execution of the research project. This position will assist with the development, co-ordination, and implementation of research projects.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University’s code of conduct and are expected to:

- Demonstrate commitment to the University’s values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred;
- Contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University’s objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one’s supervisor;
- Promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity;
- Perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and
- Familiarise themselves and comply with the University’s Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

A Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check (NCCHC) which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position.

Staff working in a health care setting are strongly recommended to be fully vaccinated against COVID in line with the SA Health policy

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Assistant is accountable for:

- Assisting with design and implementation of computational methodologies integrating chemical, biological, structural data.
- Assisting in the Project by collaborating with the Project Research Team to successfully deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- Assisting with the preparation of refereed journal publications arising from the research.
- Contribute to the planning and execution of research by offering new ideas, reviewing relevant literature and other sources of information, actively participating in the production of data and attending seminars, meetings and conferences.
- Contributing to the coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners.
- Contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship, quality publication, external grant acquisition and presentations that aligns with the College areas of research strength and focus.
- Establishing and maintaining collaborations within the University, and at State, national and international levels in order to improve research outputs, patents and publications.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a degree in Chemistry/Biochemistry/Pharmacology or related field or an equivalent combination of experience and/or education and/or training
- Demonstrated experience in molecular modelling, molecular simulations, artificial intelligence, and machine learning in proteins.
- Demonstrated ability to assist in delivering project targets on time.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and the capacity to collaborate and engage with diverse stakeholders and industry partners.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.
- Demonstrated ability to undertake collaborative research and establish and maintain effective relationships with staff and industry.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.
- Knowledge of molecular biology and molecular mechanisms of GPCR proteins (desirable).
- Experience in molecular simulations of membrane proteins (desirable).