

Position Description –Scientific Officer

Updated 2 July 2026

POSITION DETAILS	
College/Portfolio	College of Medicine and Public Health
Organisational Unit	International Centre for Point-of-Care Testing
Supervisor (Title)	Scientific Manager
Classification	Higher Education Officer Level 6
Employment Type	Fixed Term, Full-Time

POSITION SUMMARY
Under general to broad direction, the Scientific Officer will assist in the co-ordination of the Centre's First Nations Molecular Point-of-Care (POC) Testing Program which provides multi-plexed molecular testing for infectious diseases, to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical services throughout Australia. The Flinders University International Centre for Point-of-Care Testing is a global leader in POC Testing and is recognised for expertise in POC Testing research and teaching encompassing chronic, acute and infectious diseases. The Centre's research activities have made significant contributions to increasing access to health care and improving health incomes, particularly in Indigenous communities and rural and remote settings nationally and internationally.

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 <i>Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity</i> policies.

Flinders University is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment, free from gender based violence. Appointment to this role is conditional on the completion of required pre employment checks and declarations, each of which must be satisfactory to the University. This includes a Gender Based Violence declaration, in accordance with the National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence (2025), and a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check.

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

It is an inherent requirement of the position that the successful candidate maintains hepatitis serology testing to determine protective levels are maintained and where necessary undertake initial vaccination or booster vaccination required by WHS requirements for blood borne viruses (BBV) exposure during client blood collection.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Scientific Officer is accountable for:

- Preparing and coordinating standardised operating procedures and a broad range of training resources to support infectious disease point-of-care (POC) testing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services and other primary health care environments;
- Developing, coordinating and implementing POC testing operator training, program certification and evaluation mechanism with learning management system contractors to support infectious disease POC testing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services and other primary health care environments;
- Coordinate the re-development and maintenance of First Nations Molecular POC Testing Program website, including a user portal for submission of quality testing results and other specified data;
- Reviewing stakeholder feedback to access ongoing POC testing operator training needs and map training needs against national and international standards for point-of-care testing in Australia;
- Reviewing and redesigning POC testing training content and assessments into online learning modules providing ongoing maintenance and quality control;
- Providing scientific and technical support services in relation to troubleshooting POC testing devices and related software;
- Providing quality management support services for internal quality control and external quality assurance frameworks; for infectious disease POC testing in-line with current regulatory and best-practice guidelines;
- Data management and research support services for the assessment of infectious disease POC testing program outcome measures in conjunction with key stakeholders;
- Preparing material for publication including government reports, refereed articles, newsletters and web and promotional material with key stakeholders in order to meet contractual obligations;
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with all supervisors, Centre colleagues, research assistant/s and administration officer/s within the infectious disease and other Centre POC testing program;
- Some interstate travel may be required to deliver POC testing operator training and other program support as required, in order to meet contractual obligations;
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- A Bachelor of Medical Science or equivalent degree in a relevant field with subsequent relevant experience.
- Demonstrated knowledge of and/or senior scientific experience of routine microbial pathology testing and the relevant national/international standards and testing requirements.
- Demonstrated experience in the delivery and management of molecular-based point-of-care testing, including GeneXpert devices.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience creating and editing digital learning packages and content, including but not limited to training videos, static training presentations, interactive training modules using a variety of multimedia formats, embed formal assessment questions and enable training certification and registration.
- Knowledge and experience in the use of eLearning products, such as Moodle and SCORM, is highly desirable.
- Knowledge and experience in website development and maintenance is highly desirable.
- Ability to manage, analyse and report diagnostic test results and/or research data and keep clear and accurate records of such data.
- Demonstrated understanding of patient confidentiality regarding notification of infectious disease point- of-care test results.
- Demonstrated effective written and oral communication skills across a broad multidisciplinary team and stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a culturally appropriate manner, with consideration to the culturally and linguistically diverse populations serviced by the Program.
- Knowledge and experience in developing risk assessments and risk mitigation procedures for the use in in vitro diagnostic tests and/or hazardous chemicals is highly desirable.
- Demonstrated experience in working autonomously under reduced supervision, as well as participating in a team.
- Demonstrated strong computing skills with sound capabilities in use of all products within the Microsoft Office suite.
- Sound information retrieval skills with the ability to conduct surveys and access web-based information.