

Position Description – Research Associate in Neuroscience

Updated 17 February 2026

POSITION DETAILS	
College	College of Medicine and Public Health
Organisational Unit	Human Physiology, Medical Bioscience
Supervisor	Professor Damien Keating
Classification	Research (Academic) Level A
Employment Type	Fixed-term, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY
<p>The Research Associate will undertake research in the discipline of Human Physiology under the direction of the Chief Investigator. In working with Chief Investigator and research team, the incumbent will assist in leading the design and execution of the research project. In working with him and the research team, the position will contribute to project design and implementation, the analysis of data and the preparation of manuscripts for publication. The research program will specifically focus on 3-year ARC-funded project related to a novel gut-brain circuit that controls fluid intake.</p> <p>The Research Fellow may assist in leading students involved in the research Project, according to the University's policies, practices and standards.</p>

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p><i>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</i></p> <p><i>Staff working in a health care setting are <u>strongly recommended</u> to be fully vaccinated against COVID in line with the SA Health policy.</i></p>

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Associate in Neuroscience is accountable for:

- Assisting in leading the research project by collaborating with the Research Team to successfully deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- 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.
- Independently contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship, publishing in recognised high quality journals and assisting the preparation and submission of bids for external research funding.
- Assisting principal supervisors with supervision of honours and post graduate research projects where relevant.
- 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) as well as rural SA, interstate and overseas travel, 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 PhD in physiology or neuroscience or related areas or significant progress towards completion of a PhD in physiology or neuroscience
- Demonstrated emerging research experience in terms of publications in high quality journals, and presentations at a national and/or international level in a field relevant to this project.
- Demonstrated experience in, or understanding of, quantitative research methodologies relevant to the project including some or all of the following: microscopy, immunohistochemistry, bioinformatics, secretion experiments, small animal surgery, *in vivo* animal work, mouse behavioural analysis, molecular genetics, use or maintenance of transgenic mouse colonies, cell culture.
- Demonstrated experience delivering project targets on time.
- Demonstrated ability to plan and execute data collection and analysis.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and experience in collaborating and engaging with diverse stakeholders and partners.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively both autonomously and in a team environment, including the ability to provide routine direction to junior staff/students.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.