

## Position Description – Research Partnerships Director (Health)

Updated 1/04/2026

POSITION DETAILS	
Portfolio	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Organisational Unit	Research Development and Support (RDS)
Supervisor (Title)	Deputy Chief Research Development Officer
Classification	Higher Education Officer Level 10
Employment Type	Continuing, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY
<p>Under generally unguided direction, and in accordance with the strategic goals of the University, the Research Partnerships Director (Health) will have primary responsibility for identifying, developing and implementing strategic opportunities and potential research partnerships with government and non-government organisations to build the University's research profile leading towards the achievement of the strategic goals of the University as described in the Flinders University strategic plan, <i>Agenda 2035</i>.</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"> <li>demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence, and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred;</li> <li>contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit 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;</li> <li>promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity;</li> <li>perform their responsibilities in a manner which reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and</li> <li>familiarise themselves and comply with the University's <i>Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity</i> policies.</li> </ul> <p><i>A current Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position. A criminal record will not automatically disqualify a candidate from consideration. Each case will be assessed on its individual merits and relevance to the inherent requirements of the role.</i></p>

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES
<p>The Research Partnerships Director (Health) is accountable for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying, developing, and implementing strategic opportunities and potential research initiatives with internal and external stakeholders to grow Flinders University's research grant income in health and</li> </ol>



medical research with a particular focus on strategically important and large-scale schemes including the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF).

2. Working proactively with researchers, Colleges and Institutes to identify, prioritise and support competitive applications for key large-scale health and medical research funding opportunities, including MRFF, NHMRC and other major national and international schemes.
3. Providing high level advice on research matters with a focus on health and medical research funding application strategy and development.
4. Identifying, pursuing, and securing opportunities for enhancing Flinders University's capabilities and reputation in research.
5. Identifying and monitoring funding opportunities and providing strategic and practical support in pursuing these opportunities for external research fund generation.
6. Facilitating and developing research partnerships with Australian and international organisations including industry and government and non-government and professional organisations to support large-scale and impact-driven health research.
7. Providing effective leadership in identifying, developing and implementing strategic research opportunities, including coordination across Colleges, Institutes and central research support functions.
8. Preparing submissions on behalf of the University on research related matters.
9. Negotiating agreements and project terms, as required, to support research partnerships, funding applications and major collaborative initiatives.
10. Supporting post-award establishment and early implementation activities for large-scale health-related funding opportunities and partnerships, as appropriate, including coordination with internal stakeholders to ensure effective governance, mobilisation and delivery.
11. Developing, maintaining and enhancing collaborative links with key College and Institute research leadership and support staff.
12. Representing Flinders' research interests with a variety of stakeholders at the highest levels, managing engagement and relationships for positive outcomes.
13. Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or the University.

#### KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Postgraduate qualifications and extensive relevant experience and or; or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education and/or training.
- Demonstrated ability to exercise initiative, establish priorities and manage multiple complex projects in an effective and timely manner.
- Advanced analytical skills and demonstrated experience solving complex problems requiring strategic thought and independent judgement.
- Demonstrated track record of success in either an academic environment or industry.
- Demonstrated leadership, advanced business acumen, strategic thinking, and ability to identify business opportunities through interactions with a range of prospective clients including industry bodies, external research groups or institutes, or government agencies.
- The ability to identify project opportunities through interactions with a range of prospective stakeholders including government agencies and industry bodies.

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- Demonstrated extensive knowledge and understanding of the public research policy environment and associated funding opportunities.
- Demonstrated high level written communication skills, including the ability to write business plans and proposals.
- Demonstrated capacity to analyse, integrate, articulate and contribute to procedural change, and policy development and initiatives.
- Demonstrated ability to evaluate complex situations, determine effective and realistic options and take responsibility for implementing and evaluating these options.
- The proven ability to translate strategic objectives into deliverable operational plans resulting in high performance outcomes.
- Exceptional interpersonal and verbal communication skills including the ability to consult, network and build relationships to achieve results.
- Evidence of a strong work ethic, high level of energy, and the ability to manage complex tasks with minimal supervision.
- Proven advanced ability to analyse, interpret and present complex data, develop policy and build business cases supported by clear evidence.

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