

Position Description – Research Associate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Advancement

Updated 30 July 2026

POSITION DETAILS	
College	College of Medicine and Public Health
Organisational Unit	Rural and Remote Health
Supervisor	Matthew Flinders Professor
Classification	Research (Academic) Level A
Employment Type	Fixed-term, part-time

POSITION SUMMARY
The Research Associate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Advancement will undertake research within “The And We Are Determined as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People to Advance First Nations Kidney Health” (AWA) Grant, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), under the direction of the Chief Investigator. The research activity is delivered within Rural and Remote Health, at the Darwin Campus, but has a reach into Northern Territory, Queensland, Nationally and Internationally. The successful applicant will contribute to a larger body of work, led by the AWA Grant. The incumbent will collate, curate and synthesise health information to develop knowledge that will advance community capacity to design health-interventions that can result in a measurable decrease in chronic kidney disease and/or impact of kidney failure. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates are encouraged to apply.

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 and Excellence • demonstrate consistent alignment with the University’s strategic priorities through daily decisions, teamwork and behaviours that reinforce the strategic intent. • 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, assisting 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.

Northern Territory Government legislation (the Care and Protection of Children Act 2007) now requires all individuals in child related employment or whose duties involve, or are likely to involve, contact with a child, to hold a valid 'Working with Children Clearance' (Ochre Card). This position involves child related work and is assessed as requiring a Working with Children Clearance/Ochre Card.

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 required to be fully vaccinated against COVID in line with the NT Health Policy.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Research Associate in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Advancement is accountable for:

- Contributing 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.
- Assisting in leading the Project by collaborating with the Project Research Team to gain HREC and RGO approvals and deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- Contributing to the coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners in regional, rural, remote and isolated locations.
- Contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship, quality publication, external grant acquisition and presentations that align with the College areas of research strength and focus.
- Establishing and maintaining collaborations within the University, and at State, national and international levels to improve research outputs, patents and publications.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) as well as rural/remote 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 or significant progress towards completion of a PhD in a health-related discipline such as public health, Indigenous health, or a related field.
- Demonstrated emerging research experience in terms of writing for publication and presentations at a national and/or international level in a relevant field.
- Demonstrated experience in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research methodology.
- Demonstrated ability to deliver project targets on time.
- Demonstrated experience in rural, remote, and isolated healthcare, health policy and health workforce.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and the capacity to collaborate and engage with diverse stakeholders and industry partners in regional, remote and isolated locations.
- 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 the community and academic environments.