

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Research Officer
Organisation Unit:	School of Public Health
Position Number:	NEW
Type of Employment:	Full Time, Fixed Term
Classification:	Research Academic Level A

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The University of Queensland (UQ) contributes positively to society by engaging in the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. UQ helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. UQ strives for the personal and professional success of its students, staff and alumni. For more than a century, we have educated and worked with outstanding people to deliver **knowledge leadership for a better world**.

UQ ranks in the world's top universities, as measured by several key independent ranking, including the CWTS Leiden Ranking (32), the Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities (43), the US News Best Global Universities Rankings (42), QS World University Rankings (48), Academic Ranking of World Universities (55), and the Times Higher Education World University Rankings (69). Excluding the award component, UQ is now ranked 45th in the world in the ARWU, and is one of the only two Australian universities to be included in the global top 50.

UQ has an outstanding reputation for the quality of its teachers, its educational programs and employment outcomes for its students. Our students remain at the heart of what we do. The UQ experience – the UQ Advantage – is distinguished by a research enriched curriculum, international collaborations, industry engagement and opportunities that nurture and develop future leaders. UQ has a strong focus on teaching excellence, winning more national teaching excellence awards than any other in the country and attracting the majority of Queensland's highest academic achievers, as well as top interstate and overseas students.

UQ is one of Australia's Group of Eight, a charter member of edX and a founding member of Universitas 21, an international consortium of leading research-intensive universities.

Our 52,000-plus strong student community includes more than 16,400 postgraduate scholars and more than 15,400 international students from 135 countries, adding to its proud 250,000-plus alumni. The University has more than 6,600 academic and professional staff (full-time equivalent) and a \$1.75 billion annual operating budget. Its major campuses are at St Lucia, Gatton and Herston, in addition to teaching and research sites around Queensland and Brisbane city. The University has six Faculties and four University-level Institutes. The Institutes, funded by government and industry grants, philanthropy and commercialisation activities, have built scale and focus in research areas in neuroscience, biomolecular and

biomedical sciences, sustainable minerals, bioengineering and nanotechnology, as well as social science research.

UQ has an outstanding track-record in commercialisation of our innovation with major technologies employed across the globe and integral to gross product sales of \$11billion+ (see <http://uniquet.com.au/our-track-record>).

UQ has a rapidly growing record of attracting philanthropic support for its activities and this will be a strategic focus going forward.

Faculty of Medicine

The University of Queensland's Faculty of Medicine is an internationally recognised provider of world-class education and research. The research-intensive Faculty has a gross budget of almost \$300 million, employs approximately 1000 continuing and fixed-term staff (headcount), has a community of more than 4000 non-salaried academic appointees and around 3200 students (headcount).

The Faculty of Medicine offers Australia's largest medical degree program for graduates and school-leavers. Undergraduate and postgraduate programs are available in the disciplines of Medicine, Health Sciences, E-Health, Mental Health, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health.

The Faculty possesses enormous strengths spanning research, teaching, industry engagement and clinical practice in disciplines ranging from the basic sciences, biomedical research and development, to clinical trials and public health. Research projects within the Faculty have already led to discoveries with far-reaching social and economic impacts, including the revolutionary Gardasil (TM) vaccine for cervical cancer (Professor Ian Frazer) and a drug discovery EMA401 (Professor Maree Smith), a first-in-class oral treatment for chronic pain which through Spinifex Pharmaceuticals led to Australia's largest biotechnology commercialisation deal. Faculty staff include three highly cited authors, one Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS), three Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science (FAA) and 12 Fellows of the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences (AAHMS). The Faculty is a core member of Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners, the Brisbane-wide academic health science system.

Educational offerings in biomedical sciences, medicine and public health are informed and supported by research activity across a range of fundamental and clinical areas of importance including recognised strengths in cancer, skin diseases, brain and mental health, maternal and child health and genomics. Cutting-edge facilities such as the Herston Imaging Research Facility (HIRF), the UQ Centre for Clinical Research (UQCCR), our laboratories in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the new Centre for Children's Health Research (CCHR) enable outstanding research outcomes and sharpen our understanding of cancer, autoimmunity, mental disorders, infectious diseases and neurological disease. Further details are available at www.medicine.uq.edu.au.

The School of Public Health

The University of Queensland was, in 1936, the first university in the English-speaking world to establish a Department of Social Medicine. This evolved in the 1950's to the Department of Preventative and Social Medicine and the School was formally established in 2001 to improve health outcomes through learning, discovery and engagement. The School of Public Health has recently been ranked as the top Public Health school in Australasia in the *US News Global* university rankings. We are a global leader in improving the health of populations in a changing and inequitable world.

The School's strategy is centered on academic performance and a commitment to excellence in teaching. We offer programs and courses in all major fields of population and public health to almost 1000 postgraduate and undergraduate students. Our MPH is the only accredited program in the Australasia and S.E. Asia region (APHEA and ASPHER) and one of the few to offer a dual MD/MPH degree. More than 100 research higher degree (PhD and MPhil) students actively contribute to the School's vibrant research culture while receiving comprehensive preparation for academic careers or leadership roles in public health.

Our research and engagement strategy is focused on making a real impact on some of the world's most pressing health challenges. Our major research and engagement themes are: health promotion; climate change and environmental health; mental health; blood borne viruses; women's health; and, health systems.

Information for Prospective Staff

Information about life at UQ including staff benefits, relocation and UQ campuses is available at - <http://www.uq.edu.au/current-staff/working-at-uq>

The University of Queensland [Enterprise Agreement](#) outlines the position classification standards for Levels A to E.

DUTY STATEMENT

Primary Purpose of Position

The primary purpose of this position is to contribute to high-level research in child and adolescent psychiatric epidemiology, with a focus on the prevalence of mental disorders in low- and middle- income countries. The position has been specifically created to assist in the planning, management, and reporting required by *National Adolescent Mental Health Surveys* (NAMHS), which involves nationally-representative household surveys in three countries – Kenya, Indonesia, and Vietnam. The role will contribute to the day-to-day running of a dynamic, international, multi-site project.

The role is based at the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research (QCMHR) located in Wacol, QLD. As the project is conducted across multiple countries, an ability to attend after hours meetings and to travel interstate and internationally is also required.

Duties

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Research:

- Provide support to the management of research projects including assisting in the organisation and conduct of meetings and training, contributing to the development of survey materials and protocols, and participating in the preparation of reports for funders and other stakeholders.
- Assist the Principal Investigator and senior project staff in maintaining relationships with international collaborators, research organisations, and other relevant stakeholders.
- Analysis of quantitative data under the direction of the NAMHS Principal Investigator
- Contribute to peer-reviewed publications, reports and briefing papers, as well as presentations at national and international conferences.
- Participate in the preparation of grant applications for submission to research organisations, such as the National Health and Medical Research Council, universities (including The University of Queensland), and governments (including Queensland Health).
- Other duties as directed by the Principal Investigator of NAMHS and senior staff

Other

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including but not exclusive to:

- the [University's Code of Conduct](#)
- requirements of the Queensland occupational health and safety (OH&S) legislation and related [OH&S responsibilities and procedures](#) developed by the University or Institute/School
- the adoption of sustainable practices in all work activities and compliance with associated legislation and related University [sustainability responsibilities and procedures](#)
- requirements of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000, the National Code 2007 and associated legislation, and related [responsibilities and procedures](#) developed by the University

Organisational Relationships

The position reports directly to the Principal Investigator of NAMHS, School of Public Health.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential

- An undergraduate degree in the field of psychology, epidemiology, public health, biostatistics, or other relevant area.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, and interpersonal skills.
- A high level of computer literacy, especially word processing, reference management, data entry, and document organisation.
- Excellent organisational skills and the ability to prioritise activities.
- Demonstrated ability to problem solve and adapt to dynamic project tasks and requirements.
- Demonstrated ability to work both independently and collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary team in a dynamic research environment.
- Ability and willingness to attend after hours meetings with international partners, given a reasonable degree of flexibility and timing.
- Ability to travel interstate and internationally, given a reasonable degree of flexibility and timing.

Desirable

- A research higher degree (Masters or PhD) in the field of psychology, epidemiology, public health, biostatistics, or other relevant area.
- Knowledge of psychiatric epidemiology, with a specific focus on children and adolescents.
- Demonstrated skills in research processes from study design to dissemination of results.
- Demonstrated ability to plan and conduct quantitative analyses under minimal supervision, including demonstrated skill in quantitative statistical processes and data analysis packages (specifically R and Stata).
- A developing record of research publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Experience in presentation of research findings.
- Demonstrated skills in data management, dataset development, website development or design, and/or data visualisation.
- Experience working and collaborating with organisations and/or populations in low- and middle-income countries.
- Experience in writing research grant applications or ethics applications.
- A level of proficiency in Kiswahili, Vietnamese, or Bahasa Indonesia.

Qualification Verification

An appointment to this position is subject to the verification of the highest academic qualification from the conferring institution.

This role is a full-time position; however flexible working arrangements may be negotiated.

Accessibility requirements and/or adjustments can be directed to Dr Holly Erskine at h.erskine@uq.edu.au

The University of Queensland values diversity and inclusion and actively encourages applications from those who bring diversity to the University. Please refer to the University's Diversity and Inclusion webpage (<http://www.uq.edu.au/equity>) for further information and points of contact if you require additional support.