

# Position Description

## Research Fellow



### Details

Area	Faculty of Health
Team	Office of the Executive Dean
Employment	Fixed-Term / Full-Time or Part-time
Location	Burwood Campus
Classification	Level B
Reports to	Professor Liliana Orellana

### Deakin

Deakin is a Victorian university with a global impact. We are agile and innovative, and committed to making a positive impact through our excellence in education and research and the contributions we make to the wider community.

Our reputation has been built on the dedication and expertise of our staff. We offer a dynamic, diverse and inclusive working environment with opportunities to grow and develop careers. We believe that a progressive, thriving culture will ensure people choose to come, and stay at Deakin and contribute to our ongoing success.

As one of Australia's largest universities, Deakin has strong global linkages, world-class research and an education portfolio that blends the best of campus and digital delivery into a highly supportive and personalised student experience.

We offer outstanding education founded on the experience we create for our learners and guided by graduate outcomes for successful lives and careers. We undertake globally significant discovery research that benefits our communities through the innovative translation of our ideas into new services, products, policies and capabilities.

Deakin campuses sit on Wadawurrung, Wurundjeri, and Eastern Maar Countries, and the University acknowledges, values and deeply respects its connection with the Traditional Custodians and Elders past and present of these lands and waterways. Deakin is the most popular university destination in Victoria for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and has a rich history of supporting the ambitions of First Nations students, including through the NIKERI Institute (formerly the Institute of Koorie Education).

Deakin aspires to be Australia's most progressive university, with the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion underpinning our approach to education, research, employability, digital delivery, innovation, and partnerships for impact. Our vision is for an inclusive environment where we value and celebrate diversity, embrace difference and nurture a connected, safe and respectful community. We want Deakin to be a place where all staff and students feel included and respected for their unique perspectives and talents.

[Strategic Plans – Deakin 2030: Ideas to Impact](#)

[Benefits of working at Deakin](#)

### Overview

The Faculty of Health is dedicated to being at the forefront of teaching, learning, creating and social development and fostering cutting-edge research and discovery. The Faculty places high emphasis on research that makes a difference and is solution-led. We work closely with industry partners and the government to put findings into practice.

The Biostatistics Unit is responsible for providing expert biostatistical support to multi-disciplinary research initiate at the Faculty of Health. This includes observational studies, clinical trials, community trials, implementation trials and biomedical and health service research as well as evaluation and development of relevant statistical methodology.

The Research Fellow will initiate, design and conduct productive, high-quality research activities generating high impact outputs in their discipline area. The Research Fellow may lead and research activities and is expected to engage collaboratively to develop novel research outcomes. This position is suited to a researcher keen to explore and build on new areas and foster research and researcher development to have real-world impact and contribute to a dynamic and enthusiastic research team.

This is a newly established fixed-term position funded by NHMRC and MRFF grants. Initially, the position is for 2 years, with the potential for extension.

The Research Fellow will play a significant part in the growth of the Biostatistics Unit through establishing and maintaining collaborative links with the researchers involved in the specific projects funding the position. The appointee is expected to offer high-quality biostatistical input to these research projects, support Higher Degree by Research Students affiliated with the projects to enhance their statistical and data management skills and contribute to publications in **top-tier journals**.

The ideal candidate will be a highly motivated individual holding a master's or a doctoral degree in biostatistics or statistics, capable of working efficiently with minimal supervision and possessing demonstrated experience in managing and analysing data from health research studies.

The Research Fellow will have the opportunity to collaborate with prominent national and international researchers.

Reporting to Professor Orellana the Research Fellow will:

- Undertake all statistical tasks for the projects associated to the position, including data management and manipulation, data analysis, and preparation of statistical result reports.
- Foster and maintain sound working relationships and effective communication with the chief investigators and researchers involved in the various projects.
- Play a key role in enhancing the quality of the statistical aspects of the projects.
- Contribute to securing competitive external funding by participating in the methodological aspects of the applications.
- Build a national and international reputation through publication of scholarly research in high-quality peer-reviewed journals and participation in academic forums.
- Stay abreast of modern biostatistical methods.

- Conduct research in biostatistical methods relevant to the specific projects funding the position and disseminate findings through conference papers and publications.
- Assist in delivering high-quality postgraduate seminars and workshops in biostatistics.
- Engage in professional activities such as conferences and research seminars.

### Accountabilities

#### *Research and Innovation*

- Support, and may lead, applications for research and creative activities, including applications for external competitive funding, external funding for commercialization and translation activities and other funding demonstrating sustained efforts.
- Build a national reputation, based on a growing, focused body of work recognised for quality, excellence and impact and a growing track record of timely delivery of outcomes for industry partners.
- Initiate, design, conducts and may lead intra- and inter-disciplinary research collaborations, to enable major breakthroughs in knowledge and understanding and solutions to complex problems.
- Initiate, design, conduct and may lead in development of industry partnerships and collaboration to enable major breakthroughs, innovative solutions for future translation into real world impact.
- Initiate, design, conduct and may lead innovation and translation into policies, frameworks, strategy, generation of products, services, new ways of operating, priority setting and or other innovations with positive impact and national recognition. Demonstrate timely and sustained delivery of commercialisation and translation outcomes.
- Supervise honours and/or HDR students with timely completions and productive, high-quality outcomes and provide effective mentoring to HDR students to support professional and career development and employability.
- Adopt and promote a culture of research excellence, innovation and impact and support industry partnerships that provide HDRs with industry experience and establish/expand industry networks to create opportunities for placements.
- Communicate outputs to discipline(s) and the community and ensure impact of academic activity in the field and the community.

#### *University Citizenship and Engagement*

- Assist the implementation of local citizenship activities and contribute to effectiveness as influencer.
- Contribute to the implementation of specific aspects of University's strategic agenda.
- Contribute to the implementation of University's community engagement agenda.

### Selection

#### *Qualifications and experience*

- PhD in Biostatistics or Statistics; alternatively, a Master's degree in Biostatistics or Statistics with broad experience working as an applied statistician.
- Proven comprehensive understanding of biostatistical methodology.
- Demonstrated ability to apply advanced statistical analysis methods effectively.

- Extensive experience as an applied biostatistician, evidenced by publications, conference papers, reports, or technical contributions in the health sciences.
- Proficiency in analysing randomised trials and observational studies.
- Experience with longitudinal study analysis.
- Strong statistical programming skills, proficient in in at least two of the most common software packages: SAS, R and STATA.
- Experience in designing and managing databases.
- Familiarity with modern statistical methods relevant to health research with practical experience being desirable.
- Experience in developing trial protocols and statistical analysis plans would be desirable.
- Demonstrated capability to collaborate effectively as a statistician within interdisciplinary teams.
- Outstanding organizational abilities, capable of planning and prioritizing multiple tasks to meet deadlines.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills, with a track record of building strong working relationships with colleagues and students.
- Proactive attitude and willingness to learn new analytical approaches to meet project requirements.
- High levels of initiative and adaptability.
- Demonstrated excellence in oral and written communication, as well as presentation skills.

### Capabilities

- **Emotional Intelligence** manages emotions to positively influence behaviour.
- **Growth Mindset** open to learning and new experiences, invests in development.
- **Communicates** engages others through persuasive and influential communication.
- **Collaborates** cultivates collaboration across Deakin, strives for shared outcomes, builds partnerships.
- **Delivers Outcomes** creates clarity through governance, makes decisions that result in quality outcomes.
- **Plans Work** plans the delivery of work while balancing priorities and resources.

### Special Requirements

- Working with Children Check

**Note** The intention of the position description is to provide an outline of scope and responsibilities of the incumbent at this level. Please note, the accountabilities may evolve and will be determined by the manager in accordance with organisational needs, time fraction and tenure of appointment.