

# POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Centre for Youth Mental Health**Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

# **Research Assistant - INTEGRATE**

POSITION NO	0049063
CLASSIFICATION	Level A
WORK FOCUS CATEGORY	Research Focused
SALARY	\$72,083 - \$97,812 p.a. (pro rata)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 9.5%
EMPLOYMENT TYPE	Part-time 0.6 FTE (fixed term) position available for 12 months Fixed term contract type: External Funding
OTHER BENEFITS	http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits
HOW TO APPLY	Online applications are preferred. Go to <a href="http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers">http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers</a> , under 'Job Search and Job Alerts', select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Amelia Lopatecki Tel: 0421 928 415 E-mail: amelia.lopatecki@orygen.org.au  Please do not send your application to this contact

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our websites: about.unimelb.edu.au/careers

# **Position Summary**

Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health (Orygen) is the world's leading research and knowledge translation organisation focusing on mental ill-health in young people.

At Orygen, our leadership and staff work to deliver cutting-edge research, policy development, innovative clinical services, and evidence-based training and education to ensure that there is continuous improvement in the treatments and care provided to young people experiencing mental ill-health.

The Company has three Members: the Colonial Foundation, The University of Melbourne and Melbourne Health.

The University of Melbourne has an agreement with Orygen for designated employees to be made available to undertake activities for Orygen, and this arrangement will apply to you. University employees working at Orygen are required at all times to continue to adhere to University policies, procedures, regulations and statutes, as well as to Orygen policies and procedures (including Orygen's delegations of authority framework which can be found at <a href="http://staff.orygen.org.au/">http://staff.orygen.org.au/</a>), but the University's policies and procedures shall prevail in the event of any inconsistency. For the period of participating in activities at Orygen, you will be subject to the reasonable control and direction of Orygen. You consent to the University disclosing to Orygen your personal employment information solely for the purposes of facilitating your secondment to Orygen, and that such disclosure will not be a breach of any of your privacy rights.

A Research Assistant (RA) is required to work on the Integrated Treatment for Young People with Psychological Distress (INTEGRATE) Study at headspace Werribee.

The RA will work on the INTEGRATE study, which aims to test whether a new integrated psychological treatment approach improves mental health difficulties in young people, compared with usual treatment. Young people aged 12-25 will take part in a 16-week intervention period, with follow-up of 18 months.

This position will be responsible for recruiting young people at *headspace* Werribee and other headspace services, conduct and score a range of clinical assessments with participants, maintain regular contact with participants and follow them up over an 18-month period. The RA will be responsible for maintaining study databases capturing participant demographics and assessment scores, and will work closely with and be supported by the Study Coordinator/s and Investigators.

# 1. Key Responsibilities

## 1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

- Interview participants using a battery of standardised clinical assessment instruments, in accordance with the research protocol.
- Conduct biochemical assessments, including handling of urine tests, breathalyser and CO monoxide breath tests.
- Collect accurate data and assist with data entry, verification and basic data analysis.
- Data scoring and data entry are an integral part of the position.
- Complete regular inter-rater reliability checks.
- Maintain confidential files and reports.

- Contribute to the preparation of manuscripts for publication.
- Participate in broader research team meetings through the presentation of progress reports on the research.
- Work as part of the project team involving multidisciplinary clinical and research staff.

## 1.2 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Build competence and confidence in presenting the projects, study methods, analysis and results to academic and community audiences.
- Work collegially as part of the project team involving multidisciplinary clinical and research staff and manage research and clinical relationships.
- Prepare and present reports for team meetings and study investigators.
- Attend meetings and associated research events, as required.
- Undertake other duties as requested by the supervisor and the Chair of CYMH.
- Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 5.

## 2. Selection Criteria

#### 2.1 ESSENTIAL

- A postgraduate degree (Honours, Masters or doctoral degree) in the behavioural or social sciences and/or related discipline, with subsequent experience.
- A strong interest in youth-onset mental disorders and mental health interventions and an understanding of psychiatric diagnoses and disorders.
- Demonstrated ability to conduct interviews and interact with young people with mental health problems.
- Demonstrated excellence to adhere to a research study protocol and excellent ability in analysing data, problem solving and maintaining accurate research records.
- Demonstrated administrative and organisational skills in a research setting including proven ability to function effectively both autonomously and as a member of a multi-disciplinary team.
- Demonstrated capacity to make original and independent contributions to knowledge and practice in the field of youth mental health.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently across various sites, involving multidisciplinary stakeholders, and to seek and accept direction when required.
- Well-developed organisational skills and demonstrated ability to set priorities and meet deadlines.

## 2.2 DESIRABLE

- Experience working in a mental health setting.
- Ability to contribute to research and experimental design.

Experience working with adolescents and young adults, and an appreciation of adolescent developmental issues.

## 2.3 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Unrestricted right to work in Australia.
- Valid Victorian driver's licence.
- Any offer of employment is conditional upon receipt and maintenance of a valid Working With Children Card and a satisfactory Police Check.
- This position may involve travel across the Parkville site and other Orygen locations.
- All workplaces and the surrounding site are non-smoking environments.

## 3. Other Information

## 3.1 CENTRE FOR YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

www.cymh.unimelb.edu.au and www.orygen.org.au

In January 2009 the University of Melbourne established a new Centre for Youth Mental Health (CYMH) within the Faculty of Medicine Dentistry and Health Sciences, where the academic and professional staff who are provided to Orygen are now based. All NHMRC and ARC Grants to be used for Orygen activities are managed within CYMH.

The creation of this academic and administrative structure reflects the multidisciplinary nature of this field of inquiry and knowledge, and its growing scientific and practical breadth and significance. This is only the fourth such supra-departmental structure to be created in the Faculty and there is no parallel to date anywhere else in Australia.

The Chair of the Centre for Youth Mental Health is Professor Patrick McGorry and the Chief Operating Officer is Mr John Moran. Reporting arrangements are through the University of Melbourne structure with a direct report to Professor Shitij Kapur, Dean of the Faculty.

### 3.2 ORYGEN

Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health is the world's leading research and knowledge translation organisation focusing on mental ill-health in young people.

Further information available at https://www.orygen.org.au/About/About-Us

## 3.3 FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

## www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences (MDHS) plays a vital role in the delivery of the University of Melbourne's Strategic Plan 2015-2020: Growing Esteem by providing current and future generations with education and research equal to the best in the world. It is Australia's largest and leading biomedical research faculty. It employs more than 1,700 members of staff, has more than 8,000 students, and total revenue of \$607 million for 2015. Reflecting the complexity of today's global health landscape, the Faculty

is made up of six different Schools and four Strategic Research Initiatives, and draws together all areas of human health, ranging from the most basic to the most applied areas of research. The Faculty contributes close to 50 per cent of research conducted at the University.

The Faculty has appointed Australia's first Associate Dean (Indigenous Development) to lead the development and implementation of the Faculty's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which will be aligned with the broader University-wide plan. To enable the Faculty to improve its Indigenous expertise knowledge base, the Faculty's RAP will address Indigenous employment, Indigenous student recruitment and retention, Indigenous cultural recognition and building partnerships with the Indigenous community as key areas of development.

### 3.4 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

The University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. With outstanding performance in international rankings, Melbourne is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. The University of Melbourne is consistently ranked among the world's top universities. Further information about our reputation and global ranking is available at www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/about/reputation-rankings

Established in 1853, shortly after the founding of Melbourne, the University is located just a few minutes from the centre of this global city. The main Parkville campus is recognised as the hub of Australia's premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide range of knowledge-based industries.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded. Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers.

# 3.5 GROWING ESTEEM, THE MELBOURNE CURRICULUM AND RESEARCH AT MELBOURNE:ENSURING EXCELLENCE AND IMPACT TO 2025

- Growing Esteem describes Melbourne's strategy to achieve its aspiration to be a publicspirited and internationally-engaged institution, highly regarded for making distinctive contributions to society in research and research training, learning and teaching, and engagement. www.growingesteem.unimelb.edu.au
- The University is at the forefront of Australia's changing higher education system and offers a distinctive model of education known collectively as the Melbourne Curriculum. The new educational model, designed for an outstanding experience for all students, is based on six broad undergraduate programs followed by a graduate professional degree, research higher degree or entry directly into employment. The emphasis on academic breadth as well as disciplinary depth in the new degrees ensures that graduates will have the capacity to succeed in a world where knowledge boundaries are shifting and reforming to create new frontiers and challenges. In moving to the new model, the University is also aligning itself with the best of emerging European and Asian practice and well-established North American traditions.
- The University's global aspirations seek to make significant contributions to major social, economic and environmental challenges. Accordingly, the University's research strategy Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025 aspires to a significant

advancement in the excellence and impact of its research outputs. http://www.unimelb.edu.au/research/research-strategy.html

The strategy recognises that as a public-spirited, research-intensive institution of the future, the University must strive to make a tangible impact in Australia and the world, working across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries and building deeper and more substantive engagement with industry, collaborators and partners. While cultivating the fundamental enabling disciplines through investigator-driven research, the University has adopted three grand challenges aspiring to solve some of the most difficult problems facing our world in the next century. These Grand Challenges include:

Understanding our place and purpose – The place and purpose grand challenge centres on understanding all aspects of our national identity, with a focus on Australia's 'place' in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, and on our 'purpose' or mission to improve all dimensions of the human condition through our research.

Fostering health and wellbeing – The health and wellbeing grand challenge focuses on building the scale and breadth of our capabilities in population and global health; on harnessing our contribution to the 'convergence revolution' of biomedical and health research, bringing together the life sciences, engineering and the physical sciences; and on addressing the physical, mental and social aspects of wellbeing by looking beyond the traditional boundaries of biomedicine.

Supporting sustainability and resilience – The sustainability and resilience grand challenge addresses the critical issues of climate change, water and food security, sustainable energy and designing resilient cities and regions. In addition to the technical aspects, this grand challenge considers the physical and social functioning of cities, connecting physical phenomena with lessons from our past, and the implications of the technical solutions for economies, living patterns and behaviours.

Essential to tackling these challenges, an outstanding faculty, high performing students, wide collaboration including internationally and deep partnerships with external parties form central components of *Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025.* 

## 3.6 EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

Another key priority for the University is access and equity. The University of Melbourne is strongly committed to an admissions policy that takes the best students, regardless of financial and other disadvantage. An Access, Equity and Diversity Policy Statement, included in the University Plan, reflects this priority.

The University is committed to equal opportunity in education, employment and welfare for staff and students. Students are selected on merit and staff are selected and promoted on merit.

## 3.7 GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at www.unimelb.edu.au.

# 4. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/topics/responsibilities/

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.