

Position Description – Senior Research Fellow in Autism

Updated 6 June 2024

POSITION DETAILS	
College	College of Education, Psychology and Social Work
Organisational Unit	Psychology
Supervisor	Dean, People and Resources (or Delegate)
Classification	Research (Academic) Level C
Employment Type	Fixed-term, full-time

POSITION SUMMARY
<p>The Senior Research Fellow will support the growth and advancement of the Advancing Autism Research Initiative at Flinders University. Working under the broad direction of the Chief Investigator as a member of the research team, the position will take a lead role in developing and coordinating cross-disciplinary and transdisciplinary collaborations.</p> <p>The Senior Research Fellow will work closely with the Chief Investigator to grow the Initiative’s capacity and reach through developing, managing and implementing research projects; attracting external grants and research contracts; delivering on strategic research objectives; establishing and maintaining industry and research partnerships; identifying commercially relevant outputs and building the University’s national and international reputation through high quality publications and strong research collaborations.</p> <p>The Senior Research Fellow will supervise Honours and Postgraduate students.</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"> • demonstrate commitment to the University’s values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred; • contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order 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; • 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. <p><i>A National Police Certificate which is satisfactory to the University will be required by Flinders University before the successful applicant can commence in this position.</i></p>

In addition, it is a requirement of this position that the incumbent maintain a current Working With Children Check which is satisfactory to the University in accordance with the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 (SA).

An up to date COVID-19 vaccination may be required as a condition of employment, in accordance with the Flinders University [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy \(2022\)](#). If required, any offer of employment will be subject to the successful candidate presenting their COVID-19 Digital Certificate as evidence of vaccination or showing evidence of a valid medical exemption, where relevant.

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Senior Research Fellow in Autism Spectrum Disorder is accountable for:

- Establishing, coordinating, and maintaining collaborations with select individuals and groups of researchers within the University (cross-College), and at State, national and international levels in order to improve research outputs, patents and publications.
- Developing and maintaining, in a leadership capacity, productive strategic local, national and international relationships, collaborations and networks with a range of stakeholders including industry, government and other external organisations.
- Independently contributing to the planning and execution of research by offering innovative ideas, reviewing relevant literature and other sources of information, actively participating in the production of data, contributing to the writing and editing of grant applications and attending seminars, meetings and conferences.
- Actively contributing to the research by collaborating with the Research Team to successfully deliver project milestones and Key Performance Indicators.
- Playing a lead role in coordinating, planning and executing the project tasks required to collaborate with industry partners.
- Supporting research growth through identifying and pursuing external research funding opportunities.
- Independently contributing to ethical, high quality and innovative research and evaluation through activities such as scholarship and publishing in recognised high-quality journals.
- Actively supervising and mentoring Higher Degree Research students and honours and post graduate research projects.
- Taking the lead in operation and engagement requirements in scaling up research and education activities and working with relevant Portfolio teams (Research Partnerships, Advancement, Marketing & Communications) to grow the research project strategically and raise the visibility of research impact.
- Some out of hours work (including weekends) as well as rural SA, interstate and overseas travel, may be required.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Chief Investigator and/or the University.

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in Psychology or related field, or equivalent qualification and/or experience.
- Demonstrated research experience in terms of publications in high quality journals, attraction of external competitive grants and presentations at a national and/or international level about autism or related conditions.
- Demonstrated well-developed interpersonal skills and experience in fostering and undertaking collaborative research and in engaging with diverse stakeholders and industry partners to develop effective cross-disciplinary and/or transdisciplinary collaborations.
- Demonstrated ability to mentor less experienced colleagues and to establish effective relationships with staff, students and industry nationally and/or internationally.
- Demonstrated ability to administer autism assessment tools such as the ADOS-2, ADI-R.
- Demonstrated experience in quantitative research methodology.
- Demonstrated experience delivering project targets on time.
- Demonstrated ability to plan and execute data collection and analysis.
- Demonstrated ability to critically review the literature in relevant fields.
- Demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills in an academic environment.