

Psychometrician

National Examinations Unit Bahrain

The National Examinations Unit (NEU) in Bahrain is looking for an experienced Psychometrician to be involved in its programme of national curriculum examinations. The NEU is part of Bahrain's Quality Assurance Authority for Education and Training (QAAET), which was established by Royal decree in 2008. The NEU has commenced an ambitious national examinations programme in years 3, 6, 9 and 12, which feeds into Bahrain's education reform programme.

As the NEU's psychometrician you will be responsible for the provision of technical expertise in assessment and, in particular, provide statistical/psychometric expertise concerning the standards of the national tests, helping to ensure validity and reliability.

Reporting directly to the NEU's executive director, you will:

- Specify and provide analysis and interpretation of reports relating to the results of national tests
- Provide statistical, psychometric and assessment research expertise to all colleagues in the NEU and QAAET
- Provide technical support to the NEU's assessment programme, relating to the interpretation of test results
- Contribute to the development of new assessment systems to meet the requirements of the NEU and, in particular, ensure good psychometric principles underpin the development of test models
- Identify and instigate academically rigorous research into all areas of national assessment to inform policy decisions and process improvements
- Contribute to the establishment and maintenance of links with national and international assessment organisations to ensure that the NEU is at the forefront of best assessment practice
- Attend and present at national and international assessment conferences
- Develop and deliver a programme of training designed to raise the level of understanding of technical assessment issues for the NEU/QAAET and other external stakeholders
- Line manage the psychometrical analyst

You will be:

- Qualified to degree level (or similar), ideally with a postgraduate qualification (Masters or PhD) in assessment or research methodologies

You will have:

- Knowledge and experience of psychometrical principles and assessment methods, with focus on technical issues
- Knowledge of equating and other methodologies for setting and maintaining standards (including Rasch analysis and item response theory)
- Experience of commissioning and undertaking academically rigorous research in educational assessment
- Ability to speedily acquire knowledge of Bahrain's education and assessment system
- Knowledge of international best practice in assessment, including relevant research
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, English essential, Arabic of benefit
- A minimum of 5 years experience in psychometrics and its practical applications to assessment

Experience of working on large scale national assessments is desirable, as is your active membership in the professional community through publications and presentations at conferences.

The post is available as a three-year contract, with an attractive tax free salary, housing and car allowances, private health insurance and annual return flights to your country of origin for you and your spouse/family.

For more information and an informal discussion, please contact: Sylke Scheiner, Executive Director, NEU, Bahrain, email: sylke.scheiner@qaa.edu.bh, Tel: 00973 17562307. Please submit your CV with an application letter to: hr@qaa.edu.bh.