

## **Research Fellow / Senior Research Fellow**

### **ABOUT THE COMPANY**

ACER is an independent, not-for-profit educational research and development organisation focused on creating and promoting research-based knowledge, products and services that can be used to improve learning across the life span.

The Psychometrics and Methodology team provides psychometric services and support for other units within ACER, undertakes commissioned work and provides consultancy for outside agencies including State and Territory Education Departments and other national and international bodies. The team also undertakes research into fundamental psychometrics and quantitative methodology issues. Supporting and participating in the work of project teams, the Research Fellow will specify, apply and evaluate scaling models for questionnaire and assessment data, perform complex statistical analysis and prepare research results, write reports and make presentations.

Members of the Psychometrics and Methodology team all have sound knowledge of statistics and statistical modelling. This position will work with large datasets using a range of statistical programming languages or packages such as R, SAS, SPSS or Python. To successfully undertake this position requires expertise in a variety of applied psychometric and statistical models for analysing assessment data, including the ability to efficiently apply and evaluate different Item Response Models. At times knowledge of multilevel modelling, Structural Equation Modelling, contemporary machine learning methodologies and approaches to the analysis of log-file data may be employed to resolve analytical issues relating to educational data sets.

### **ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY**

We are seeking a research expert who is responsible for achieving relevant project objectives, making original contributions to educational knowledge, policy or practice, and building knowledge in one or more areas of applied psychometrics expertise. The successful candidate will also be responsible for working collaboratively with both internal and external project stakeholders to enable the delivery of quality research and project outcomes.

Strong written and verbal communication skills are essential, with a proven ability to communicate technical details confidently to diverse audiences. Experience in directing projects, leading people, and working in collaboration with both internal and external project stakeholders to deliver quality research and project outcomes is also desirable.

### **SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

#### **RESEARCH FELLOW**

- Provide expert methodological advice and rigorous, efficient statistical modelling in one or more areas of applied educational measurement research or practice
- Work collaboratively with both internal and external project stakeholders to enable the delivery of research and project outcomes to agreed objectives, standards, timelines and budgets
- Conduct and deliver components of high quality research to meet project objectives

- Contribute to design and construct components of survey and assessment instruments, and learning materials
- Undertake data collection and analysis
- Prepare components of reports and other forms of project dissemination and communication
- Contribute to preparing research proposal submissions, applications and tenders for new business
- Actively contribute to and participate in continuous improvement activities to enhance the delivery of research outcomes at ACER
- Develop and build professional collegiality through participation in events, forums, workshops and conferences at ACER and in the broader research community
- Contribute to ACER's higher education courses through writing content, teaching and online moderation where agreed and as appropriate/relevant

### **SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW**

- Provide leadership in one or more areas of applied educational measurement research and development with a strong operational focus
- Make original contributions to educational knowledge, policy or practice
- Identify, initiate and lead the development of research proposal submissions, applications and tenders for new business
- Lead and manage large and complex research projects which deliver to agreed objectives, standards, timelines and budgets
- Lead, manage and coach staff for optimal individual and team performance
- Regularly disseminate and communicate research project outcomes by presenting and publishing work undertaken at/for ACER
- Actively contribute to and participate in continuous improvement activities to enhance the delivery of research outcomes at ACER
- Develop and build professional collegiality and networks through participation in events, forums, workshops and conferences at ACER and in the broader research community
- Promote ACER's research profile by effectively engaging, collaborating and partnering with external stakeholders across academic, government and industry bodies
- Contribute to ACER's higher education courses through writing content, teaching and online moderation where agreed and as appropriate/relevant

### **BENEFITS**

- 17% employer contribution to superannuation
- Ongoing professional development opportunities
- Flexible work arrangements
- 20 days of personal leave accumulated each year
- Free and confidential counselling service for employees and dependents

This appointment is offered on an ongoing, full-time basis. This position can be based at any of ACER's offices located in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth. ACER is currently operating in a hybrid work environment; working from home is at the approval of the manager.

Research Fellow salary is within the range of \$107,757 - \$136,849 per annum (plus 17% ACER contribution to superannuation).

Senior Research Fellow salary is within the range of \$139,874 - \$174,568 per annum (plus 17% ACER contribution to superannuation).

Applications close 9:00am (AEDT) Thursday 20 April 2023.

For more information about ACER and to apply, go to <https://www.acer.org/au/about-us/careers/current-opportunities>.