

Research Director, Methodology and Measurement

Lead Innovation in Educational Assessment

Are you ready to lead a team of world-class psychometricians and statistical experts to shape the future of educational assessment? Join the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) as our Research Director, Methodology and Measurement, and play a pivotal role in advancing applied measurement science in high-profile educational assessment projects and products on a global scale.

About ACER

ACER is a globally respected, independent, not-for-profit research organisation committed to improving learning across the lifespan. Since 1930, we've grown into one of the world's leading educational research bodies, with over 450 staff across Australia, Dubai, Kuala Lumpur, London, and New Delhi.

At the heart of our innovation is the Measurement, Analytics and Technologies (MAT) Division, where we apply cutting-edge measurement science and data solutions to drive excellence in education.

The Opportunity

Following an internal promotion, we're seeking a visionary and accomplished leader to join our senior leadership team and guide the strategic direction of our work in psychometrics, statistical modelling, and sampling methodologies.

Reporting to the Head of Division, you will lead the development of innovative models and techniques, manage complex projects, collaborate with internal and external stakeholders, and elevate ACER's public profile through thought leadership and impactful research.

You'll also work closely with the newly created Research Director, Data Science and Automation, fostering collaboration across complementary areas of expertise.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead research initiatives to develop and extend psychometric and statistical models for application to real-world assessments.
- Advance analytic techniques at ACER for solving contemporary measurement problems, like missing data imputation in complex surveys, modelling process data from interactive assessments, and developing next generation adaptive systems.
- Develop and disseminate materials that translate complex methods and results for technical and non-technical audiences.
- Drive business development and external engagement in psychometrics, sampling, and statistical methodology.

About You

You are a strategic thinker and technical expert with a passion for educational impact. You bring:

- Internationally recognised expertise in a relevant discipline and a strong record of scholarly and professional achievement.
- Extensive experience leading high-performing technical teams and multidisciplinary collaborations.

- Advanced planning, organisational, and problem-solving skills to deliver complex projects on time and to standard.
- Proven leadership across multiple levels of management, with a focus on team development and performance.
- Strong stakeholder engagement and the ability to influence, negotiate, and build lasting partnerships across sectors.
- Financial acumen in managing budgets, proposals, and project delivery.
- A commitment to continuous improvement and professional growth—for yourself and your team.

Why Join ACER?

This full-time, 3 year fixed-term senior management position can be based at any of ACER's offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, or Perth. We offer:

- The opportunity to collaborate with a global network of experts driving educational change
- A competitive salary plus 17% superannuation
- Access to salary packaging options
- Generous leave entitlements, including 3 additional paid days over Christmas
- Flexible, hybrid work arrangements and the option to purchase additional leave
- Ongoing professional development opportunities
- Access to wellbeing initiatives including flu vaccinations, Headspace for Work, and confidential counselling services

Please visit our career site to learn more about our benefits.

Apply Now

For a full copy of the position description or to apply, click on 'Apply' or visit our career site <https://www.acer.org/au/about-us/careers>.

Applications will close at midnight (AEST) on Wednesday 12 November 2025.

ACER is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to actively fostering a diverse and inclusive work environment. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people regardless of gender identity, cultural and faith background, sexual orientation, disability and/or age. ACER welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

ACER encourages applications from the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community.

ACER is committed to supporting candidates with disability through provision of adjustments during the recruitment and selection process and throughout employment. To request or discuss adjustment requirements, please contact: p&c@acer.org