

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Biostatistician

POSITION DETAILS

Position Title	Biostatistician
Classification	HEW Level 8
Position Number	NEW
School/Office	Faculty of Health
Division	Provost

POSITION PURPOSE

The Biostatistician provides authoritative specialist biostatistical advice and applied research support across the Faculty of Health. Working closely with the Associate Dean, Research and Innovation, School Research Directors, Faculty Research Operations and researchers, the role strengthens the quality, rigour and competitiveness of health and medical research through expert advice on study design, statistical methodology, analysis planning, interpretation and reporting.

The position contributes to the Faculty's research performance by supporting the development of high-quality grant applications, research proposals and priority research projects, while promoting statistically robust, ethical and reproducible research practices. The role also leads the development of practical guidance, capability-building resources and service approaches that enhance researcher capability and support a sustainable Faculty-wide research-enabler model.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Provide authoritative biostatistical advice across Faculty Schools on complex research design, statistical methods, analysis, interpretation and reporting, translating technical issues into practical recommendations.
2. Review grant applications, protocols and project concepts, recommending robust and feasible approaches to study design, outcomes, sample size, power, analysis and reporting.
3. Develop and review statistical analysis plans and reproducible analytical approaches, including modelling, missing data, sensitivity analyses and appropriate presentation of uncertainty and limitations.
4. Lead or guide applied analyses for priority research projects and produce fit-for-purpose statistical outputs for grants, ethics submissions, reports, manuscripts and partner communications.

5. Establish and maintain Faculty-wide biostatistical guidance, templates, quality standards and consultation practices that improve consistency, research integrity and researcher capability.
6. Lead the development and implementation of the Faculty biostatistical triage and referral model, setting evidence-based priorities and integrating specialist input where required.
7. Advise on research governance, privacy-aware analysis, data quality and responsible conduct, identifying methodological risks and safeguarding the validity and interpretability of research.
8. Monitor demand, service outcomes and recurring capability gaps, and recommend improvements and scalable approaches to Faculty research support.

QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

Essential:

1. Postgraduate qualification in biostatistics, statistics, epidemiology, quantitative health research or a related discipline, with extensive relevant experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.
2. Demonstrated high-level expertise in health and medical biostatistics, including complex study design, sample size and power, statistical modelling, analysis planning, interpretation and reporting.
3. Extensive experience providing authoritative statistical advice to researchers or multidisciplinary teams and reviewing grants, protocols, ethics applications, manuscripts or research reports.
4. Advanced proficiency in relevant statistical software and reproducible, well-documented analytical workflows.
5. Demonstrated capacity to work with a high degree of autonomy under broad direction, exercise sound judgement on complex and unusual matters, and manage competing priorities.
6. Highly developed communication and stakeholder engagement skills, with the ability to influence methodological decisions and explain complex concepts to varied audiences.

Desirable:

1. Experience with competitive health and medical research grants, clinical trials or complex health datasets, and developing researcher capability resources.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- **This position reports to:** Research Operations Manager
- **This position supervises:** Nil
- **Key internal relationships:**
 - Associate Dean, Research and Innovation; School Research Directors
 - Faculty Research Operations; academic and professional staff across Faculty Schools
 - Research Institutes and relevant University research, ethics, data and governance teams
- **Key external relationships:**
 - Local Health Districts, research partners and specialist collaborators
 - Funding bodies and relevant industry or service providers

CHALLENGES

- Providing authoritative advice across diverse disciplines, methods and project stages where evidence, data quality or precedent may be limited.
- Balancing urgent grant deadlines and competing requests while maintaining transparent priorities and high-quality advice.

- Influencing research design and methodological decisions across multidisciplinary stakeholders without direct authority.
- Integrating research integrity, privacy, governance and external funder requirements within practical and feasible statistical solutions.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS

The University expects that all employees are aware of, and comply with legislation and Western's policies and procedures relevant to the position, including but not limited to:

- Code of Conduct
- Work Health and Safety and Wellbeing Management System
- Enterprise Agreement or Award
- Anti-discrimination principles, Equal Employment Opportunity and staff and student equity.

Approved by: People and Culture Partner

Date: 4 September 2026