EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Psychometrician

The Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce’s (PMRT) Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit is managing the central components of the 2010 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy and the national sampling testing program and is seeking a Principal Consultant - Psychometrics with experience in managing contractors, designing and evaluating national or state/territory level tests, analysing data from full cohort and sample testing programs, and reporting students’ results against national or state/territory standards.

The Principal Consultant - Psychometrics will work with contractors, states and territories, the non-government school sectors, and the officers of PMRT’s Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit to finalise: (i) a suite of literacy and numeracy instruments for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in preparation for the third round of national assessments in May 2010; and (ii) instruments for PMRT’s national sample testing programs in Science literacy, Civics and Citizenship and ICT literacy.

**Position Title:** Principal Consultant - Psychometrics  
**Classification:** Western Australian Public Service Level 7  
**Location:** Perth, Western Australia  
**Period:** August 2008 – December 31, 2010  
**Salary Range:** $82,227 - $88,131

**Role**

The primary functions of the Psychometrician are to: manage the liaison and communication with stakeholders; review data and feedback from the trial of the assessments; conduct parallel analyses; and prepare reports and briefings for the Taskforce and Steering Group. The duties will include assisting contractors to refine administrative, data collection, and analysis procedures for the national testing in 2010 including student and national level reporting.

In fulfilling the duties, the Psychometrician will be expected to prepare documents for consultation, to liaise with state, territory testing and non government representatives and other stakeholders and respond to and resolve issues raised by contractors and stakeholders.

The Psychometrician will report to the Manager of PMRT’s Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit and will be expected to work with the Principal Consultants in the Unit to achieve key milestones in the Work Plans for the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy and national sample testing programs in Science literacy, Civics and Citizenship and ICT literacy.
Selection Criteria

• A high level of conceptual and analytical ability.
• Demonstrated ability to analyse student achievement data using Rasch methodology.
• Highly developed oral and written communication skills, negotiation, and interpersonal skills including the ability to liaise with senior officers.
• Organisation and management skills that demonstrate an ability to plan and coordinate projects in a complex environment.
• A sound understanding of contemporary issues in monitoring curriculum and performance monitoring.
• Tertiary qualifications in educational measurement studies or other recognised qualifications in educational measurement.

Additional Information

The Principal Consultant - Psychometrics will be located in Perth, Western Australia in the Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit at the buildings of the Department of Education and Training, 151 Royal Street East Perth 6004.

Assistance with the cost of relocation to Perth may be available.

Some interstate travel will be necessary during the period of tenure.

Employment will be under the terms and conditions for temporary officers within the Western Australian Public Service. It may be possible to arrange secondments with the successful applicant’s employer.

PMRT reserves the right to withdraw or amend the terms of appointment.

For further information regarding the position contact: Peter Titmanis, Director PMRT Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit on 08 9264 5052.

Application

Applicants are asked to submit a two page statement (maximum) addressing the selection criteria, a CV, and the names and contact details of two referees.

Applications are to be submitted in electronic form as a MS Word document or Adobe Acrobat PDF to Lynn Winstanley, at lynn.winstanley@det.wa.edu.au

Applications Close

Monday July 28, 2008 5.00 pm Western Standard Time.