EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Principal Consultant – Literacy (Two positions)

The Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce’s (PMRT) Benchmarking and Educational Measurement Unit is managing the central components of the 2010 National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy and is seeking two Principal Consultants - Literacy with experience in managing contractors, designing and evaluating national or state/territory level tests for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9, conducting state/territory-wide testing, and reporting student results against national or state/territory standards.

The Principal Consultants - Literacy 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 a suite of literacy instruments for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in preparation for the third round of national assessments in May 2010.

**Position Title:** Principal Consultant - Literacy  
**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 Principal Consultant - Literacy are to: monitor the item development and test construction undertaken by contractor(s); manage the liaison and communication with stakeholders; review data and feedback from the trial of the assessments; and prepare reports and briefings for the Taskforce and Steering Group. Duties will include assisting contractors to fine-tune the assessment framework, administrative procedures for the national testing in 2010 and student and national level reporting procedures.

In fulfilling the duties, the Principal Consultant - Literacy will be expected to prepare documents for consultation, to liaise with state and territory testing managers, non-government school sector representatives and other stakeholders and respond to and resolve issues raised by contractors and stakeholders.

The Principal Consultant - Literacy 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 Plan for the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy.
Selection Criteria

• A high level of conceptual and analytical ability.
• Demonstrated ability to interpret and utilise student achievement data analysed using Rasch methodologies.
• 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.

Additional Information

The Principal Consultant - Literacy 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.