



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Willis Island vacancies



Willis Island Vacancies

One Technical Officer (Officer in Charge) Level 3 (APS5)

One Technical Officer (Engineering) Level 4 (APS6)

Two Technical Officers (Observer) Level 2 (APS3)

On behalf of the Manager, National Observing Operations, applications are invited from persons interested in being part of a team to undertake a posting to Willis Island for an approximate term of six months.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND SUPPLIES

- In addition to the standard four weeks annual recreation leave, duty at Willis Island attracts an additional 1.4 weeks per annum (pro rata) remote locality leave. Staff employed for six months at Willis would normally accrue 0.7 weeks of remote locality leave.
- District allowance (as per the rate published in the [Bureau of Meteorology Enterprise Agreement 2018](#)) is paid on a pro-rata basis to all officers for the full term of duty.
- Willis Island allowance in lieu of overtime (AILOT) is paid as compensation for irregular hours of duty and out-of-hours attendance. This allowance includes overtime which may be incurred on meteorological observations and is currently equal to 55 per cent of the salary the officer is paid while on Willis Island.
- An employee stationed at Willis Island will be paid an allowance (pro rata) to compensate for the isolation and lack of amenities at Willis Island. This allowance is paid in addition to any other applicable allowances such as district allowance and AILOT.
- First aid allowance is payable to one person stationed on the island who is nominated by the new crew.
- Accommodation and food are provided on the island together with modern cooking facilities.
- Freight of successful applicants' personal possessions is limited to 100 kg per person to

and from the island. Personal possessions should accompany the officer as excess baggage, en-route to the point of departure.

- Successful applicants are entitled to duty free allowances. Staff must organise their own purchases and claims prior to departure.
- Willis Island is classified as an Australian Territory, customs baggage search procedures apply. Any excess duty free items are subject to declaration and duty on return to the mainland.

AMENITIES AND RECREATION

Amenities include:

- LCD flat-screen TV; cable TV; DVD; video, radio/CD player; book, video, DVD and CD library; and pool table;
- Sporting and exercise equipment;
- Telephone, email, scanning and limited internet facilities; and
- Fresh water, supplied by a desalination unit.

EQUIPMENT

- DWSR 2502C RADAR, including PC-based, signal processing system;
- Upper Air monitoring system, including DigiCora III, RBL;
- Surface Observation systems, including AWS;
- Hydrogen generation (HOGEN), facilities and gas store;
- Communication systems, including satellite, marine radio (VHF), IP networks and telephone systems; and
- Office equipment, including PCs, printers, scanners.

MEDICAL

Staff must successfully complete an AMSA medical examination, psychological assessment and Safety at Sea training course prior to being confirmed in the posting.

Employees must ensure their Tetanus vaccination are current and have their teeth checked and a clearance provided by their Dentist prior to departure.

INFORMATION AND TRAINING

The following information and training sessions will be undertaken prior to departure for Willis Island:

- Remote First Aid training, if required;
- Clinical skills training with the Royal Flying Doctors Service;
- Environmental awareness briefing (including asbestos training);
- Position and equipment specific training, as required;
- Psychological resilience training provided by a qualified psychologist; and
- Briefings by Australian Border Force and Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- In the interest of safety and staff welfare, firearms, diving equipment, rafts, boats, windsurfers etc are strictly prohibited on the island.
- Water activities are not encouraged due to the many dangers present, which include strong winds, currents and marine predators. The Officer in Charge has responsibility for authorising any water activities. All such activities must be undertaken with the utmost regard for safety. If staff swim they must do so in pairs, with a lookout on hand, and only when and where it is safe to do so.
- Solid-soled shoes must be worn when venturing on the reef at low tide (to protect against stonefish spines).
- Any fish caught must not be eaten, due to the possibility of ciguatera poisoning, which may cause serious illness, with prolonged, recurrent symptoms. More information is available here: <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/portal/food-safety-seafood/natural-seafood-toxins.doc> and <http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au/media/pdf/731/ciguatera-poisoning-v4.pdf>
- Applicants must be aware that, in the event of an accident, considerable time may elapse before assistance can be expected from the mainland. It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that health and safety regulations are followed.

