FSSA/HR 26/2026

Jobsplus Ref:946/2026

Job Description

Post: Scientific Officer

Reports to the: Chief Executive Officer

Position Summary and Key Responsibility

The role of a Scientific Officer within Food Safety and Security Authority (FSSA) involves using scientific expertise to support research, development, and analysis in fields like biology, chemistry, and life sciences. Key responsibilities include operating and managing scientific equipment, performing laboratory tests, analysing data, and adhering to health and safety regulations. Other responsibilities include performing chemical and physical analysis, validating food safety parameters, developing new products, and documenting results to ensure products are safe, nutritious, and meet consumer and regulatory standards.

A Scientific Officer will be reporting directly to the Principal/Chief Scientific Officer s/he is assigned to.

Main Accountabilities & Responsibilities

The Scientific Officer shall be responsible of the below roles and responsibilities:

- Participates in the management of research and development initiatives in the Food Safety and Security Authority.
- Develops and manages, in consultation with his/her superiors, recurring research programmes.
- Gathers data, statistics and information as requested by the Authority.
- Participates in advisory activities related to scientific and technical matters.
- Ensures the proper recording and filing of scientific data and other data as required.
- Keeps abreast with latest developments in research, scientific standards and methodologies as well as participates in organised training sessions.
- Drafts scientific, technical reports and informative material and other documentation as required by his/her superiors.
- Participates in fieldwork as necessary.
- Performs any other laboratory work or scientific data analysis and management as required.
- Represents the Management at local and international conferences, meetings and workshops as required.

- Undertakes any other tasks, which the superior may delegate to him/her, as may be required.
- Undertakes any other duties which may be updated to meet the requirements of any other area as confirmed by the Chief Executive Officer.
- Any other duties as directed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Job Entry Requirements

By the closing time and date of this call for applications, applicants must be:

a. citizens of Malta; **or**
b. citizens of other Member States of the European Union who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters of employment by virtue of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **or**
c. citizens of any other country who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment by virtue of the application to that country of EU legislation and treaty provisions dealing with the free movement of workers; **or**
d. any other persons who are entitled to equal treatment to Maltese citizens in matters related to employment in terms of the law or the above-mentioned EU legislation and treaty provisions, on account of their family relationship with persons mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c); **or**
e. third country nationals who have been granted long-term resident status in Malta under regulation 4 of the 'Status of Long-Term Residents (Third Country Nationals) Regulations, 2006' or who have been granted a residence permit under regulation 18(3) thereof, together with family members of such third country nationals who have been granted a residence permit under the 'Family Reunification Regulations, 2007'; **or**
f. in possession of a residence document issued in terms of the "Residence Status of United Kingdom Nationals and their Family Members in Malta in accordance with the Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community Regulations".

The advice of the Citizenship Unit within Community Malta Agency and the Expatriates Unit within Identita`Agency should be sought as necessary in the interpretation of the above provisions.

AND

- able to communicate verbally and in writing in the Maltese or English Languages.

AND

- in possession of a Bachelor's degree at MQF Level 6 (subject to a minimum of 180 ECTS/ECVET credits or equivalent) in Natural Sciences or related disciplines and in possession of a certificate of registration with the respective regulatory Council (where applicable).

Candidates who have not yet formally obtained any of the above-mentioned qualifications will still be considered. Such candidates are to submit evidence that they have been approved for the award of the qualification in question. Appointees must obtain, or be approved, for the award of such qualification within one year of their appointment date. If this stipulated deadline for the attainment of such qualification is not met, the appointment will be, **for this reason, automatically terminated.**

Terms and Conditions

- This appointment is subject to a probationary period of twelve (12) months.
- The salary for the post of Scientific Officer is Salary Scale 10, which in the year 2026 is equivalent to, €27,055.98 per annum, rising by annual increments of €407.67 up to a maximum of €29,502.00.
- A Scientific Officer will progress to Scale 9 (€28,701.02 x €447.33 - €31,385.00) on completion of two (2) years' service in the grade of Scientific Officer, subject to satisfactory performance.
- A Scientific Officer in Salary Scale 9 will undertake a Competency Programme and Evaluation Framework and with at least ten (10) years' satisfactory service in the grade of Scientific Officer, or eight (8) years if in possession of a recognised Master's Degree at MQF Level 7, shall be promoted to the grade of Senior Scientific Officer in Salary Scale 8 (€30,405.02 x €486.83 - €33,3265.00).
- A Senior Scientific Officer will progress to Salary Scale 7 (€32,1548.00 x €531.17 - €35,345.02) on completion of two (2) years' service in the grade, subject to satisfactory performance.
- Appointees will also be entitled to such other benefits as stipulated in the Scientific Class Sectoral Agreement.

  Selected candidates must be of conduct which is appropriate to the post/position applied for. Prior to appointment, selected candidates must produce a Certificate of Conduct issued by the Criminal Records Office or other competent authority not earlier than six (6) months from the closing date of this call for applications, which should be submitted by the selected candidate within one (1) week from the date of the notification of appointment

  The selected candidate shall be required to declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest prior to appointment, using the prescribed Declaration set out in Appendix 1 to Directive 16.

Key Competencies

- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Decision-making
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Leadership
- Adaptability
- Professionalism

Skills Required

- Combination of scientific, practical, and interpersonal skills
- Excellent communication and problem-solving abilities
- Capacity to remain calm under pressure
- Attention to detail
- Strong customer service skills
- Teamwork

Submission of applications

- Applications are to be submitted, by email on recruitment.fssa@gov.mt. The candidates are to provide a completely updated CV, including qualifications and employment history with their application and a true copy of the relevant qualification certificates.

- The closing date of the receipt of applications is 02nd December 2026 at 12.00hrs (Central European Time). An email will be sent as an acknowledgement of the application. Further details concerning the submission of applications are contained in the general provisions referred to below.

- Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered. Applicants who are deemed ineligible in terms of this call will be informed accordingly.

- Applicants are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure the completeness and correct details of their application, as well as the submission of all required documentation strictly within the deadline of this call.

Selection procedure

- Eligible applicants, will be assessed by a selection board based on a set of selection criteria to determine their suitability for the post.

- All applicants will be duly informed of the outcome of the selection process once the position has been filled.