NOVARTIS

Head DDIT ISC Software Development Governance, Integrity & Secure Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

Job ID
REQ-10086686
Oct 22, 2026
LOC_ES

About the Role

#LI-Hybrid
Location: Barcelona, Spain

Key Responsibilities:

- Own the enterprise policy, standards and controls for software engineering, including source control, branching, peer review, testing, release management, environment segregation, change control, configuration and release documentation.
- Rationalise overlapping GxP, SOX, privacy, security and IT-quality requirements into one coherent, risk-based framework, ensuring low-risk internal tools are not governed like regulated clinical systems.
- Retire SDLC controls that do not reduce risk and ensure tooling is implemented to securely speed up software development at Novartis at the highest scale, leveraging and creating AI tooling for the enterprise.
- Implement policy as code and controls as code, including branch protections, mandatory review, signed commits, segregation of duties, deployment approvals and immutable audit trails.
- Build automated, continuous evidence pipelines and define control telemetry including coverage, exceptions, drift, mean time to remediate and control effectiveness, with a focus on agility, automation and speed.
- Own secure-by-default guardrails in golden pipelines and paved-road platforms, aligning with recognized frameworks including NIST SSDF, ISO/IEC 27001 and IEC 62304 where applicable.
- Define controls for AI-assisted engineering, including acceptable use of coding assistants, agentic tooling, IP and licence exposure, provenance, attribution and human accountability for review and approval.
- Define controls for AI-containing products, including model lifecycle, dataset and model documentation, evaluation, drift monitoring, explainability, human oversight and readiness for evolving regulatory requirements.
- Use AI to reduce compliance burden through automated risk assessment drafting, control mapping, test generation, deviation triage and documentation synthesis, while serving as technical authority for inspections, audits, certifications and SDLC remediation.
- Lead a federated community of engineering, quality, security and compliance practitioners, publish practical guidance, advise senior leaders on risk and trade-offs, and partner with software developers across the enterprise to enable efficient delivery of compliant and secure products.

Essential Requirement:

- You are a practitioner. You have substantial hands-on software engineering experience: you have written production code, owned CI/CD pipelines, and can read and modify pipeline configuration, IaC and policy code today, unaided. Expect a technical assessment.
- 10+ years in software engineering, platform engineering, DevSecOps or engineering quality, including senior technical ownership of delivery pipelines at scale.
- Experience designing and operating automated controls in regulated environments — with evidence of replacing manual compliance work with software.
- Working fluency in regulated-software requirements relevant to pharma/life sciences: GxP, GAMP 5 (2nd Ed.), CSA, 21 CFR Part 11, EU Annex 11 and data integrity/ALCOA+.

- Security engineering depth: application security, software supply chain security, secrets and identity management, vulnerability management.
- Credible technical judgement on AI in the SDLC — both the tooling and its governance implications.
- Ability to influence without authority across engineering, quality and business lines, and hold positions with senior stakeholders and auditors.
- Excellent written English.

Desirable Requirement:

- Experience in pharma, biotech, medical devices or another regulated industry (finance, aviation, nuclear), with real inspection or audit exposure.Experience with SOX ITGC in engineering contexts, IEC 62304 / SaMD, and privacy-by-design under GDPR.
- Hands-on with modern stacks: Git-based platforms and policy/protection features, container orchestration, cloud, IaC, policy engines (e.g. OPA/Rego or equivalent), test automation frameworks, SBOM and signing tooling.

Benefits & Rewards

At Novartis, we’re committed to reimagining medicine together - and rewarding the people who make it happen.

Expected Annual Base Salary Range for role: 92,600.00 - 172,000.00 EUR

The base salary offered is determined based on gender-neutral objectives, such as relevant skills, competencies and experience in accordance with the Novartis pay setting policy and upon joining Novartis will be reviewed periodically.

In addition to your base salary, you may be eligible for a performance-based bonus depending on certain performance parameters.

The rewards of being part of our team go far beyond base pay and incentives. We also offer a variety of competitive benefits in kind to help you thrive personally and professionally, such as insurance plans, retirement plans, wellbeing resources and global recognition programs. In addition, we provide flexible and hybrid working options, where possible, and minimum 14 weeks paid parental leave.

Pay equity is a fundamental principle of our employment policy and reflects our commitment to create a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment that treats all employees with dignity and respect, as outlined in our Code of Ethics.

Read our brochure to learn more about our global total rewards offering:

https://www.novartis.com/sites/novartis_com/files/novartis-life-handbook.pdf

Note: Benefits and compensation may vary by country and are subject to local legal requirements, including provisions of collective bargaining agreements where applicable. A full overview of your compensation package, including any relevant collective bargaining agreement details applicable to your role based on your employment location and Novartis employer entity, will be communicated separately to you during the application process.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion / EEO

Novartis is committed to building an outstanding, inclusive work environment and diverse teams’ representative of the

patients and communities we serve.

You'll receive: You can find everything you need to know about our benefits and rewards in the Novartis Life Handbook. https://www.novartis.com/careers/benefits-rewards Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion: Novartis is committed to building an outstanding, inclusive work environment and diverse teams' representative of the patients and communities we serve.

Role Requirements

Primary location salary range
€92,600.00 - €172,000.00
Division
DIV_TO
Business Unit
Information Technology
Location
LOC_ES
Site
Barcelona Gran Vía
Company / Legal Entity
ES06 (FCRS = ES006) Novartis Farmacéutica, S.A.
Functional Area
FCT_IT
Job Type
Full time
Employment Type
Regular
Shift Work
No
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