NOVARTIS

Associate Director, Cloud Data Platform Architecture

Job ID
REQ-10091828
Nov 10, 2026
LOC_ES

About the Role

Key responsibilities

- Lead the architecture and design of cloud data platform capabilities supporting Drug Development use cases, reviewing and approving architecture and technical designs with oversight from the Platform Architecture Director.
- Define technology strategy, architecture standards and reusable platform patterns.
- Guide the evolution of the existing multi-tenant cloud data mesh platform, supporting the delivery of new capabilities and enhancements to existing functionality and self-service interfaces.
- Partner with Domain IT, Platform Engineering, Data Management, Governance and external vendors to align platform capabilities with business priorities.
- Prioritise capability backlogs, shape delivery roadmaps and coordinate MVP delivery with engineering teams.
- Lead technology evaluations, technical spikes and proofs of concept to inform platform decisions.
- Provide technical direction to project delivery vendors implementing prototypes and review outcomes against architectural requirements.
- Oversee multiple capability delivery streams, helping to identify and resolve technical and organisational blockers.
- Ensure adherence to security, compliance, GxP, quality and enterprise architecture standards.
- Provide technical direction and coaching to vendor architects, fostering innovation, collaboration and continuous improvement.

Your first 6–12 months

You will build a strong understanding of the platform and its capabilities, enabling you to provide timely architectural guidance to platform tenants and support architects and engineers in enhancing existing capabilities and delivering new ones.

Essential requirements

- Degree in Information Technology, Life Sciences, Pharmacy, Engineering or equivalent relevant experience.
- Extensive relevant architecture experience, including proven experience architecting enterprise-scale, multi-tenant cloud data platforms involving multiple stakeholders.
- Ability to translate business priorities into scalable architecture, roadmaps and delivery plans.
- Strong stakeholder management and collaboration skills across IT, engineering, governance and business functions.
- Recent hands-on experience architecting Databricks and AWS cloud data platform solutions and building prototypes, including incremental ETL and pipeline orchestration.
- Strong technical experience with Databricks Lakehouse, including Delta Lake, Unity Catalog, Lakeflow/DLT, Workflows, Databricks SQL and Asset Bundles.
- Experience with PySpark/Python, SQL, Spark Structured Streaming, Kafka, Amazon API Gateway and AWS Lambda.
- Strong understanding of data platform capabilities, including ingestion, data product development, consumption, observability, governance and compliance.

- Experience designing platforms for regulated, GxP or highly sensitive data environments.
- Experience providing technical direction to architects and engineers on large-scale initiatives delivered with external vendors.

Desirable experience

The following experience would be beneficial but is not essential:

- Experience within pharmaceutical, life sciences or drug development environments.
- Familiarity with data mesh architecture and platform engineering operating models.
- Experience defining reference architectures, standards and reusable design patterns.
- Experience working with vendor architects and assessing delivery performance against SLAs.
- A strong focus on innovation, continuous improvement and engineering excellence.
- Experience integrating data platforms with technologies such as Collibra and Immuta.
- Understanding of Open Data Product/Contract Specifications.
- Experience developing generative AI capabilities using structured and unstructured data. AI expertise can also be further developed in the role through collaboration with domain experts.

Benefits & Rewards

Expected Annual Base Salary Range: €63,800 – €118,400 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 will be reviewed periodically after joining Novartis.

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

The rewards of being part of our team go beyond base pay and incentives. We offer a variety of competitive benefits to help you thrive personally and professionally, including insurance plans, retirement plans, wellbeing resources and global recognition programs. We also provide flexible and hybrid working options where possible, as well as paid parental leave.

Read our handbook to learn more about our global Total Rewards offering

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

Novartis is committed to building an outstanding, inclusive work environment and diverse teams representative of the patients and communities we serve.

Why Novartis

Helping people with disease and their families takes more than innovative science. It takes a community of smart, passionate people like you. Collaborating, supporting and inspiring each other. Combining to achieve breakthroughs that change patients' lives. Ready to create a brighter future together?

Learn more about our people and culture.

Join our Novartis Network

Not the right Novartis role for you? Sign up to our talent community to stay connected and learn about suitable career opportunities as soon as they come up.

Join the Novartis Talent Network.

Benefits and Rewards

Learn about all the ways we'll help you thrive personally and professionally.

Role Requirements

Primary location salary range
€63,800.00 - €118,400.00
Division
DIV_TO
Business Unit
Information Technology
Location
LOC_ES
Site
Barcelona Gran Vía
Company / Legal Entity
ES06 (FCRS = ES006) Novartis Farmacéutica, S.A.
Alternative Location 1
LOC_IN
Functional Area
FCT_DD
Job Type
Full time
Employment Type
Regular
Shift Work

No

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