FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Health Systems and Policy Research

Type: Postdoctoral Research Fellowship within the research niche area of Health Systems and Policy Research. The fellowships is a two-year fixed contract subject to satisfactory annual performance. The tax-free stipend is R300 000 per annum.

Introduction:

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and highly motivated researchers for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Limpopo, within the University's strategic research niche of Health Systems and Policy Research.

The fellowship forms part of the University's initiative to strengthen research excellence, innovation, and postgraduate mentorship while addressing African health priorities through high-quality interdisciplinary research.

The successful candidate will join an active research environment focusing on strengthening health systems through evidence-informed policy, implementation science, health promotion, health systems governance, monitoring and evaluation, primary health care, Universal Health Coverage (UHC), National Health Insurance (NHI), implementation research, and community-based public health interventions.

The fellow will work under the mentorship of Professor Takalani G. Tshitangano, Full Professor of Behavioural Sciences and Health Promotion, Department of Public Health and Health Systems.

Requirements

Applicants should:

- Hold a PhD in Public Health, Health Systems, Health Policy, Epidemiology, Health Promotion, Health Services Research, Implementation Science, or a closely related discipline.
- Have obtained the doctoral degree within the past five (5) years.
- Demonstrate an excellent publication record relative to career stage.
- Show evidence of conducting independent research.
- Possess strong quantitative and/or qualitative research skills.
- Demonstrate knowledge of health systems research methodologies.
- Have experience in scientific writing and publishing.
- Have excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Be willing to relocate to the University of Limpopo and participate fully in research activities.

- Be able to work independently and within multidisciplinary research teams.

Preference will be given to applicants with experience in grant writing, implementation research, policy analysis, mixed-methods research, or programme evaluation.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful fellow will be expected to:

- Conduct innovative research in Health Systems and Policy Research.
- Develop an independent but complementary research programme aligned with the host's research agenda.
- Publish high-quality research in accredited international peer-reviewed journals.
- Present research findings at national and international conferences.
- Prepare policy briefs, technical reports, and knowledge translation products.
- Participate in the development of competitive national and international research grant applications.
- Contribute to postgraduate supervision and mentorship of Master's and PhD students.
- Participate in departmental seminars, workshops, and research capacity-building initiatives.
- Collaborate with local and international research partners.
- Contribute to community-engaged and implementation research addressing African health priorities.
- Support innovation and knowledge translation activities that strengthen health systems and influence policy.

Expected outputs

During the fellowship, the successful candidate will be expected to produce:

- At least 4 accredited journal publications over the two-year fellowship.
- Several conference presentations at national and international scientific meetings.
- At least one competitive external research grant application.
- Policy briefs supporting evidence-informed health policy.
- Research reports for government and other stakeholders.
- Contributions to postgraduate student supervision and capacity development.
- Collaborative publications with the host supervisor and research team.
- Participation in multidisciplinary research projects within the Faculty and University.

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CLOSING DATE: 23RD OCTOBER 2026

Please submit motivation letter clearly outlining your suitability and proposed research agenda, a detailed CV with all your names, addresses, contact details and e-mail address and include contact numbers of three (3) referees, certified copies of all qualifications including Matric / Grade 12 Certificate, academic transcripts, copies of selected recent peer-reviewed publications and a South African ID/ Passport should be forwarded to Human Resources Officer, e-mail applications recruitment15@ul.ac.za

Telephonic enquiries regarding conditions of service: **Ms NA Mbatsane** (**Tel 015 268 2800)**

It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign obtained qualifications evaluated by the South African qualifications Authority. Please note that failure to submit the requested documents/information will result in your application not being considered.

The University of Limpopo is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All appointments will be made in accordance with University's Employment Equity Police. Preference: **Postdoctoral Fellowship,** will be given to Males (African & Indian) and Female (African)

Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only. Applicants who have not been contacted within 30 days of the closing date must consider their applicants as unsuccessful.

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment.