

2023 CALL FOR STUDENTS: MMEDSCI & PHD BY RESEARCH

**HIV PATHOGENESIS PROGRAMME (HPP)
SCHOOL OF LABORATORY MEDICINE AND MEDICAL SCIENCES
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL
CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, 14 December 2022**

The HIV Pathogenesis Programme (HPP) laboratory has opportunities for students who are interested in pursuing a Master of Medical Science (MMedSci) degree and PhD degree by research. The HPP laboratory is located in the Doris Duke Medical Research Institute at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine in Durban, South Africa.

Research projects are in the broad fields of HIV and TB pathogenesis (immunology, virology, host/pathogen interaction). Our laboratory emphasizes innovative exploratory research and training of predoctoral, doctoral and postdoctoral researchers.

Students will be directly supervised by faculty members, **Dr Bongiwe Ndlovu, Dr Jaclyn Mann, Dr Paradise Madlala and Prof Zaza Ndhlovu**. Prospective applicants should demonstrate familiarity with recent research publications by these researchers.

Dr Bongiwe Ndlovu intends to recruit one PhD student.

Dr Jaclyn Mann intends to recruit two Masters students – one to undertake a laboratory-based research project, the other to undertake a data analysis research project.

Dr Paradise Madlala intends to recruit two PhD and three Masters students.

Prof Zaza Ndhlovu intends to recruit one Masters student.

The MMedSci degree requires at least one year of study. Full-time MMedSci students are expected to have completed their degrees within two years.

Full-time PhD students are expected to have completed their degree within three years.

At the conclusion of their research project the candidate for the degree submits a dissertation that is subject to review by an external examiner. PhD students are expected to have had a manuscript accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal in order to be awarded their degree. Masters students are also strongly encouraged to publish their research findings.

Interested applicants must meet the following minimum criteria

- Holders of an Honours degree (for Masters applicants) or Master's degree (for PhD applicants) in biomedical/biological sciences, or an equivalent degree.
- Familiarity with basic principles in immunology, molecular biology, virology or human genetics.
- Excellent undergraduate academic record.
- Outstanding academic and character reference reports.
- Availability to work full-time in the laboratory.
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail.

Advantages

- Prior work experience in biomedical research.

Application format

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Wednesday, 14 December 2022**.

Applicants are required to submit a one-page cover letter briefly describing their research interests, a detailed CV, highlighting their experience in each of the minimum requirements listed above, together with the name, telephone number and e-mail address of two referees who are available to comment on your academic and research competence or potential.

Applications must be sent to Mrs Tarryn Tomlinson, HPP's Grants & Administration Manager at leslie@ukzn.ac.za

Terms of appointment and selection process

Applications will be shortlisted in 2022 and interviews will take place in mid-January 2023. The selection process will continue until suitable candidates are appointed or a decision is taken not to fill the posts.

The positions will be offered in compliance with admission policies of the University of KwaZulu-Natal.