

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

**POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP (1 POST)
THEORETICAL RELATIVISTIC ASTROPHYSICS
1 March 2026 – 28 February 2028
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE
WESTVILLE CAMPUS**

REFERENCE NO.: ARC01/2026/TRA

The gravity research group of the Astrophysics Research Centre has a Postdoctoral opportunity available in theoretical relativistic astrophysics, gravitational collapse, radiating stars and entropy. We are also interested in connections to modified gravity theories and recent astronomical observations. We are looking for an incumbent to work closely with the research group and to provide research assistance on various gravity projects; undertake literature surveys, develop gravitational models in various gravity theories, and assist with the supervision of postgraduate activities.

The successful applicant will be expected to engage in **full-time** postdoctoral studies under the supervision of a member or members of the academic staff in Mathematics.

Minimum Requirements:

- PhD in Mathematics/Applied Mathematics/Physics obtained in the last five years.
- Must be based at UKZN for the duration of the scholarship.
- An adequate number of publications in the relevant area of expertise.
- Good writing, communication and computer skills.
- Knowledge and experience in the field of theoretical relativistic astrophysics.

Enquiries and details regarding the post may be directed to: Ms L Gurudas at email: gurudas@ukzn.ac.za; Tel. +2731 260 1019.

The postdoctoral fellowship is for 24 months, worth R280 000 per annum. There are additional funds for research related activities. This post is funded through the gravity research group and the College.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 9 February 2026.

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- (i) a covering letter highlighting their experience in meeting each of the minimum requirements as listed above.**
- (ii) a detailed CV including the list of publications**
- (iii) contact details for two referees**
- (iv) a copy of the applicant's doctoral degree certificate or PhD award letter.**

(v) a certified copy of the applicant's ID / permanent residency document / foreigners must be in possession of relevant permits.

Applications must be emailed to Ms Laila Gurudas at gurudas@ukzn.ac.za before the closing date. **The subject line must clearly indicate the reference no. ARC01/2026/TRA.** Late applications will not be considered. Successful individuals will be contacted on or before 13 February 2026. An online/physical interview will take place. The research group reserves the right not to make an appointment to this advert. Should you not receive a reply or update by the 13 February 2026, kindly consider that your application has not been successful.

Kindly note that the University of KwaZulu-Natal ("the University") is required to process any Personal Information (as defined by the Protection of Personal Act, 2013 "POPIA") submitted by candidates when applying for positions at the University. The University will endeavour to ensure that the appropriate security measures are in place and implemented for both electronic and paper-based formats that are used for processing of the personal information recorded through this recruitment and selection process. We refer you to the University's relevant Section 18 notice at

http://vacancies.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/General_Documents/Section_18_Note_-_Employees_and_Potential_Employees.sflb.ashx