

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to Employment Equity with the intention to promote representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to South African applicants from the designated groups.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP FOR REACH-PSM

1 MAY 2026 – 30 APRIL 2027

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

WESTVILLE CAMPUS

Ref: REACH-EE/PD/01/2026

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) invites applications from suitably qualified candidates a postdoctoral fellowship in the discipline of Electrical and/or Electronic Engineering for the project titled Resilient Energy Access Through Community-Driven Holistic Development in Perovskite Solar Module Manufacturing or REACH PSM, and is led by Swansea University and co-led by UKZN for certain work packages.

The position is located at the Smart Grid Research Building on Westville Campus which forms part of the Centre for Power and Energy Systems.

The incumbent will work on part of Work Package 4 on the outdoor performance testing of Perovskite Solar Modules including the development and maintenance of a test rig to monitor the temperature and power of the panel as well as the environmental parameters.

The fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis, considering the applicants' academic achievements, publication outputs and research potential, as well as the relevance of prior experience and expertise. The incumbent will conduct research on the project, Author/co-author at least three (3) publication outputs per year in the form of DHET– accredited scholarly journal articles or books/chapters in books. The renewal of the fellowship beyond the first year depends on satisfactory performance, the submission of an annual progress report and the availability of funds. S/he may initiate projects and seek funding for them and also supervise students, provide assistance to staff.

Application is open to all South African and foreign nationals for full-time research at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Candidates with proven track record and research interest in power and energy systems are desired.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Ph.D. degree in Electrical/Electronic/Computer engineering
- Experience in an image processing project
- Experience with MATLAB or Python
- Practical experience with hand tools and measurement equipment

The postdoctoral fellowship is for 12 months and is renewable for 12 months.

Should you not receive a reply or update by the 17th April 2026, please consider your application as unsuccessful.

The closing date for receipt of applications 13th April 2026.

Applicants are required to submit the following documents in a single PDF document to jarvis@ukzn.ac.za, (Subject Email Title: REACH-EE/PD/01/2026):

- (i) A motivation letter, including a 1-2-page outline of relevant expertise and experience.
- (ii) A detailed CV including a list of research publications, conference papers and other scholarly outputs.
- (iii) Full transcripts of academic record and copy of doctoral degree certificate.
- (iv) A copy of ID document (or copy of passport in the case of foreign applicants).
- (v) Contact details of two academic referees who have taught/supervised the candidate.

Late applications will not be considered. UKZN reserves the right not to make an appointment to this advert.

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 paperbased 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/GeneralDocuments/Section18NoticeEmployeesandPotentialEmployees.sflb.ashx>