

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

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**  
**RESEARCH ASSISTANT: HEALTHCARE WORKER CAPACITY BUILDING**  
**DURATION OF THE POST: 4 months**  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**  
**HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS**  
**REF NO.: WEATHER HCW RA /2026**

The Discipline of Public Health Medicine invites applications for a suitably qualified Research Assistant to support the NIHR-funded WEATHER Project (Warning system for Extreme Weather events, Awareness Technology for Healthcare, Equitable delivery, and Resilience). The WEATHER project aims to develop, implement and evaluate an Early Warning System (EWS) as a local alert system for communities, healthcare providers and government to detect extreme weather events and strengthen health system preparedness and response. This post will support Work Package 3, specifically the healthcare worker capacity building component. The Research Assistant will work directly with our Postdoctoral Researcher, to support healthcare worker data collection, training programme development, training implementation, mentorship documentation and reporting across eThekweni South and Ugu districts.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Master's degree in Public Health, Health Sciences, Data Science, Social Sciences, Environmental Health or a related discipline.
- At least one year of public health, health systems, clinical, community-based or implementation research experience.
- Experience with qualitative and/or quantitative data collection, including surveys, interviews, focus group discussions or field-based research.
- Competency in data management platforms such as REDCap, Excel, SPSS, NVivo or similar tools.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills in English and isiZulu.
- Valid driver's licence

**Essential Requirements:**

- Willingness to travel to field sites in eThekweni South and Ugu districts.
- Experience assisting with literature reviews, evidence synthesis, scientific writing, training materials or manuscripts.
- Strong organisational skills, attention to detail, ethical conduct, confidentiality and ability to work independently under supervision.
- Familiarity with primary healthcare, health systems strengthening or climate and health.
- A publication record - authorship or co-authorship of one or more peer-reviewed journal article

The post reports to Professor Saloshni Naidoo and Professor Ozayr Mahomed.

**Remuneration:** The remuneration package offered will be in line with university salary scales and dependent on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant.

### **Application process**

Applicants are required to submit:

- A completed UKZN application form (available on the Vacancies website at [www.ukzn.ac.za](http://www.ukzn.ac.za))
- A 2-page CV (maximum) highlighting relevant project coordination, qualitative and quantitative research experience, and any publications.
- A certified copy of your ID.

The **Advert Reference Number** must be clearly stated in the email subject line. Completed applications must be sent to Mr Themba Manqele at [manqelet@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:manqelet@ukzn.ac.za) by **Friday, 8 May 2026**.

Candidates who do not submit a completed application form and the required supporting documents will not be considered. Applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements will not be considered.

The University reserves the right to accept late applications or to extend the above date in order to facilitate further searches. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Should you not hear back from the team within four weeks of your application being received, please assume that your application was unsuccessful.