

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

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
RESEARCH SCIENTIST
FIXED TERM APPOINTMENT (4 months)
WASH R&D CENTRE, CHEMICAL ENGINEERING
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING
HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS
REF NO.: WASH 1/2026**

The WASH R&D Centre, based within the Discipline of Chemical Engineering at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (Durban, South Africa), is seeking a Research Scientist to provide scientific leadership in water and wastewater management research, with a particular emphasis on sludge valorisation, resource recovery, and circular economy technologies. The successful candidate will lead and coordinate research programmes, develop competitive research proposals, supervise postgraduate students, secure external research funding, and establish strategic collaborations with academic, government and industry partners.

Minimum Requirements

- PhD in Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, or a closely related chemical science discipline.
- Minimum of five (5) years' research experience in water and wastewater management, resource recovery, climate resilience, or related fields.
- Demonstrated experience in developing and securing competitive research funding from national and/or international funding agencies.
- Proven record of successful supervision of Master's and/or PhD students.
- Strong publication record in internationally recognized peer-reviewed journals.

The remuneration will be in line with the UKZN fixed rates of pay.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **31 July 2026**

Applicants are required to submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae, together with a cover letter indicating their experience in meeting the stipulated minimum requirements. Application documentation must be sent to: Lungi Ndlela (ndlela1@ukzn.ac.za)

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 provision of the Personal Information is a requirement in terms of the University's recruitment and selection process. The retention of any personal information is as a Consequence of the University being bound by legislative requirements and / or good governance practices as well as record keeping for statistical purposes. 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.