

Junior Researcher

The Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies is a joint initiative of the University of KwaZulu-Natal and the South African Medical Research Council, with support from the Wellcome Trust and other funders, to create a global centre of research excellence in a rural area. The Centre's mission is to conduct in partnership with the community, policy-relevant health and population research in an ethical manner, and to enhance the capacity of the people of sub-Saharan Africa to conduct research.

The Centre is located in the rural Umkhanyakude District of KwaZulu-Natal. It hosts a number of clinical and social research projects, including Africa's most comprehensive Demographic Surveillance System which monitors longitudinal vital events in a population of 90,000, and provides a rich base for health and social science research. Employees of the Africa Centre are encouraged to gain a broad experience across all studies in order to develop their own skills and advance their careers.

Africa Centre wishes to recruit a **Junior Researcher**. We are seeking a highly motivated and outstanding individual, with a strong interest in health systems research with preferably a good understanding of management and health services delivery aspects of health systems especially in the context of universal health coverage, to join our UNITAS PROJECT team at the Africa Centre. The individual must be able to demonstrate innovative thinking with respect to methods and approaches, have excellent writing and conceptual skills, and be able to work well in a multi-disciplinary team. We will welcome applications from international candidates but we particularly invite them from qualified South African scholars. Broadly this incumbent will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the health reforms targeted towards achieving universal health coverage in South Africa.

Qualifications and experience *required* for this position

- Minimum requirement is a Master's degree, someone with a PhD or studying towards one would be an added advantage
- Background in Health systems planning and policy research, health services management, Public health, or related discipline
- Strong qualitative research analytical skills and ability to learn or use software packages
- Interested in issues in universal health coverage and a good sense of understanding of the South African healthcare delivery system
- Excellent writing and conceptual skills
- Flexible to travel within South Africa
- Strong communication skills
- Driver's licence
- A short piece of recent written work or publication on which you are the first author.

Enquiries should be directed to Ms Natsayi Chimbindi on +27(0) 35 550 7621 or email nchimbindi@fricacentre.ac.za FOR ENQUIRES ONLY. Unless otherwise stated, this post will be offered until 31 December 2015; an extension will be dependent on funding. The remuneration offered will be as per Africa Centre salary scales coupled with qualifications and experience of the successful candidate. Applicants are required to submit a covering letter, curriculum vitae with certified copies of qualifications and details of three (3) contactable referees to: The Human Resources Office, Africa Centre, Box 198, Mtubatuba 3935 or email to acemployment@fricacentre.ac.za. Faxed, late and incomplete applications will not be considered. Correspondence will only be entered into with shortlisted candidates. Africa Centre reserves the right not to make any appointment/s. The closing date for all applications is 19 December 2014.