

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

## **COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**RESEARCH TECHNICIAN  
(1-year fixed term contract)  
HIV PATHOGENESIS PROGRAMME (HPP)  
SCHOOL OF LABORATORY MEDICINE AND MEDICAL SCIENCES  
NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Ref: HPP/MadlalaResTech/Feb2024**

The HIV Pathogenesis Programme (HPP) is a multidisciplinary HIV pathogenesis research programme based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Nelson Mandela School of Medicine in Durban. The HPP has been involved in studies of HIV-1 immunopathogenesis for over 15 years.

The HPP has a **Research Technician** position available. The incumbent will undertake general sample processing of HIV positive blood samples; freeze and catalogue cells; prepare reagents; assist the senior researcher and his team with experiments, quality control and data verification; and will carry out general laboratory housekeeping, including temperature monitoring and equipment maintenance. The incumbent will be required to be hard working, motivated, organized, and meticulous, and be able to work independently. The incumbent will report to the Laboratory Manager of HPP's molecular laboratory, and the senior researcher, Dr Paradise Madlala.

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

- BSc Honours degree (or equivalent) in a relevant biomedical field
- Hands-on experience in general molecular biology techniques, for example: DNA/RNA extraction, PCR, qPCR, cloning, sequencing, sequence analysis, FACS analysis and tissue culture, which includes culturing, transfection and infection of primary cells and cell lines
- Minimum one-year experience working in a biomedical research laboratory (*exclusive of lab time related to the completion of an Honours research project*)
- Familiarity with biomedical research laboratory procedures and safety requirements
- Good computer literacy (Microsoft Office)

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Assist senior researcher and team with experiments, quality control and data verification
- Undertake general sample processing of HIV positive blood samples
- Freezing and cataloguing of cells, as required
- Preparation of reagents
- Maintenance of equipment
- Temperature monitoring of equipment
- General laboratory housekeeping
- Health and safety checks of laboratory, as required
- Participation in the department's various academic activities – journal club, lab meetings, quality improvement meetings and audits, etc.
- Prepared to work after hours, as required

Enquiries regarding this post and requests for the job profile may be directed to Mrs Tarryn Tomlinson (HPP's Grants & Administration Manager), [leslie@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:leslie@ukzn.ac.za) .

### **Terms of appointment and Selection Process**

The post will be offered on a one-year, fixed term contract. The terms and conditions governing this appointment will be in compliance with those of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The monthly cost of employment for this position will be R17,000 – R17,500, dependent on the experience of the successful candidate.

The closing date for receipt of applications is **Tuesday, 27 February 2024**. The University, however, reserves the right in special circumstances to accept late applications or to extend the above date in order to facilitate further searches. The selection process will commence in **February 2024** and will continue until suitable candidates are appointed or a decision is taken not to fill the posts.

Applicants are required to complete the relevant application form for support staff which is available on the [UKZN vacancies webpage](#), **demonstrating specifically how they meet the minimum requirements for the position**.

Completed forms (preferably typed) must be emailed to Mrs. Tarryn Tomlinson at [leslie@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:leslie@ukzn.ac.za) .

**CVs will NOT be accepted or considered.**

Please quote the advert reference number - **HPP/MadlalaResTech/Feb2024** - in your subject line and name your application as your full name and surname, e.g. MARY GREEN.