



KAMUZU UNIVERSITY
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)
PROGRAMS IN THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND ORAL HEALTH**

The School of Medicine and Oral Health at Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHeS) is inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates to undergo training in the following PhD programs for the September 2023 intake.

1. DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MENTAL HEALTH

(Youth in Mind PhD Studentship)

The Youth in Mind Consortium's PhD Studentships will be for 3 years. PhD students will be expected to defend their project proposal at the end of year one. The studentships will be KUHeS hosted, (Mental Health Department) and are country-specific, aligned with partners in Zimbabwe and Ghana. PhD will be co-supervised by KUHeS and partners. There is an expectation that students will closely work with consortium members from Zimbabwe and Ghana. A focus of the PhD will be on optimizing the delivery of Friendship Bench for the Youth in Zimbabwe and Ghana. Research questions for this PhD will include: 1) In addition to problem solving therapy, what additional skills are needed for lay therapist? 2) What are the characteristics of the youth who do not get better following a Friendship Bench sessions? 3) is the SSQ4 sufficient in detecting depression in youth?

MODE OF DELIVERY

This PhD project will employ a mixed-methods design but with a greater incline towards qualitative research methods. The qualitative elements of the study will entail use of In-depth Interviews, and Focus Group Discussions as data collection strategies. In addition to qualitative data collection strategies, the study will conduct a secondary analysis of Friendship Bench Intervention data collected during routine service provision.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Academically very well prepared with a good Master's degree (with a strong credit - 70% or above) in a relevant discipline (i.e Medical Anthropology, Sociology and acceptable alternative social science discipline) from a reputable university, including qualitative research methods, or a qualification of equivalent standard appropriate to the programme to be followed awarded by a university (or educational institution of university rank).

2. A proven competence as an independent researcher including having at least one first-author publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
3. Evidence that the applicant is motivated and capable of successfully completing a doctorate through a motivation letter, distinctions, awards and references.
4. Experience of working with research institute in LMICs, particularly in Africa
5. Experience in training or supporting junior staff will be essential for this position
6. Strong understanding of mental health issues, services and systems in LMICs, particularly in Africa
7. A demonstration of evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency for those whose education has not been conducted in the English language.
8. A candidate should have demonstrable excellent communication, team working, and organisation skills to enable him/her navigate with confidence, tact and diplomacy across a diverse range of partners, organisations and cultures

SCHOLARSHIPS

A competitive 3 Year full scholarship is available for applicants interested in this program

2. DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MEDICINE (INTERNAL MEDICINE/FAMILY MEDICINE)

Collaboration for Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Ph.D. Scholarship

Ph.D. proposal topic: Evaluation of Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) training and implementation

The KUHeS in collaboration with Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg, Germany, invites a Ph.D. student to apply for a 3-year scholarship within an Else Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung funded research project in the field of implementation research.

POCUS has been established at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre through several successful pieces of training and plays a certain role now in

daily clinical practice. The new project aims to further establish the use of ultrasound in hospitals and to consolidate it through training using smart digital solutions. Furthermore, the concept will be extended to the Mangochi campus at Mangochi District Hospital. The main focus of the dissertation is the scientific monitoring of the implementation, such as quality monitoring, feedback, and data analysis.

Conditions of the scholarship:

The successful doctoral candidate will be expected to:

- Conduct relevant research, data collection, and data analyses referring to the study protocol: Work packages will include an assessment of the current situation, an evaluation of training activities of clinical staff including eLearning resources, an evaluation of the impact of introducing POCUS, scientific development of POCUS protocols and finally cost-benefit analysis;
- Submit at least 2 publications emerging from the doctoral research to peer-reviewed journals and 1 manuscript ready for submission;
- Complete his or her doctoral studies within 3 years after first registration (by September of 2026); and
- **The successful candidate will be offered a scholarship which is that renewable upon successful academic performance.**

Details of the scholarship:

There is one scholarship available. The scholarship will cover tuition fees and research costs, and contribute towards living expenses. Payment of the scholarship will be as per the university policy, and continued payment of the scholarship will depend upon the candidate's satisfactory progress against agreed goals. The successful candidate will be mentored by experienced researchers.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Candidates must be a Malawian citizen. (Provide proof)
2. Master's degree in Medicine, Public Health or Epidemiology

Research interest: Evidence-based health care, epidemiology, public health

Additional information

As part of the application, candidates should submit a research concept note for this project. It is advised to contact Dr Tamala Phiri (tphiri@kuhes.ac.mw), Dr Martha Makwero (hodfamilymedicine@kuhes.ac.mw) and Dr Benno Kreuels (kreuels@bnitm.de) for further discussion to develop the concept note. After developing the concept note, candidates can apply at KUHeS.

APPLICATIONS FOR ALL POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE:

1. A completed postgraduate application form. The forms are available on the KUHeS website at www.kuhes.ac.mw using the following link, (<https://www.kuhes.ac.mw/announcements/>) or at our Blantyre and Lilongwe campuses.
2. Sealed or certified copies of academic transcripts
3. Authenticated copies of academic certificates (by a lawyer, magistrate, or registrar of the awarding institution)
4. Authenticated copies of professional registration certificates where applicable
5. Letter of release from employers (if employed)
6. Duly filled reference forms (one academic and one professional). Forms can be found on the KUHeS website or at our Blantyre and Lilongwe Campuses.
7. A non-refundable application fee of MK12,000.00 Malawians.

Payment should be made to

BANK NAME: NATIONAL BANK OF MALAWI

ACCOUNT NAME: KUHES FEES

BRANCH: CHICHIRI

ACCOUNT NUMBER:1008195923

SWIFT CODE: NBMAMWMW

Application forms that do not meet the requirements stated above will not be processed.

The deadline for applications is Friday 12th May 2023. Completed applications should be sent to:

The Registrar

Kamuzu University of Health Sciences

Private Bag 360

Chichiri, Blantyre 3,

Malawi

Subject; PhD Application

E-mail: admissions@kuhes.mw