



UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



Call for applications for Postgraduate Training Scholarships in Implementation Science for 2020 Academic Year (Starting January, 2020)

Application deadline for Masters in Epidemiology Degree Programme: 31 July 2019

Application deadline for TDR scholarship: 31 July 2019

BACKGROUND

The University of the Witwatersrand's School of Public Health, in conjunction with the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR - hosted at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland) invites suitably qualified candidates to apply for a full scholarship supported by TDR to undertake full-time Master Degree Programme in the field of Implementation Science.

The degree programme is open to candidates from a range of disciplines including Clinical and other health-related fields; Statistics and other quantitative fields, as well as Demography and Social Sciences. The degree programme should also appeal to candidates who want to become more involved in research in health-related fields.

Training will be focused on courses relevant to a career in implementation science. Implementation science is a growing field that supports the identification of health system bottlenecks and approaches to address them, and is particularly useful in low- and middle-income countries where many health interventions do not reach those who need them. The goal of this scheme is to strengthen capacity in implementation research on infectious diseases of poverty (in particular, the neglected tropical diseases, malaria and tuberculosis) and to boost the number of researchers and practitioners in low and middle-income countries. This is in line with the TDR focus on improving the health and well-being of people burdened by infectious diseases of poverty through research and innovation. Further information on implementation research is available at: www.who.int/tdr/publications/topics/ir-toolkit/en and on neglected tropical diseases at http://www.who.int/neglected_diseases/diseases/en/.

DEGREE PROGRAMME ON OFFER

- MSc Epidemiology in the field of Implementation Science (18 months full-time)

ELIGIBILITY

- Be resident in and a national of a low- or middle-income country¹ in the WHO African Region².
- Applicants should normally be under 35 years for the Master's Programme. Women are encouraged to apply.
- Be interested in developing a career in implementation research on infectious diseases of poverty
- Be proficient in English
- Meet the Programme's requirements: <http://www.wits.ac.za/publichealth/academic-programmes/postgraduate/master-of-science-in-epidemiology/>

SCHOLARSHIP PACKAGE

The scheme will provide full scholarships for nine (9) Masters in the 2020 academic year and covers the following:

- Return economy air fare
- Tuition fees
- Basic medical and accident insurance
- Monthly stipend to cover living expenses including accommodation.
- Support for the research project expenses

Further, recipients' careers will be tracked with the new TDR Global alumni and stakeholder platform that will monitor the impact of the programme, as well as provide opportunities for networking and increased visibility opportunities for the Fellows.

¹ World Bank list of low- and middle-income countries:

<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>

² WHO African Region countries: <http://www.afro.who.int/countries>

HOW TO APPLY

The application process is two-fold.

1. Application to the University of the Witwatersrand

Apply by completing a University of the Witwatersrand postgraduate application form online at: <http://www.wits.ac.za/postgraduate/applications/> Application fee is R200 for both international and local applications. Application deadline is 31 July 2019. **Applicants should also note to:**

- i) **apply for accommodation at:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/accommodation/applications/>
Accommodation application deadline is 30 October 2019.
- ii) **Apply to the South African Qualification Authority (SAQA at:** <http://www.saqa.org.za/index.php>) if with foreign certificates, to get their certificates evaluated. The SAQA certificate or evidence of application **MUST** be uploaded as part of the required application documents

For more information on applications, please go to:

www.wits.ac.za/askwits for general application queries **or**
Mrs. Gloria Bowe (Gloria.Bowes@wits.ac.za)

2. Application for the TDR scholarship

The application for the TDR scholarship should be made separately in writing and should include the following documents:

- a. A letter of motivation for applying for the scholarship
- b. A certified copy of the bio-data page of the passport
- c. Evidence of application to study Implementation Science as the field of study in the MSc Epidemiology Programme at the University of the Witwatersrand's School of Public Health commencing in January 2020.
- d. A comprehensive curriculum vitae including a description of relevant research and work experience
- e. Two confidential referee reports should be sent directly by the referees to Mrs. Gloria Bowes (Gloria.Bowes@wits.ac.za).

The application deadline for TDR scholarships is 31 July 2019.

Scholarship applications should be sent to: Mrs. Gloria Bowes at Gloria.Bowes@wits.ac.za