



Readvertisement of the call for application for PhD Student Research Assistant under UR-ARISE grant project

I. Background

The University of Rwanda (UR) College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS), in collaboration with University of Liege, Belgium, received funding from the Africa Academy of Science / ARISE, to establish a project entitled **“Genomic and environmental factors of neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs) in Rwandan children (GENNEURWA)”**.

II. Role and description

The project goals to identify the genomic and environmental factors underlying three types of NDDs: Rare Genomics Neurodevelopmental defect (RGNDD), autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and microcephaly. The study also aims to train African scientists at PhD level and Master’s level Genetic and Genomics of NDDs in Rwanda. This research project is aligned with the health goal (SDG 3) of 2030 Sustainable Development Goals: which is to 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Most of neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs) are considered as rare disease, therefore by fighting for the right to appropriate diagnosis and treatment of patients living with a rare disease.

III. Call for application

Under the project management by the University of Rwanda -Single Project Implementation Unit. (UR-SPIU) we call for applicants for one fully funded PhD Student Research assistantship in Medical Sciences (Human Genetics), therefore the students must be eligible to be enrolled for a PhD in Medical Science at University of Rwanda. The PhD programs will be by research following the policy of UR. Interested candidates can apply for a three-year PhD in this program starting November 2023.

IV. Funding

The program is funded by the Africa Academy of Science / ARISE Fellowship grant. For PhD students, the successful candidate will be funded for tuition fees, monthly living allowances, field allowances, research visit at the University of Liege and any other research expenses with UR standards. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

V. Application requirements

The applicant must:

- Be of Rwandan nationality
- Be eligible to be enrolled or already enrolled in a PhD in Medical Sciences at the University of Rwanda.
- To Hold a master’s degree from any health sciences domain or to be in last year of master’s and waiting to graduate with primary qualification degree in Medicine (MD, MBBS, MBChB, or equivalent).
- Be a self-starter with experience taking initiative and working both independently and as team.



- Have excellent verbal and written communications skills in English and Kinyarwanda

VI. Application file

The interested candidates should submit the following documents:

- An application letter addressed to the Director of the Center for Postgraduate Studies University of Rwanda.
- Admission letter in the PhD program for those already registered in PhD of Medical Sciences at UR.
- Motivation letter: should address commitment, statement of goals, objectives and reasons for the program.
- For PhD: A research proposal that is not more than 5,000 words on any of the 2 research topics related to the aim of the project described in *section 2*.
- Updated curriculum vitae
- Copy of National ID or Passport
- Notified copy of last degree obtained
- Transcripts of master's and / or bachelor's degree
- Recommendation letters from at least three individuals of which one should at least be from academia for PhD
- Any publication records.

VII. Selection methodology

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to the interview on dates that will be communicated through emails.

VIII. How to apply

Interested applicants are required to submit the following documents:

A copy of complete application file should be submitted by email to the UR-CPGS officer at ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw, Tel: 07929 88304 with a copy sent to the Principal Investigator, Ass. Professor Annette Uwineza (a.uwineza@ur.ac.rw copy annetteuwinez@gmail.com), Tel: 0788741577

Note: A candidate should submit only one application

Application should be submitted not later than 12th October 2023 at 23:59

Done at Kigali on 21/09/2023



Assoc. Prof. KAYIHURA Muganga Didas
Acting Vice Chancellor