



Call for application for a PhD Student Research Assistant under Sugira Muryango Longitudinal & Spillover Study Project

Background

The University of Rwanda (UR) Center for Mental Health (CMH) at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS), in collaboration with Boston College, USA, received funding from ELMA Philanthropies to conduct a study entitled “Sugira Muryango Longitudinal & Spillover Study”.

Role and description

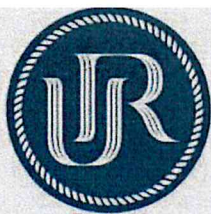
The study goal is to investigate the long-term effects of “Sugira Muryango”, a father-engaged, play-based home-visiting intervention for Rwandan families living in extreme poverty. The study also aims to train a Rwandan PhD student build their capacity to conduct longitudinal research related to child development and family mental health. This research project will contribute to knowledge about how early, family-focused interventions impact children in the long-term, providing a basis for future investment in early childhood development and family strengthening. This research project is aligned with the Government of Rwanda’s ECD Policy, which aims to advance children’s physical, cognitive, language, social, emotional and psychological development; and with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, “Good health and wellbeing”.

Call for applications

Under the project management of the University of Rwanda’s Single Project Implementation Unit (UR-SPIU) we call for applicants for a PhD Student Research Assistantship. The student will enrol for a PhD, or already enrolled, at the University of Rwanda in a PhD program in a related field, such as Public Health, Psychology, Social Work, Education, Applied Statistics, or similar. The research project should focus on child and family, e.g. child development and mental health, family functioning and mental health, implementation science. Female candidates and University of Rwanda staff are strongly encouraged to apply.

Funding

The research program is funded by Boston College Subaward 51114221-1 from ELMA Philanthropies. The PhD student Research Assistant will receive a stipend of US\$1,500 per month (gross) in addition to tuition fees coverage (refer to UR fees structure) and research facilitations (data collection fees and travels to attend conferences).



Application requirements

The applicant must:

- Be of Rwandan nationality
- Be eligible for a PhD program, or enrolled in PhD studies, at the University of Rwanda in Public Health, Psychology, Social Work, Education, Applied Statistics, or similar field.
- Have experience with quantitative and/or qualitative data analysis
- Have experience with data management
- Have excellent organizational skills and attention to detail
- Be a self-starter with experience taking initiative and working both independently and as team
- Have excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Kinyarwanda

In addition, the following qualifications are preferred (but not required):

- Training in psychometrics

Application file

Interested candidates should submit the following documents:

- An application letter addressed to the Principal Investigator (PI) for the position which addresses how your experiences and skills make you an excellent candidate for this position.
- A current CV which includes a description of current research interests
- Copy of National Identity and/or passport
- A certified copy of previous degrees (BSc and MSc)
- Proof of eligibility for a PhD program (e.g., academic degrees, PhD project under development, etc.), or proof of enrollment in a PhD program, at the University of Rwanda
- A research proposal that is not more than 5,000 words on the research topic related to the aim of the project described in *section 2*.
- Two recommendation letters from academic senior staffs identified as PhD supervisors (already engaged in the project development)

Selection methodology

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



How to apply

Submit a complete application file (see list of documents above in section VI) to the UR-CPGS officer at ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw, with a copy sent to the Principal Investigator, Prof. Vincent Sezibera (vsezibera@gmail.com) and the Program Manager, Jess Littman (jess.littman@bc.edu).

Note: A candidate should submit only one application

Application should be submitted not later than 21 November 2022.

Done at Kigali 26 October 2022


for Prof. Nosa O. EGIEBOR
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research

