



Cancer Research Training Program in Tanzania

Advertisement for Clinician Researchers

The Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) - Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) -University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Cancer Collaboration aims to reduce the cancer burden in Tanzania through research, education, and capacity building. The MUHAS-ORCI-UCSF Cancer Collaboration is leading the Cancer Research Training Program in Tanzania, with funding from the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). The goal of this program is to train and mentor a cadre of motivated and passionate investigators in Tanzania who are capable of conceptualizing, achieving funding for, implementing, analyzing and publishing original research focused on cancer.

The program is seeking motivated clinicians with a passion in cancer research who aspire to become independent researchers. Selected scholars in this training program will benefit from;

- Instruction in research methodology that is individualized to the learner and pertinent to cancer control continuum through the [Designing Clinical Research course \(EPI 202\)](#) and individualized mentorship and biostatistics support
- Development of a research project with a cancer focus based upon a priority need in East Africa;
- Provision of strong, interdisciplinary and longitudinal mentorship from MUHAS, ORCI and UCSF institutions; and
- Guidance in career development to support short and long-term career goals and to promote a transition to independence.

As part of the training, scholars will participate in a two-month course at UCSF, focusing on *Designing Clinical Research (EPI 202)*. Selected scholars will be enrolled for the course and will spend the two months completing rigorous methodologic coursework at UCSF. During the course, scholars will attend lectures on the following topics: epidemiology, development of a research question, measurement, study design, sample size, clinical trials, causality, and statistics. Training attendees will also participate in small group discussions for review of the lecture topics and course readings and for discussion and feedback regarding individual protocol development. All scholars will be expected to complete training in the responsible conduct of research, will be intimately involved in the design and analysis of their research project, and will be exposed to primary data collection.

Additionally, scholars will be paired with UCSF and Tanzanian mentors based upon specialty and overlapping interests. Mentors and mentees will participate in weekly mentoring meetings to review the protocols that are being developed as part of the Designing Clinical Research course. The intention will be to foster longitudinal mentoring relationships for these scholars as they implement their research protocols over a two-year period.

The successful applicants will receive funding for; course fees, travel to and from UCSF (****pending USA visa approval**), accommodation and stipends for personal upkeep.

Eligibility:

- Clinical degree (*MD, DDS, MMed, Nursing, MDent or equivalent*)
- Aptitude and intent to become a future leader in cancer research
- A commitment to dedicate time and efforts in attending all coursework, seminars and mentor meetings
- Demonstrated fluency in both spoken and written English language
- Computer competency including proficiency in Microsoft word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Familiarity with data storage and analysis systems such as SPSS or/and STATA is an asset



Selection Criteria:

- Strength of proposed research protocol and methodology that aligns with the objectives of the Designing Clinical Research Course
Course Information: <https://epibiostatlearning.ucsf.edu/designing-clinical-research-epi-202>
- Commitment to practice research long-term
- Experience in a cancer-related field or research is preferred, but not required
- Strength of experience with clinical practice, leadership, community service, and training
- References from home institution faculty

Application Requirements: All interested scholars should submit the following information to globalcancer@ucsf.edu and cc'd to tz.ucsfccancercollab@gmail.com by **December 1, 2026**.

1. **Application cover letter.** This letter should include your name, position, institution, email, telephone number, and a short statement summarizing your intent to apply to the mentorship program. Applicants should summarize research interests in this letter.
2. **Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV) or NIH-format Biosketch** (see attached template)
3. **Two letters of recommendation.** These letters should include telephone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses of the referees. One letter must be from your institutional leadership acknowledging approval for your participation in this program, including time away from clinical duties. The second recommendation preferably from an academic or cancer related field
4. **Personal statement.** This statement should outline how this program aligns with your training and career thus far and how it will advance your **long-term career goals**. Please be sure to explain your long-term career goals in this statement. (1-page maximum).
5. **Research concept note.** During this program, each scholar will develop a research protocol. Please describe a proposed topic of research you would explore during this program, including basic concept of your proposed research methodology. This concept note is not binding, as you may change interests during your scholarship period but should outline your research interests. *Only cancer-related research will be considered for this program.* This concept note should also include any specific research related skills or experiences you hope to gain from the programme including from UCSF courses and/or faculty exposure (2 pages maximum).

Selection Process:

All applications must be submitted by **December 1, 2026**. Final candidates will be selected based on their application, recommendation letters and strength of proposed cancer research; Final candidates will be invited for online interviews in **January 2027**. Selected candidates will be announced by **January 31, 2027**.

To apply: Send application via email to: globalcancer@ucsf.edu and cc'd to tz.ucsfccancercollab@gmail.com

Include: Application cover letter, CV/NIH Biosketch, two letters of recommendation, 1-page personal statement, and a 2-page research concept note. **Please combine all materials into one PDF document; application will be disqualified if this format is not followed.**

Application Deadline: December 1, 2026

***Effective January 1, 2026, the USA has suspended issue of B-1, B-2, B-1/B-2, F, M, and J Visas to immigrants and non-immigrants from Tanzania. UCSF is following the situation closely with the International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO). The program will work closely with selected applicants to provide guidance, documentation, and coordination with ISSO to support visa applications; however, visa issuance or entry into the United States is not guaranteed. Alternatively, selected applicants will complete the program remotely.*