

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences



Call for applications for a funded PhD fellowship in Health and Migration at MUHAS

Background

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and the University of Oslo (UiO) in Norway have received funding from the Research Council of Norway's Global Health Program to implement the "Health and Migration (HEMI)" project. HEMI investigates the intersections of health, migration, and vulnerability among men in African contexts. The project examines migration journeys, health and well-being, social vulnerability and resilience, and access to healthcare and support services.

Working with an international, multidisciplinary team of researchers and civil society partners, the project examines why people migrate, the challenges and opportunities they encounter, and how migration affects their health and access to support.

About the Position

HEMI invites applications for a PhD fellowship at MUHAS. The doctoral research will examine how social positions shape men's experiences with health and access to healthcare in the context of migration between Tanzania and South Africa. The study will focus on a small number of groups, including men in relatively mainstream social positions and those who may experience social marginalization related to sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, mental health, or other circumstances.

The research will use qualitative, participatory methods, including in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and participant observation. Fieldwork will involve migrant communities, healthcare providers, public service workers, and civil society organizations.

The successful candidate will develop a doctoral research project within the HEMI framework, collaborating with supervisors and project partners to refine the research questions, theoretical perspectives, and methods.

The candidate will join three other PhD candidates conducting related research in Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Norway. Together, the fellows will participate in joint supervision meetings, project workshops, and international research collaborations.

The three-year fellowship covers tuition, a monthly stipend, and a contribution toward research costs. The candidate is expected to complete all research, including fieldwork and thesis submission, within the funding period.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will:

- Develop a doctoral research project aligned with HEMI's objectives, covering research design, methodology, and ethical approvals.
- Conduct qualitative fieldwork and collect data in Tanzania and South Africa.
- Analyze research data and contribute to the project's theoretical and methodological development.
- Contribute to joint publications and other project outputs.
- Present findings at academic conferences, seminars, and relevant stakeholder and policy meetings.
- Participate in project workshops, supervision meetings, and collaborative activities with international partners.
- Adhere to approved research ethics procedures and protect participants' privacy and confidentiality

Qualification

The applicant must:

- Hold a master's degree in sociology, social anthropology, medical anthropology, gender studies, demography, behavioral sciences, public health, health sciences, or a related field.
- Meet other criteria for acceptance into the Ph.D. Program at MUHAS.
- Have excellent written and spoken English.
- Demonstrate strong academic writing and research skills.
- Work independently, manage research activities effectively, and contribute to high-quality academic work.
- Communicate complex information clearly to different audiences

Desirable qualification

The following will be considered an advantage:

- Experience in migration-related research or programming.
- Experience conducting research or working with people who experience social marginalization related to sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, mental health, or other circumstances
- Knowledge of healthcare systems and social contexts in Tanzania and/or South Africa.
- Familiarity with qualitative research methods.
- Experience in interdisciplinary research, cross-cultural work, or international research collaboration.
- Female applicants and those who are academic employees of MUHAS shall be given priority

Personal qualities

We are seeking a motivated, curious, and well-organized candidate committed to impactful research who works effectively both independently and collaboratively, communicates openly about research progress and challenges, and contributes positively to a supportive research environment.

Application Requirements

Applicants must include the following documents:

1. Curriculum vitae (CV): Maximum two pages.
2. University transcripts: Full transcripts showing courses taken and individual grades, including master's dissertation grades where applicable.
3. Three academic references: From academic staff familiar with the applicant's work, including the master's supervisor, if possible.
4. Writing sample: 4,000–10,000 words, such as a coursework essay, a dissertation chapter, or a research article.
5. Personal statement: Maximum three pages, addressing:
 - Why you are interested in this PhD position.
 - Your relevant academic and professional experience.
 - How you would approach the research, including questions or issues you would like to explore.
 - Relevant literature you would like to engage with and contribute to.
 - Your longer-term career plans and how the fellowship and any desired training would support them.
6. Statement on artificial intelligence (AI) use: Indicate whether AI tools were used to prepare your application. If so, identify the tools and explain how and for what purposes they were used

Application process and deadline

Submit applications with the required documents to emetta2000@gmail.com by close of business on **25th November 2026**. For further inquiries about the project and the positions, please contact emetta2000@gmail.com.