

Dullah Omar Institute

Two Post-doctoral Research Fellowships Call

(1) Children’s rights in an African context (2) Criminal justice and human rights

Overview

The Dullah Omar Institute for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights (DOI) at the Faculty of Law, University of the Western Cape (UWC), is pleased to announce two one-year full-time post-doctoral fellowships (PDRFs) for 2024-2025. One post-doctoral fellow will be based in the Children’s Rights Project (CRP) while the other will be based in the Africa Criminal Justice Reform Project (ACJR).

The **Children’s Rights Project (CRP)**, undertakes research, advocacy, and technical support activities related to the formulation and implementation of law and policy in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (African Children’s Charter).

Africa Criminal Justice Reform (ACJR) engages in high quality legal and empirical research, advocacy and empowerment which supports rights-based criminal justice reform in Africa. The work supports targeted evidence-based advocacy and policy development promoting good governance and human rights in criminal justice systems. The work is anchored in international, regional and domestic law. We promote policy, law and practice reform based on evidence. There is a particular focus on effective oversight over the criminal justice system, especially in relation to the deprivation of liberty.

The PDRFs will be awarded on a competitive basis, considering the candidate's academic achievements, potential as an independent researcher and the extent to which they meet the requirements of the call. Successful candidates will be expected to contribute to research and impact in multidisciplinary research towards either (1) **Children’s rights in an African context**, or (2) **Criminal justice and human rights**. The duration of the fellowship is twelve months.

Eligibility criteria and conditions

1. In order to qualify for a post-doctoral fellowship, the following criteria will be considered during the selection process:
 - Candidates must be physically available for full-time research at UWC;
 - The doctorate (PhD or LL.D) should have been obtained within the last five years, and appropriate to the discipline in either of the two research areas. Should the doctoral degree certificate not be available yet, a formal letter from the university confirming completion of the doctoral degree will be required.
2. Fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis, taking the applicant’s academic achievements and research profile into account. Publications weigh heavily in the assessment of applications. Applicants are encouraged to ensure that a full list of their publications are included in their CV.
3. The Fellowship period cannot be used for any other research than the research plan agreed with a supervisor.
4. The candidate must be based at the DOI, at UWC.

5. As the Fellowship is principally to enable the PDRFs to focus on the agreed upon research plan, the fellowship holder may not hold full-time salaried employment concurrently with a tenure of fellowship, but may undertake a maximum of twelve hours of co-supervision, teaching or assistance to postgraduate students per week on average during the year of fellowship at UWC.
6. The successful PDRF will enter into a performance agreement with the Director of the Institute, in respect of a research activity and output plan.
7. The PDRF will have access to all necessary resources to complete the planned research.
8. The DOI will provide working space to the PDRF.
9. Citizenship is not restricted.
10. There is no age limit.
11. The value of the funding support will be R 240 000 (Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Rands) over 12 months.

Fellowship requirements and terms:

1. The Fellowships foster existing research and scholarly or creative activities within the DOI. A Fellow's work should closely complement existing programmes in the Institute.
2. Successful candidates must demonstrate excellence as evidenced by the publication output or other recognized forms of achievement relevant to the Fellow's discipline. The Fellowship will be awarded strictly on merit.
3. The University expects all publications, creative works, and other academic products of the Fellowship to bear appropriate acknowledgment with full affiliation to UWC.
4. The University reserves the right to co-ownership of inventions and patents directly emanating from research conducted under the sponsorship of the Fellowship.

Application submission deadline: Mon, 5 August 2024

Envisaged commencement of fellowship is 1 September 2024.

For follow-up queries, please contact: dlgordon@uwc.ac.za

Please compile your Supporting Documents in the order below, and submit as ONE pdf file to dlgordon@uwc.ac.za indicating in the subject heading "Post-doctoral Fellowship"

1. A motivation letter.
2. Curriculum Vitae (clearly indicating your study field, qualifications, employment history, awards and achievements and names and contact details of three references).
3. List of research publications produced in chronological order.
4. Certified copy of a SA passport/ID. Non-SA applications: A passport with valid South African permit.
5. PhD certificate; or Confirmation letter of graduation date from the Registrar's office of the registering university.
6. Postgraduate exam transcripts. International PDRFs must do the necessary translations and obtain (where relevant) SAQA accreditation before submitting.
7. A maximum two-page proposal outlining the plan for the fellowship and its alignment to (1) children's rights in an African context or (2) criminal justice and human rights.