



In Search of Better Health

KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Research Officer (Biosciences) KEMRI - Wellcome Research Programme Kilifi

The Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) is a state corporation established through the Science and Technology (Amendment) Act of 1979, as the national body responsible for carrying out health research in Kenya. KEMRI's vision is "to be a leading centre of excellence in research for human health," and its mission is "to improve human health and quality of life through research, capacity building, innovation, and service delivery."

The KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme (KWWRP) is a partnership between KEMRI, Wellcome, and the University of Oxford. The Programme established in 1989, has evolved from conducting research in the immunology and epidemiology of malaria to a world class research institute conducting multi-disciplinary research that spans molecular biology to health systems and policy research. The Program works across 3 main hubs in Kenya (Nairobi and Kilifi) based at the KEMRI Centre for Geographical Medicine Research- Coast Kilifi and Uganda (Mbale) with an international network of collaborating sites.

The KEMRI-Wellcome Research Programme (KWWRP) seeks to invite applications from experienced person to fill the following position.

Reference Number: KWTRP26/ARO-BIOS/001

Job Title: Assistant Research Officer (Biosciences)

Thematic Areas: Genomics, Bioinformatics,

Location: Kilifi

Duration: One (1) Year, renewable subject to availability of funds and performance

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

Reports to: Principal Investigator (PI)

Direct and indirect reportees: None

BUDGET AND RESOURCE RESPONSIBILITY:

Financial: None

Budgeting and Planning: None

JOB PURPOSE:

The Assistant Research Officer will be expected to participate in Genomics and Bioinformatics Research activities by providing the necessary support and conducting assay development and optimisation, data analysis, building collaborations, disseminations and capacity building initiatives

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- i. Receiving, processing, compilation, verification and storage of study data or samples and ensure all processes adhere with Good Clinical Laboratory Practice (GCLP) and the study protocols.
- ii. Conduct basic phylogenetic analyses, data analysis and interpretation of study data or samples to identify insights and support in synthesizing the same through statistical summaries and other data visualization techniques.
- iii. Contribute to report writing, dissemination and publishing of study research work by authoring in various reputable scientific journals, and supporting dissemination at various internal and external meetings, conferences, workshops and other relevant Scientific forums
- iv. Conduct training and Mentorships to other Researchers by participating in designing and implementing mentorship plans, developing user-friendly learning aids and reference materials as well as delivering virtual or physical training sessions to the assigned researchers, students and interns.
- v. Participate in building and maintaining relationships, networks and collaborations with the other Departments, research groups and other stakeholders and assist in the Study Project Management to ensure quality of outputs and timely completion of the Project.
- vi. Run laboratory assays (DNA/RNA extraction, qPCR, and sequencing) as per the developed SOPs and protocols.
- vii. Contribute to the Study full compliance with all relevant internal ethical and Research Governance protocols, policies and procedures as well as all external legal, ethical and regulatory requirements by proper documentation and adherence at all Research Phases.
- viii. Provide inputs and necessary technical support to the Principal Investigator and other Programme Researchers in identifying sustainable funding opportunities and developing proposals to secure Research Grants and funding..

QUALIFICATIONS:

The successful applicant will have:

- i. Minimum Bachelor's Degree in any of the following disciplines: Biological Sciences, Bioinformatics or any other relevant field from a recognized university
- ii. Minimum One (1) Year experience in Research from a reputable Research institution
- iii. Experience in the use of current technology specifically the use of automated statistical tools

BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES:

- i. Demonstrated high levels of integrity and confidentiality
- ii. Excellent interpersonal, verbal and written communication skills
- iii. Ability to work with diverse, multidisciplinary teams and build strong relationships with internal and external collaborators
- iv. Excellent analytical skills and ability to deliver quality outputs within strict timelines.
- v. Flexibility, adaptability, multi-tasking and attention to detail

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:

The postholder will be expected to work flexibly, including occasionally outside normal working hours when required.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

All applications for roles in KEMRI and its partners (including KWRP) are centrally applied for using https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment_portal. To apply for this post, you must register as a user. Log into your account, then proceed to the vacancies, view the post and click on the button: "Apply Now"

Applications which should include your CV, Cover letter, copies of certified academic certificates, testimonials and other relevant documents should be made through KEMRI Website

Successful candidates will be required to provide the following: Certificate of good conduct,

Higher Education Loans Board compliance certificate, KRA Tax compliance certificate, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission clearance.

Applicants are required to state their current/last salary.

Applicants are required to provide a valid email address and telephone number for communication regarding interview invitations. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. During the interview, shortlisted candidates must present the ORIGINALS of the following documents: National Identity Card or Passport, academic and professional certificates, academic transcripts, testimonials, a detailed curriculum vitae (CV), and a valid clearance certificate (Certificate of Good Conduct or its equivalent).

All the applications to be done through KEMRI Website https://www.kemri.go.ke/e-recruitment_portal on or before 27th May ,2026 by 12.00 p.m.

KEMRI IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY; PERSONS WHO ARE ABLED DIFFERENTLY, WOMEN, YOUTH AND THOSE FROM MARGINALIZED AREAS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY. DIRECT OR INDIRECT CANVASSING WILL LEAD TO AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION. KEMRI DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE AT ANY STAGE OF ITS RECRUITMENT PROCESS INCLUDING APPLICATION, INTERVIEW AND PROCESSING OF OFFER LETTER. IF ASKED FOR A FEE, REPORT SUCH REQUEST IMMEDIATELY.