



University of Venda
Creating Future Leaders

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH POSITIONS AT DSTI /NRF SOUTH AFRICAN CHAIR ON COMMUNITY ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

The DSTI/NRF South African Research Chair on Community Antimicrobial Resistance seeks to understand the socio-economic, biologic, environmental, and hydro-meteorologic variables impacting the development of antimicrobial resistance at the community level. Housed in the Institute for Pathogen and Global Health Research at the University of Venda, the Chair is inviting applications for the following research opportunities:

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (X2)

Applicants should have an interest in any of the following areas: surveillance and epidemiology; data science modelling and artificial intelligence; climate change and antimicrobial resistance; policy governance and economics of antimicrobial resistance; social, behavioural, and ethnographic determinants of antimicrobial resistance.

ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must possess a relevant PhD or doctorate in the chosen field, obtained within five years at the date of the application. The five-year requirement could be waived for women and the physically challenged on a case-by-case basis.
- Applicants should possess a strong theoretical understanding and technical ability in the chosen area of research, with tangible evidence, in the form of peer reviewed research outputs.
- The fellowship is open to South African citizens and permanent residents.

DURATION, EXPECTATIONS, AND VALUE OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The fellowship would be renewed annually, on satisfactory performance and availability of funds, for a total of three years. Successful applicants would be expected to develop and agree with the Chair on a workplan and tangible deliverables, and to take up the fellowship by February 2026. The stipend for the fellowship is R320 000.00 per annum (tax-free), plus R50,000 for related research expenditures.

Application process

Applicants should email the following documentation in a single PDF file to

pascal.bessong@univen.ac.za by 05 February 2026.

- A cover letter stating the reason for seeking a postdoctoral fellowship in antimicrobial resistance.
- Comprehensive curriculum vitae, highlighting the relevant research experience, research outputs and outcomes.
- Certified copies of academic transcripts and qualifications. Foreign obtained qualifications should be accompanied by evaluation certificates of the South African Qualifications Authority.
- Certified copy of identify document.
- Letters from two academic referees on the suitability of the applicant for postdoctoral training.