



RESEARCH ETHICS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

SARETI UKZN DOCTORAL NIH/FIC GRANT

The South African Research Ethics Training Initiative (SARETI) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal has been awarded competitive funding from the Fogarty International Center (FIC) of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), to offer **doctoral training in research ethics** through the SARETI Leadership Programme, beginning 2021. The main goal is to train high-level African research ethicists who will produce local and internationally relevant scholarship and leadership in research ethics in Africa.

The SARETI doctoral programme will offer comprehensive advanced multi-disciplinary doctoral level training in research ethics to a cohort of 6 or 7 candidates from research-intensive institutions in Africa. Candidates must hold at least a Masters degree in research ethics or bioethics. In exceptional cases candidates with a general Master's degree who have substantial peer-reviewed publications in research ethics will be considered. This programme will train African candidates who have interests compatible with one or more of the following three themes that will provide a thematic focus to the programme:

- Improving health research systems in Africa through research ethics leadership
- Improving effectiveness and efficiency of ethics review systems through research ethics leadership
- Maximising social value of research in Africa through research ethics leadership

The SARETI doctoral programme will enrol a single 4-year cohort of 6 or 7 candidates beginning in 2021 with a mix of online and face-to-face training modalities. Successful candidates will be fully funded by SARETI (tuition, travel, accommodation, living expenses whilst based in South Africa attending on-site modalities, research expenses, etc). Note that selection and programme details are all subject to national and international COVID-19 travel and contact teaching regulations and guidelines that may be imposed and retracted from time-to time. Self-funded or externally-sponsored candidates will also be considered and are strongly encouraged to take advantage of and benefit from this key opportunity to contribute to a critical mass of research ethics leadership in Africa.

A call for applications and a standard application form have been placed on the SARETI website (<http://sareti.ukzn.ac.za>). A competitive selection process will follow to select a cohort of 6 or 7 sponsored candidates who will commence their studies in 2021. Candidates **MUST** satisfy the **minimum criteria**. The listed **recommended criteria** below will favour selection. Self-funded candidates must follow the same process and timelines, but indicate in a cover letter that they will not require sponsorship. The selection criteria are as follows:

MINIMUM CRITERIA

Must be fluent in English (if Francophone or Lusophone, IELTS certification will be required for those whose native language is not English)	Must come from a research-active African environment
Masters degree in research ethics or bioethics*	Must produce a sound and referenced 4-page draft doctoral research proposal outline and abstract aligned with one of the three thematic areas outlined above
Must be resident in Africa or about to return home after completing studies abroad	Must supply certificates of completion of two substantive online research ethics introductory modules (e.g., TRREE online modules, NIH https://ethics.od.nih.gov/training.htm).
Must produce documented institutional support for continued employment in a research ethics role during and following the period of study	Must supply certificate of completion of the NIH Human Research Protection online module on the OHRP website (see, www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/online-education/human-research-protection-training/index.html). Access is free and completion certificate must be saved upon completing each of the 4 lessons.
Must show promise and/or leadership in their career to date as indicated by evidence of publications, career progression, leadership, letters of support	Must be eligible for admission to a doctoral level of study in South Africa as certified by SAQA and must satisfy the University's general rules for admission to doctoral studies. Applicants must send credentials to SAQA for evaluation at: Postnet Suite 248, Private Bag X06, WATERKLOOF, 0145, South Africa Tel: +27 12 4315000; email: http://www.saqa.org.za

RECOMMENDED CRITERIA

Prior published work in bioethics/research ethics	A track record of research and publications in research ethics in the past 5 years
Leadership position on an REC/IRB or National or Institutional Research Office	Seniority in a national, international or academic institution engaged in health research in Africa
Responsible for research ethics/bioethics teaching in a professional programme	Suitably qualified applicants from NIAID , NIMH , NHGRI , NICHD and/or NIBIB or other NIH-funded African research programmes or sites will be advantaged
Career and academic maturity	

**Candidates not having a Masters degree in research ethics or bioethics may be considered if they hold another Masters or Doctoral degree and have an exceptionally strong track record of ethics scholarship and publication, and/or record of successful bioethics grants and awards.*

The selection committee reserves the right to make a final decision about suitable candidates, taking the above criteria into account. The SARETI Research Ethics Leadership Programme is made possible through NIH/FIC grant number **D43 TW011240 to the University of KwaZulu-Natal**.

Applicants must complete the application form with specified attachments available at <http://sareti.ukzn.ac.za>.

Complete applications must be received by 30 July 2021

and incomplete applications will be rejected.

Queries and expressions of interest may be directed to the SARETI Programme Manager **Ms Carla Pettit** at pettitc@ukzn.ac.za

