



## ***Faculty of Education***

### **School of Education Studies**

#### **POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDIES (SES)**

**Position: One (1) Postdoc Fellowship**

#### **Job description**

A full-time postdoctoral position is available in Early Years Education Research in the School of Education Studies, Faculty of Education at the University of the Free State (UFS), Bloemfontein, South Africa. This position will fall under the auspices of the Early Years research niche led by Prof Chinedu Okeke.

#### **Desired skills and experience**

Candidates with a PhD in Education, preferably those with expertise in educational research, measurement, and evaluation or related fields, are encouraged to apply. Candidates with proven research expertise in the design, collection, and analysis of quantitative data and mixed-research data will have an added advantage. Candidates with expertise in the application of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) are preferred. The successful candidate will be required to conduct innovative research and obtain evidence-based empirical data on the educational development of children from zero up to 10 years.

This fellowship is open to all South African citizens and foreign nationals who have graduated with a PhD degree in a relevant discipline within the past five years. Applicants must be willing to relocate to the UFS for the duration of the fellowship. The successful candidate may not take up employment in any other institution for the duration of the fellowship.

#### **Major tasks**

- a) Register and reside as postdoctoral research fellow at the UFS and participate in relevant activities of the School of Postgraduate Studies and the Directorate of Research Development;
- b) Conduct innovative research and obtain evidence-based empirical data on the educational development of children from zero up to 10 years;

- c) In conjunction with the host as well as other members of the host school, co-author at least three (3) or more publication outputs per year in the form of DHET–accredited scholarly journal articles or chapters in accredited/credible commissioned books;
- d) Assist in the postgraduate supervision of BEdHons, master’s, and PhD students;
- e) Facilitate school-level workshops in quantitative analysis skills as well as the application of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), aimed at capacitating colleagues in the SES.

### **About the employer**

The UFS ([www.ufs.ac.za](http://www.ufs.ac.za)) is one of the oldest universities in South Africa, with more than 28 000 students on its main campus in Bloemfontein. It encourages student exchange with universities worldwide and has an Office for International Affairs (<http://supportservices.ufs.ac.za/content.aspx?DCODE=460>) that assists foreign students. Bloemfontein is a medium-sized South African city (population 650 000) centrally located in the centre of South Africa, with easy access to different parts of South Africa and Southern Africa. The city offers a safe and vibrant student community surrounded by a wide range of attractions, including nature reserves, parks and wildlife sanctuaries, and has a planetarium and observatory for stargazing.

### **Method of Application**

To apply, please email the following documentation by 16:00 on Friday 29 November 2019 to Prof CIO Okeke: [Okekeco@ufs.ac.za](mailto:Okekeco@ufs.ac.za)

- a) Motivation letter of not more than two (2) pages, outlining your relevant expertise and experience;
- b) Full CV including a list of research publications, conference papers, and other scholarly output within the last five (5) years;
- c) Certified copies of the candidate’s bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree certificates;
- d) Certified copy of identity document (or certified copy of valid international passport in the case of foreign applicants); and
- e) Contact details of two academic referees who have taught and/or supervised the candidate at postgraduate level.

### **Assumption of fellowship**

Negotiable; however, the successful candidate will take up the fellowship on or before 1 March 2020.

### **For further enquiries, please contact:**

Prof CIO Okeke: [Okekeco@ufs.ac.za](mailto:Okekeco@ufs.ac.za)

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