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Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office

HE²RO

Wits Health Consortium
University of the Witwatersrand

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HE²RO QuantCorps: Research Fellowships in Epidemiology and Health Economics

What is HE²RO?

The **Health Economics and Epidemiology Research Office (HE²RO)**, a division of the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, is an internationally recognised health research group with a focus on HIV and tuberculosis. HE²RO seeks to build the evidence base to improve health policies and programmes in South Africa and the region. We collaborate on policy relevant research with Boston University in the U.S., HIV research organizations in South Africa, and other international organizations. For additional information visit our website at www.heroza.org or that of the Boston University Center for Global Health and Development at www.bu.edu/cghd.

What is the HE²RO QuantCorps Fellowship?

The HE²RO QuantCorps Fellowship offers **Boston University master's graduates** and **South African honours and master's graduates** an opportunity to participate in valuable research studies and projects, under the supervision of HE²RO's senior staff and faculty from Boston University and the University of the Witwatersrand. It seeks to train South African and international public health graduates in the skills of applied research in epidemiology, health economics, data analysis, and health policy analysis and creates an opportunity for young researchers to gain experience and become eligible for professional positions at HE²RO. HE²RO expects to appoint approximately eight QuantCorps Fellows in 2014.

What do QuantCorps Fellows do?

QuantCorps Fellows assist with all aspects of developing and implementing research projects. Depending on the Fellow's level and experience, tasks may range from basic data collection and data entry to study design, data management, data analysis, and report writing. Fellows are also expected to participate in meetings, seminars, and trainings, provide mentoring to junior staff and newer Fellows, and assist with general tasks at HE²RO.

- Requirements:** Boston University applicants must have a minimum of a master's degree and South African applicants a minimum of an honours (four-year) degree in public health, economics, statistics, public policy, or a related field. Quantitative skills in epidemiology, biostatistics, and/or health economics are required, and previous research experience and experience working with primary data are desirable. Strong communication skills and the ability to collaborate with a range of different people and across disciplines are also important.
- Term of service:** Fellows are appointed for 12-month terms. Renewal for a second year is possible at the discretion of HE²RO and the fellow. Fellowships will begin in January and July of 2014.
- Location:** HE²RO offices in Johannesburg, South Africa. Some travel to study sites and/or other parts of South Africa may be required. Non-South African Fellows must obtain a local work permit prior to starting.
- Compensation:** Fellows receive a monthly stipend which is expected to be sufficient to pay for shared housing, board, and transport to work. The stipend for 2014 is expected to be approximately R15,000 - R20,000/month (roughly \$1,500 - \$2,000) depending on education level and experience. Fellows must pay for their own health insurance/medical aid (required) and arrange their own travel. Fellows relocating to Johannesburg from Boston or other parts of South Africa will receive a one-time travel allowance to help defray basic travel costs.
- To apply:** To apply for a QuantCorps Fellowship, please send your CV, a cover letter, and names and contact details for three references to fellows@heroza.org. Please be sure that your cover letter summarizes your skills and experience and indicates whether you would like to start in January or July. Short-listed candidates will be interviewed in person. Candidates who are not contacted for an interview within one month of the application deadline should assume that their applications were not successful. **Application deadlines:** September 23, 2013 for January 2014 start; March 1, 2014 for July 2014 start.