CAPRISA RESEARCH PLACEMENT PROGRAMME (CRPP)

STUDENT GUIDELINES

BACKGROUND
The Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) is a NIH funded multi-institutional programme with well-established expertise in the areas of basic and molecular epidemiology, virology, immunology, infectious disease medicine, HIV primary care and service delivery, bioinformatics, social and behavioural science, statistics, ethics and health policy. The major partner institutions include the University of KwaZulu-Natal, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, University of the Western Cape, University of Cape Town and Columbia University in New York.

The goals of CAPRISA are:
1. To undertake globally relevant and locally responsive research that contributes to understanding HIV pathogenesis, prevention and treatment.
2. To build local research infrastructure through cores of expertise.
3. To provide training through research fellowships tenable both in South Africa and the USA.

The CAPRISA Training Programme has established a Research Placement Programme for medical students. The objectives of this programme are:
- To invest in the next generation of scientists.
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop skills and expertise in a research environment
- To motivate students to become involved in HIV/AIDS and TB research.

ELIGIBILITY
Medical students, registered with the University of KwaZulu-Natal and with a strong interest in research, are eligible for a research placement within CAPRISA.

CONDITIONS OF RESEARCH PLACEMENTS
- Only applications made on the CRPP Application form are considered;
- The Research Placement student must be a full time registered UKZN medical student.
- Placement will depend on the availability of funds, capacity of mentors and project needs.
- Students may request to work on a specific project.
- Research Placement students will be required to participate in CAPRISA research activities and training.
- Mentors are responsible for prescribing tasks and time frames for those tasks, training programmes, and in consultation with research placement students, establish desired outcomes of the programme.
- Mentors are responsible for supervision of Research Placement students.
- Hours will be negotiated between the individual student and mentor.
- Claims for hours worked are processed via the CAPRISA payroll system (eTorque). Claim forms are available from the HR Officer. Stipend rates are set annually and are the same as those for the UKZN.
- Mentors are responsible for signing the Research Placement students’ timesheets.
- At the end of each year, Research Placement students will submit a written report about their time at CAPRISA to the mentor as well as the Training Coordinator.
- Ownership of all records, data, datasets, reports, files, papers, correspondence, magazines, booklets, books, pamphlets prepared by or on behalf of CAPRISA remains the property of CAPRISA.

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