

Dullah Omar Institute

One Post-doctoral Research Fellowships Call

Children's rights in an African context

Overview

The Dullah Omar Institute for Constitutional Law, Governance and Human Rights at the Faculty of Law (DOI), University of Western Cape (UWC), is pleased to announce a one-year full-time post-doctoral fellowship (PDRF) for 2026. The post-doctoral fellow will be based in the Children's Rights Project (CRP).

The **Children's Rights Project** (CRP), undertakes research, advocacy, and technical support activities related to the formulation and implementation of law and policy in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (African Children's Charter). Successful candidates will be expected to contribute to research and impact in multidisciplinary research towards what is broadly described as "**children's rights in an African context**". The duration of the fellowship is twelve months.

Eligibility criteria and conditions

1. In order to qualify for a post-doctoral fellowship, the fellow must be physically available for full-time research at UWC;
2. The doctorate (PhD or LLD) should have been obtained within the last five years, and directly relevant to children's rights. Should the doctoral degree certificate not be available yet, a formal letter from the university confirming completion of the degree will be required.
3. Fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis, taking the applicant's academic achievements and research profile into account. Publications weigh heavily in the assessment of applications.
4. The Fellowship period cannot be used for any other research than the research plan agreed with a supervisor.
5. As the Fellowship is principally to enable the PDRF to focus on the agreed-upon research plan, the fellowship holder may not hold full-time salaried employment concurrently with a tenure of fellowship, but may undertake a maximum of twelve hours of co-supervision, teaching or assistance to postgraduate students per week on average during the year of fellowship at UWC.
6. The successful PDRF will enter into a performance agreement with the Director of the Institute, in respect of a research activity and output plan.
7. The PDRF will have access to all necessary resources to complete the planned research. The DOI will also provide working space to the PDRF.
8. While citizenship is not restricted, South African applicants are strongly encouraged to apply. Non-South Africans must be in possession of a valid study visa or have a realistic prospect of obtaining such a study visa within the required time frame to assume duties on 15 March 2026 at the University of the Western Cape Bellville campus in person.
9. There is no age limit.
10. The value of the funding support will be R 240 000 (Two Hundred and Forty Thousand Rands) over 12 months.



UNIVERSITY of the
WESTERN CAPE



Application submission deadline: Friday 27 February 2026, 23:59 SAST

The envisaged commencement of the fellowship is 15 March 2026.

For follow-up queries, please contact: dlgordon@uwc.ac.za

Please compile your Supporting Documents in the order below, and submit as ONE pdf file to dlgordon@uwc.ac.za, indicating in the subject heading “Post-doctoral Fellowship”

1. A motivation letter.
2. Curriculum Vitae (clearly indicating your study field, qualifications, employment history, list of (any) publications, awards and achievements and names and contact details of three references).
3. Certified copy of a SA passport/ID. Non-SA applications: A passport with a valid South African permit.
4. PhD certificate; or Confirmation letter of graduation date from the Registrar's office of the registering university.
5. Postgraduate exam transcripts.
6. A maximum two-page proposal outlining the plan for the fellowship and its alignment to children's rights in an African context