



Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Programme 13-Month Malaria Research Fellowships

Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Programme (MLW) is committed to promoting research and training led by Malawian & international scientists. The aim is to *improve* the health of people in Malawi and elsewhere in the region. MLW has a unique translational research portfolio that links an excellent laboratory research base to strong hospital and community-based research and high-level policy formulation.

MLW has funding to support the leadership and technical development of scientists, researchers, and implementers working in malaria research and specifically focuses on the ultimate goal of malaria eradication in Malawi, an endemic country.

The call:

MLW invites fellowship applications from suitably qualified Malawian research candidates transitioning from early-career to mid-career researcher, holding a PhD and working in malaria epidemiology or vector biology with portfolios focused on malaria control and/or eradication. The bridging fellowships will provide support and training to develop the Fellows' leadership capacity while contributing to building an academic pipeline of Malawian scientists/researchers, particularly within malaria epidemiology and/or vector biology. Applicants are expected to demonstrate research independence as early-career researchers and present a plan, supported by the advertised fellowship, to become research leaders in their fields within the next ~5 years.

Key outputs:

Two fellowships, focusing on building leadership skills will be awarded. The fellows are expected to secure future grant funding and develop leadership capacity for research linked to the Malawi National Control Programme (MNCP) outputs that directly contribute to control/eradication of malaria.

Each Fellow will recruit, manage, and train a pre-PhD candidate seconded from the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP). These pre-PhD candidates will build their knowledge and skills around subnational tailoring in line with emerging advice from the World Health Organization Malaria Policy Advisory Group and will return to their role to better equip and support the NMCP to respond to changing needs around subnational tailoring with a complex menu of control options and shifting epidemiology. The pre-PhD training will give the candidates a competitive edge for future PhD funding.

Application process

We are inviting applications from researchers with expertise including:

- Emerging drug resistance
- Climate change mediated evolution in malaria epidemiology
- Malaria control intervention-associated changes in malaria epidemiology
- Evaluation and modelling of intervention mixes, including cost-effectiveness

Female researchers are particularly encouraged to apply.

Applications must include the following:

- a) An application letter detailing your suitability for the fellowship, motivation, and how this fellowship aligns with your career ambition and vision.
- b) A 2-page outline of the fellowship research/implementation project plan with a budget of up to \$20,000 in research costs, including costs relating to the internship. Outline any other existing funding sources that may contribute to the fellowship.
- c) A reference letter from a supervisor or mentor with a proven research track record in the applicant's chosen research thematic area.
- d) A detailed CV, with information on academic performance and achievements to date, including any awards and personal distinctions, research grants and/or fellowship funding received, and any relevant outputs, including publications and presentations.
- e) Photocopied certificates and transcripts

Assessment process

Fellowship applications will be assessed on the following: academic performance and potential of the candidate, quality of the proposed research, supervisory team and training environment, alignment of the research to the MNCP agenda and planned next career steps, application presentation, and interview performance. Applications will need to show how the fellowship will help the candidate to transition to independent research funding. A diverse panel of senior scientists will interview shortlisted candidates for the final selection of successful candidates. Further guidance on the application requirements can be requested through training@mlw.mw

All documents should be saved using file names starting with the following pattern:

“Surname_GivenNames_MLWMLPDBF_Fellowship_Application.”

Applications must be sent by email to training@mlw.mw.

The closing date for receiving applications is **26th February 2025**. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed during the week **commencing 10th March 2025**. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.