

Opportunity for science journalist to do research in Africa

Research Africa is offering African science journalists - or African scientists with a proven track record in journalism - an intensive seven-month science journalism internship at its headquarters in Cape Town, South Africa.

The internship will start in January 2012 and the successful applicant will work in Cape Town and at Research Africa's sister offices in London, as well as go on a reporting trip to an African country. The intern will work with Research Africa's editorial team which produces news and analysis on African research funding and science trends on the continent. Non-South African applicants will be prioritised.

Research Africa will cover the costs of travel to and from South Africa, accommodation and a small stipend. Visa costs will be reimbursed if valid receipts are submitted. The internship is funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) as one of their five science journalism awards.

Investigate a topical issue

Applicants need to propose a short research project that they will carry out during their internship. This should investigate a topical issue related to the popularisation of research in Africa. Applicants must also submit their curriculum vitae, three recent articles (print or electronic) and a letter of permission from their line manager confirming that they would be allowed to take seven months off work (paid or unpaid leave).

Applicants should be mature, self-motivated and independent, with fluent written and spoken English and a high degree of numeracy. They should be computer literate, and able to use word processors. Competence in both PC and Mac environments is recommended.

Please email application, including certified copies of academic degrees to sjp@research-africa.net with the subject line Research Africa-IDRC science journalism internship. The deadline for applications is 20 November 2012.