



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY
(NPHA)



Address: 42A Main Motor Road, Wilberforce, Freetown
Contact: (+232) 73-906300/33-906200
Email: info@npha.gov.sl | Website: www.npha.gov.sl

25 March, 2026

Subject: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Master of Philosophy in Applied Epidemiology and Disease Control (M.Phil.)

Academic Year: 2026/2027

Sierra Leone Field Epidemiology Training Program (SL-FETP)- Advanced Level

The National Public Health Agency (NPHA) and the Ministry of Health (MoH), in collaboration with partners, primarily the US CDC, AFENET, and COMAHS (USL) is pleased to announce the introduction of the Advanced Field Epidemiology Training Program (Advanced FETP) to Sierra Leone, financially supported by the pandemic fund. This initiative aims to enhance national public health capacity by developing a skilled workforce in applied epidemiology and disease control.

The **Advanced FETP** is a two-year, full-time, postgraduate training program designed to build expertise in applied epidemiology, disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and laboratory practice. The program is delivered through a combination of didactic sessions and field-based learning, leading to the award of a **Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) in Applied Epidemiology and Disease Control**.

Program Details:

- **Duration:** 2 years (full-time)
- **Start Date:** April 2026
- **Host Institution:** COMAHS
- **Mode of Study:** Blended (classroom + field placement)

Eligibility Criteria (subject to revision by COMAHS):

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. **Education:** Holds a first degree or higher in Public Health, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Medicine, Clinical Science, Laboratory Science, Veterinary Medicine, Environmental Health, or a related health discipline from a recognized institution



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2. Completed FETP Intermediate course will be an added advantage
3. **Work Experience:** Have at least **three years of relevant work experience** in public health, disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, or epidemiology-related field.
4. **Employment:** Be currently employed in a public health-related institution in Sierra Leone, and must be employed in a public health role— within the National Public Health Agency, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, a teaching hospital, a public health research institution, or the Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change: One Health Sectors
5. **Commitment:** Be willing to commit **full-time** to the two-year program, including classroom instruction, field assignments, and thesis project work.
6. **Endorsement:** Submit a written **endorsement letter** from their employer supporting full-time participation in the program. Employer's commitment to enable the resident to fully participate during the two-year period (75% field placement and 25% in-class coursework).
7. **Skills:** Moderate computer skills (e.g., Microsoft Office, email, internet use), and basic data analysis software like epi-info, STATA, SPSS, GIS, R, etc., will be an added value
8. The age of the applicant should not be above 45 years

Application Process: Interested applicants can pay an application processing fee at the Sierra Leone Commercial Bank in Freetown or any of their branches in the region at the cost of Nle600.00. A bank receipt will be issued upon payment which include the Batch Reference number which is the application PIN that will be use to apply online. Applicant must upload the following documents to the USL application portal at the USL website www.usl.edu.sl

- A cover letter expressing interest and motivation to join the program
- A detailed curriculum vitae (CV)
- Certified academic transcripts and degree certificates



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- A letter of recommendation from a supervisor or employer
- A copy of a valid ID or passport
- A completed application form

Application Deadline

The Deadline for the purchase and submission of application has been extended to **Friday 10th April 2026**. In case you have difficulties to upload the documents through the portal, you can contact **Dr. A K Mbawah on +23276 244040** or email (mbawahak@gmail.com). Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

More details of the program, including the application process, and the application advert will be available on the websites of COMHAS, MOH, NPHA, AFENET, and SLFETP.

For inquiries, please contact the following Dr. Abdul K Mbawah, Acting Dean, Faculty of Public Health and Infectious Diseases, +23276244040, Email: mbawahak@gmail.com

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