

## PhD position in wildlife disease ecology

### **Do you want to combat zoonotic diseases in Africa, and enjoy adventure and international travel?**

We are searching for a PhD student to investigate zoonotic viruses in African rodents. The successful applicant will join a dynamic and cross-disciplinary team seeking to understand and mitigate zoonotic disease hazards in Africa. Monkeypox virus is a key focus, and there will also be opportunities for the student to explore different pathogens and research questions if desired.

The student will assist with international fieldwork, including trapping wild rodents in diverse landscapes and collecting samples, as well as conducting laboratory diagnostic assays, analyzing data, and preparing research publications. International travel will occur, with fieldwork to be conducted in Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and potentially other countries. Safety is a priority, and all fieldwork will be supported by in-country partners and local field assistants.



The successful applicant will be based in the lab of Dr. Kristian Forbes at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, USA, and also work closely with international team members and collaborators. [More information on the research group can be found here](#). Fayetteville is a progressive city located in a beautiful natural area amongst the Ozark Mountains. A wide range of recreational activities are in close proximity such as hiking, cycling, kayaking and fishing, as well as museums, theaters and other cultural activities; Fayetteville regularly ranks amongst top US cities to live ([see here for more info](#)).

The ideal candidate will have an interest in zoonotic diseases and One Health philosophies, and previous experience conducting research on wild rodents. Applications should be sent to Kristian Forbes ([kmforbes@uark.edu](mailto:kmforbes@uark.edu)) and include as a single document: 1) a cover letter of maximum one page outlining your interests and suitability for the position, 2) your CV, and 3) contact information for two referees. Applications received by December 15 will be given full consideration. The PhD program will begin in Fall 2024, and there is the possibility to work as a research technician beforehand.

The University of Arkansas is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution. We welcome applications without regard to race/color, sex, gender, pregnancy, age, national origin, disability, religion, marital or parental status, protected veteran or military status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law. Persons must have proof of legal authority to work in the United States on the first day of employment. All applicant information is subject to public disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.