MAKERERE   **UNIVERSITY**

School of Public Health

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR MASTERS DEGREE STUDENT SUPPORT

Date: 7th July 2025.

Background
Annually, 1.2 million adolescents die prematurely due to preventable or treatable causes, while many more suffer from poor health and disability. A high share of the global mortality and morbidity burden in adolescence occurs in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Adolescence is also a critical stage of life when important physical, cognitive and social developments take place, and critical behaviors related to diet, exercise, alcohol and tobacco use, violence and sexual behavior are developed. These developments and behaviors determine and shape behaviors well into adulthood and, with it, long-term health outcomes. Improving adolescent health, therefore, is paramount for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and creating healthy societies.

Under the DASH Project, Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) is collaborating with other institutions in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) to evaluate interventions aimed at addressing key health challenges among adolescents and young adults in SSA. DASH in full is: "Research network for **d**esign and evaluation of **a**dolescent health interventions and policies in Sub-**S**ah**a**ran Africa". The project is working within three domains of: **i) nutrition & physical activity, ii) sexual & reproductive health), and iii) mental health & violence (including loneliness and substance use)**.

Master's Degree Support Opportunity
As part of capacity building from our project, four master's degree student support slots are available for suitably qualified individuals with interest in advancing their knowledge and research skills in any of the domains described above. The master's degree students must be Ugandan citizens and Makerere University registered students currently completing their first year, moving on to their second year in the academic year 2025/ 2026. Successful applicants will receive full financial support for their tuition and functional fees for one academic year of 2025/2026; conditional on submitting a clearly written research concept with focus on any one of the project's research domains described above. Beneficiaries will also be welcome to use our project data for their dissertation, where applicable.

Eligibility
  i)   Currently pursuing a master's degree on a program at Makerere University School of Public (MakSPH).
  ii) A Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 3.6 in their bachelor's degree,
  iii) A CGPA of at least 3.6 during their Year One on a master's degree program at MakSPH
  iv) Submission of a no longer than 4-page research concept (font type and size Arial 11, single spacing), describing the possible master's degree dissertation research concept in one of the

DASH project domains described above. The concept must have at least the following sections: a) Brief background, b) research problem, c) research hypotheses/ conceptual framework for the research, d) specific objectives, e) study design and study population, and, f) analysis plan

v) Applicants must be Ugandan citizens, and a copy of their national ID card must be attached
vi) Applicants should be no older than 35 years

How to apply:

Eligible students should email their application document that must include the following (as single PDF file):

i) A 1-page type written application letter addressed to the Dean, Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH), with subject line "Application for a Master's Degree Student support on the DASH Project."
ii) A signed and stamped copy of the testimonial showing academic performance during Year One on the master's degree at MakSPH
iii) Copies of the relevant academic transcripts, including that of the bachelor's degree
iv) A copy of their national identification card
v) A no longer than 4-page proposed master's degree dissertation concept as described above

The above application documents must be submitted **A SINGLE PDF FILE** to the following email address: recruitment@musph.ac.ug, with the email subject line "Application for a master's degree student support on the DASH Project". The **deadline for submission is 11:59 pm on 22nd August 2025**.

NB:

i) Any application document that does not comply with all the specifications stated above will not be considered.
ii) Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.