

Senior health journalist – expected qualifications

- At least five years of dedicated health reporting; a degree in journalism or a related field is desirable.
- An ability and willingness to adjust to Bhekisisa's style of solutions reporting deep desire to grow your writing and engage with scientific research even if you haven't done it before. (There's a first time for everything).
- A demonstrated track record regularly producing news stories; experience in feature writing and health policy analysis will be an asset.
- You will have an expansive list of health contacts that you've built up over the years.
- You will need to be familiar with health policies such as HIV and TB treatment guidelines and processes around South Africa's National Health Insurance scheme.
- Narrative journalism skills will be an advantage.
- Fluency in written and spoken English; ability to speak an additional official language will be highly advantageous.
- Familiarity with social media channels, especially Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
- A passion for social justice issues; some demonstrated interest in health reporting is welcomed.
- Ability to work well as part of a team on a variety of tasks, including newsletters, social media and events, if needed.
- Familiarity with content management systems, especially WordPress, is an advantage.
- Willingness to be edited and fact checked. Bhekisisa's narrative features go through an average of two editing processes – one for the science, the other for the story line, and both processes involve a few drafts. We'll always work with you on these but we know this type of intense editing isn't for everyone.
- Strong time management skills to ensure deadlines are met, as well as the ability to work on two stories at the same time are a must
- Legal permission to work in South Africa.
- All shortlisted candidates will be expected to undergo a test before proceeding to the interview stage.

Senior health journalist – expected duties

-
- Produce three pieces of in-depth analysis per month.
- Proactively pitching and producing forward-thinking analysis that critically evaluates health policy developments in South Africa
- Identify responses to health and social justice challenges and critically evaluate the success of such responses by drawing on peer reviewed research, interviews with experts and the on-the-ground experience of projects that aim to find solutions.
- Reading independently to ensure that you're up to date with the latest research developments as well as local and international conversations.

- Take your stories from conception to birth and beyond, actively thinking about how to translate key messages into social media content or other products as diverse as panels to plays.
- Meaningfully contribute to developing Bhekisisa's strategies in terms of content creation across platforms and media as well as sustainability initiatives such as training or related projects. This will include helping the centre develop new products and branding strategies based on your interests and work.
- Assist coworkers, if needed, in terms of social media scheduling, event organising or other duties as prescribed.
- Other duties as required.

To apply, please send the following materials to Bhekisisa's programme manager, Rosaline Daniel (bhekisisaseniorjournalist@gmail.com) with the subject line "Application for Senior Health Journalist".

1. Updated CV with three contactable references; at least one should be familiar with your raw copy
2. Five writing samples, ideally these samples should show some range in writing e.g. news, analysis and features
3. A cover letter detailing why you would like to work at Bhekisisa specifically. Cover letters of successful candidates will demonstrate an understanding of Bhekisisa's unique brand of solutions-based, narrative journalism and analysis.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Application deadline: 10pm, 4 July 2022