

Apply today and you could be...

A Lecturer in General Medicine, Malawi College of Health Sciences, Malawi

What's the context and purpose of the role?

In 2005, Malawi's public health services were described as 'dangerously close to collapse.' That year, VSO became part of a coordinated effort to make improvements across the country, lead by the Malawian Ministry of Health and supported by the UK Department for International Development. Half way through the six-year partnership, 60 doctors are being trained a year instead of 20. Malawi College of Health Sciences has seen its student intake almost double, and needs more higher education staff to manage the increase. You'll play a vital role in helping the College respond to the rising numbers, and make a lasting investment in the quality of education for the next generation of Malawian health professionals.

What does the role involve?

- Lecturing undergraduate medical students and student clinical officers on general internal medicine
- Classroom teaching for 15% of the week
- Clinical supervision and teaching on the wards for 85% of the week, including teaching rounds, bedside teaching, and one-to-one supervision
- Assisting the College to review its medical curriculum
- Setting, administering, and marking exams



What skills, experience and personal qualities are needed for the role?

You'll be a registered doctor with RCP or RCGP membership, and at least three years' post-registration experience in medicine or general practice. Experience of teaching others, and helping to build their skills and capabilities, is essential. You'll need the confidence in your knowledge to train others, combining formal and practical education. A diploma in tropical medicine and hygiene may be useful but is not compulsory. More important is previous education and training experience, and an understanding of teaching methodologies.

As with all VSO placements, you'll need to be flexible, patient and creative to work effectively with limited resources.

And the rest...

The name Malawi means 'reflected light of bright haze', a most apt description of this country whose area is one fifth covered by water. Besides the magnificent Lake, Malawi has five National Parks, beautiful scenery and year round sunshine. You'll be based in lively Blantyre, Malawi's largest city and main commercial centre on the Shire River.

We'll ask you to commit to 24 months to make a sustainable contribution to training the future of healthcare in Malawi. In return, we'll give you comprehensive financial, personal and professional support. We'll provide you with extensive training before your placement, living allowance, return flights, accommodation, insurance and more. When you return home, we'll help you to resettle and many of our returned volunteers stay involved with us long after their placement ends. www.vso.org.uk/volunteering