



REFUGEE-LED
RESEARCH HUB

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Graduate Traineeship

A six-month programme providing scholars affected by displacement with training, mentorship, and professional development support to transition into research and professional careers.

*Open to recent master's graduates.
Bachelor's graduates with 2+ years of
relevant experience will also be considered.*



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday 2nd October 2026 · 11:59 pm EAT

APPLY NOW



Key details



LOCATIONS

A cohort of 6–8 trainees will be recruited in each RLRH hub:

- **Nairobi** (Kenya)
- **Kakuma refugee camp** (Kenya)
- **Kampala** (Uganda)

Applicants must specify one location and be based there for the full programme.



TIME COMMITMENT

25 hours per week, including 3 days, in-person at RLRH offices.



MONTHLY STIPEND

£450 per month + local travel costs



PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

- Workshops & training
- Peer learning groups
- 1:1 check-ins
- Mentorship and professional development
- Capstone project

Programme structure

PHASE ONE

Foundations

November 2026 – February 2027

All trainees develop a broad base of foundational professional skills essential for workplace success.

Key skills: Critical thinking · Leadership · Communications · Task management · Presentations · Appropriate use of AI

PHASE TWO

Research & project coordination February – April 2027

In-person workshops and activities enabling trainees to develop their own writing projects and contribute to RLRH's mission.

Key skills: Research design · Data analysis · Literature review · Event planning · Problem solving · Reporting · Presentation Skills

Trainees will work on a **blog**, a tangible final output demonstrating their learning and professional growth.



What you'll gain

-  **£450/month** stipend plus local travel reimbursement
-  Support to access **onward paid opportunities** at RLRH or partner organisations
-  Participation in **events and networking** opportunities
-  **Professional development support** continuing after the traineeship: career planning, application writing, 1:1 meetings, and RLRH resources
-  Be part of a **global community** of 1400+ researchers, learners and professional affiliates of RLRH

POST-TRAINEESHIP PATHWAYS

We are committed to supporting trainees' professional development. Trainees who engage consistently and meet programme expectations will be supported to access a range of paid professional and research opportunities at RLRH and its partner organisations.

Selection process

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application. Applications are assessed on:

-  **Understanding of the traineeship** and a clear interest in what it offers.
-  **Willingness to learn** and tap into opportunities provided.
-  **Alignment with RLRH's values and mission** of refugee leadership and motivation to grow in your chosen field.
-  **Ability to work collaboratively**, contribute to group activities, and form peer connections.
-  **Originality and authenticity of writing.** We want to understand how you think and what motivates you! Please avoid overly polished or generic language and use your own voice.

Eligibility

-  **Identify as having been affected by displacement** (e.g., as a current or former: refugee, asylum seeker, IDP, stateless person, or another category).
-  **Be based in Kakuma, Kampala or Nairobi** from November 2026 – April 2027. *RLRH is not able to provide relocation costs.*
-  **Have completed a master's degree**, or due to complete by **1 November 2026**, in any field of studies. *Applicants who don't have a master's degree but have completed their bachelor's degree + 2 years' relevant experience may be considered.*
-  Willingness to actively engage, learn, seek feedback, and uphold RLRH's values.
-  Desire to develop research and project coordination skills.
-  Able to commit **25 hours a week** for 6 months.
-  Recent graduates and alumni of the **Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program** at any partner university are especially encouraged to apply.

AI Policy

RLRH does not allow the use of AI tools or chatbots (such as ChatGPT or DeepSeek) to generate or rewrite application content.

Applicants must not submit text that has been copied or adapted from AI-generated outputs. The only permitted use of AI is for limited grammar and spelling checks, using tools such as DeepL or Grammarly.

While there is no fully reliable way to detect AI-generated content, such submissions are often repetitive and follow similar patterns. As a result, applications that rely on AI-generated text face a high risk of rejection.



How to apply

Complete the application form by **Friday 2nd October 2026, 11:59 EAT** (Nairobi/Kampala time).

 **Application form:**
<https://bit.ly/traineeship26>



**SCAN TO
APPLY**



Questions?

Reach out via
placements@refugeeledresearch.org

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application within four weeks of the deadline.

About the Refugee-Led Research Hub

The Refugee-Led Research Hub (RLRH) supports individuals with lived experience of displacement to become leaders in fields of their choice, including human rights, forced migration, politics, law, and other areas of interest. We do so by delivering academic and professional development programming to a global cohort of students who have been affected by displacement, supporting access to graduate degrees and advanced professional opportunities. RLRH also creates opportunities for researchers with displacement backgrounds to lead primary and secondary research studies, from start to finish. The mission of RLRH is embodied in our leadership structure: the majority of our team have lived experience of displacement. Our network of colleagues, researchers, students, and other professional affiliates is comprised of 1400+ individuals across 100+ countries.

RLRH has five active offices across Nairobi, Kakuma refugee camp, Oxford, Kuala Lumpur and Kampala.

1,400+

Researchers,
learners & affiliates

100+

Countries
represented

5

Active offices
worldwide

2020

Founded in
Nairobi