

Quest Science for South Africa Quest Editor

The **Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)** is looking for an experienced science magazine editor to create compelling content and oversee the full scope of the editorial process of the **Quest** magazine from concept to publication.

The position is for a fixed term period and the successful candidate will enter into a three year Service Level agreement with the Academy.

The successful Editor will work as an independent person with the *Quest* team, through the Education Liaison Officer in the Scholarly Publishing Programme at ASSAf. The magazine has an Editorial Advisory Board, an ASSAf editorial team, and reports to the Executive Officer.

Background:

Quest – Science for South Africa, is a full-colour, popular science magazine aimed specifically at the youth in and out of school who have an interest in the fields of Science, Technology, Education, Art, Mathematics and Innovation (STEAMi). The focus of the magazine is to spark an interest in science among Grades 8 – 12 learners, undergraduate students, researchers, science communicators and the general public. The magazine is published quarterly, (in print and online) and distributed to selected schools and science centres in all provinces. *Quest*, which started in 2004, is also distributed to universities, libraries, government departments and parliamentary committees, embassies, NGOs, TVETs, and resource centres.

Purpose:

1. Produce four issues of the *Quest* magazine per annum, on a quarterly basis on the last month of each quarter, and consists of (can be altered based on need and availability):
 - At least six cover stories,
 - Four features,
 - Three popular news articles.
 - Three regular features
 - One page of book reviews.
2. The magazine will also contain a minimum of two adverts.
3. The magazine is produced as an A4 SIZE publication and consists of about 44 pages including the cover.

Specifications and Output:

- Whilst autonomy of the role of the editor is supported, engagement with the ASSAf Team and the Layout and Design company is encouraged when soliciting content for the magazine and technical aspects, respectively.
- Ensure continued engagement with the advertising agency to solicit suitable adverts that match the thematic content in the different issues.
- Solicit widely, including ASSAf and SAYAS members, to contribute articles, features, news, curriculum-related topics, book reviews, and other interesting content for each issue.
- Copy edits the entire magazine.
- Sign-off of the completed issue, in consultation with the ASSAf Team and Layout and Design practitioner before publishing.
- Responsible for the annual report and available for meetings with *Quest* Editorial Advisory Board.
- Seek and implement innovative ideas and practices into the publishing of the *Quest*

magazine

Schedule:

- Produce a themed *Quest* magazine at the end of every quarter (April, June, September, and December).
- Develop and sustain a publication schedule.

Contact:

Please submit an application with a *curriculum vitae* and other supporting documents listed below to Ms Lynette du Plessis at lynette@assaf.org.za by 18 February 2022:

- Submit a few writing samples of past production or science engagement articles
- Visit <https://questonline.org.za/> and write what your suggestions would be to improve the website/content.
- A brief statement of suitability (no more than half a page)