



APPLICATION DEADLINE

15th April 2021

BACKGROUND

The Bongani Mayosi National Health Scholars Programme (BM-NHSP) is an initiative by the National Health Research Committee (NHRC) and a partnership between the National Department of Health (NDoH), the Public Health Enhancement Fund (PHEF) and the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC). The BM-NHSP aims to contribute positively towards efforts to strengthen and accelerate progress towards **equity in research capacity development** within the National Department of Health Human Capital across South Africa.

The purpose of this particular request for applications (RFA) is to build capacity in four priority research areas namely; **mental health, violence, injury and trauma, digital health and rural health**.

The objective of the BM-NHSP is to **fund the training of 1000 PhDs in health and clinical research** over the next 10 years. Applications are invited for PhD scholarships tenable in South African universities. Funding is towards the completion of the degree and funding is made available for a full degree period (i.e. prescribed time for a PhD) as a tax-free scholarship for full-time study. The value of the scholarship is equivalent to the after-tax take-home pay of the applicant, in terms of the public service professional scales applicable to the qualification(s) of the candidate (excluding overtime pay).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Must be **South African citizen/permanent resident**
- Applicants must hold **MBChB** or a **master's degree**
- Must have an officially **approved** PhD research proposal
- Must be registered as a **full-time PhD student** (preferably in 2nd, 3rd or 4th year)
- Must provide **written commitment of participation** by an experienced research supervisor who is willing to train the student for the entire duration of the degree
- The research supervisor must have research **funding for the project** and **appropriate facilities** for the scholar to effectively conduct the PhD research project

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

- Where appropriate **priority** will be given to hitherto **under-represented designated groups**, institutions, and or **under researched priority research niches**.
- Applicants to note that once the benchmarking process has been completed (based on the criteria at the time) and a scholarship amount has been awarded, it will **remain fixed for the full duration of the studies** irrespective of a change criteria e.g. additional qualifications/credentials obtained or an increase in Occupation Specific Dispensation scales.
- The current funding opportunity is targeting applicants who preferably hold a **MBChB or master's degree**, are in their **second year of PhD study** within the specialized fields of **Biostatistics, Data Science, Digital Health, Demography, Epidemiology, Health Economics, Genomics/Bioinformatics and Immunology**.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be completed [online](#) and all additional documents requested emailed to Ms Colleen Van Wyk on or before the closing date at Colleen.Vanwyk@mrc.ac.za /021 938 0384.

Application details can be found [here](#) and on the attached document.

Please send a complete copy with all supporting documents, that you have submitted online to the Faculty Research Office – natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za.

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CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

Faculty Contact person: Mrs Natasha Jeftha on 012 319 2378 (Natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za)

SAMRC contact person: Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla on 021 938 0442 (Lindokuhle.Ndlandla@mrc.ac.za)