

NRF | Postgraduate Scholarship for Funding for 2022

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) focus area(s)



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Honours: 19 November 2021

Masters: 25 June 2021

Doctoral: 25 June 2021

Masters and doctoral extension: 25 June 2021

BACKGROUND

The National Research Foundation (NRF) is mandated by an Act of Parliament, the NRF Act (Act No. 23 of 1998, amended) to: “contribute to national development by promoting and supporting research through funding, human resource development and the provision of the necessary research facilities, in order to facilitate the creation of knowledge, innovation and development in all fields of research, including indigenous knowledge and thereby contributing to the improvement of the quality of life of all the people of the Republic”. The NRF is prioritising postgraduate students with research inclination as part of a national drive to grow the next generation of researchers and scholars to sustain South Africa’s knowledge enterprise. In 2021, the NRF introduced the **DSI-NRF Postgraduate Student Funding Policy** wherein postgraduate funding allocations are underpinned by the principles of equity of opportunity; prioritisation; and enhanced access, success and throughput. **Citizenship, age, gender, disability and financial need** will be considered in the allocation of funding, with transformation of the postgraduate cohort as the core objective. Postgraduate funding is intended to support honours, master’s and doctoral candidates to pursue full-time studies at South African public universities, in all areas of **Science, Engineering, Technology, Social Sciences and Humanities**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligibility criteria for funding at **Full Cost of Study and Partial Cost of Study** indicated below apply to **all first-time applicants for honours, master’s and doctoral funding**.

- For first-time honours funding - A minimum average of 65% for major subjects in the final undergraduate year of study. Applicants must be 28 years of age or younger in the year of application i.e. applicants **must not be over 28 years** by 31 December 2021. Only **South African citizens** and **permanent residents** are eligible for honours bursaries.
- For first-time master’s funding - A minimum average of 65% for all subjects at the honours level OR a minimum average of 65% for all subjects of a postgraduate diploma OR a minimum average of 65% for all final year subjects of a four-year degree. Applicants must be 30 years of age or younger in the year of application i.e. applicants **must not be over 30 years** by 31 December 2021.
- For first-time doctoral funding - A minimum of 65% at the master’s level. Applicants **must be 32 years of age or younger** in the year of application i.e. applicants must not be over 32 years by 31 December 2021.

Please refer to the **NRF Framework documents** for additional eligibility criteria for **NRF-SARAO, NRF-TWAS doctoral, NRF-DAAD, NRF Uninterrupted Study Support and Extension Support applicants for full-time master’s and doctoral studies applications**.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

Successful applicants will be funded either at **Full Cost of Study (FCS)** and **Partial Cost of Study (PCS)**.

- The FCS will cover tuition fee, accommodation (i.e., university owned accommodation or private rental accommodation), living and transport allowance, food allowance and a once-off allowance for electronic study device.
- The PCS will cover tuition fee and accommodation costs only for students that are residing in university owned accommodation or private rental accommodation.
- For both FCS and PCS, students not residing in university owned accommodation or private rental accommodation will not be eligible for accommodation fees.
- Accommodation fee will be capped and paid as per invoice. Limited to maximum cost of the equivalent university owned accommodation at a particular institution.
- Tuition fee will be capped and paid as per the university's invoice.
- Qualifying NRF funded students in possession of a provisional award letter are not required to pay an upfront registration fee.
- The electronic study device allowance will be provided as a once-off allowance for the duration of the postgraduate studies.
- The Assistive technology device allowance will be only for students with disability.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted electronically to the NRF via the [NRF Online Submission System](#). Please note that applications submitted outside the NRF Online Submission System will not be accepted.

- Please refer to the application and funding guide for required supporting documents and instructions.
- Complete applications are sent to the host institution for verification before being forwarded to the NRF for further processing.
- Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria and incomplete applications will not be considered.

Further application guidelines can be found on the attached documents.

All continuing students that are eligible for a second or third year of funding must submit a Progress Report and not a new application.

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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Masters and doctoral extension: 25 June 2021

CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

-Faculty Contact person: Mrs Natasha Jeftha – R4-15 HW Snyman North, Prinshof Campus, 012 319 2378, Natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za

-NRF-DAAD, NRF-SARAO, SASAC, Masters and Doctoral Extension Support, General First-time Master's and Doctoral related inquiries: Ms Mpai Mphunngoa, 012 420 6850, Mpai.Mphunngoa@up.ac.za

- General Honours related enquiries: Ms Portia Mangope, 012 420 3688, Portia.Mangope@up.ac.za

-First-time SARChI and CoE Honours, Master's and Doctoral related inquiries: Mrs Ninette Kotzee, 012 420 352, ninette.kotzee@up.ac.za

