APPLICATION DEADLINE
11 May 2018

BACKGROUND

The National Research Foundation (NRF) in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) are pleased to announce the call for fellowship applications for 2019 in the following categories:

- **DST-NRF – Freestanding Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- **DST-NRF – Innovation Postdoctoral Fellowships**
- **DST-NRF-DHET – Scarce Skills Development Fund: Postdoctoral Fellowships**

Successful applicants will receive funding for a maximum period of two (2) years based on the initial commencement date of the project. Female Postdoctoral Fellows that take maternity leave during the tenure of the fellowship, are eligible for an additional four (4) months of support beyond the two year period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value (per annum)</th>
<th>NRF Freestanding (local)</th>
<th>Innovation</th>
<th>Scarce skills</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R155 000</td>
<td>R255 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>non-taxable stipend</td>
<td>R45 000</td>
<td>R50 000</td>
<td>R50 000</td>
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<tr>
<td>contribution towards research costs</td>
<td>R15 000</td>
<td>R15 000</td>
<td>R15 000</td>
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<td>compulsory institutional contribution</td>
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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must have obtained their Doctoral degree within five (5) years of submitting an application to the NRF;
- Applicants who are currently completing their Doctoral dissertation for submission may apply however, they should complete their Doctoral degree by 31 December 2018, as **awards that are not taken up by 30 June 2019 will be cancelled by the NRF**;
- Applicants who are applying for a second NRF Postdoctoral research placement to continue with research on the same project are not eligible;
- Applicants who are applying for a second NRF Postdoctoral research placement will be eligible if they intend undertaking research on a new project; and Applicants who are applying for a third NRF Postdoctoral research placement are not eligible; and
- Full-time employees of Higher Education Institutions (HEI’s) or other research institutions are only eligible to apply **if they intend to take unpaid leave for the duration of the postdoctoral fellowship**.

HOW TO APPLY

The NRF is issuing this pooled call for NRF Freestanding, Innovation and Scarce Skills Postdoctoral Fellowship applications that is published on the NRF website and is accessible [online](#). Each applicant is limited to only one (1) application per year for this
pooled Postdoctoral Fellowship. Once an applicant submits an application, the application will be automatically routed to the institutional Designated Authority (DA) of the submitting institution for validation at the deadline date determined by individual institutions. The applications will then be authorised and approved by the institutional DA through a screening process using the call requirements.

The DA will submit a maximum of twenty (20) applications from all the Postdoctoral applications received at the university or research institution. Applications submitted by the institutions to the NRF must be aligned with the following equity targets:

- 80% South African citizens and permanent residents
- 80% Black (African, Indian and Coloured)
- 55% Female

The processing of a successful grant application takes approximately five (5) months from the closing date for applications until the commencement of funding.

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