

AGREEMENT FOR GRANTHOLDER-LINKED STUDENT SUPPORT

I, _____ (full names and surname) (hereinafter referred to as the **bursar**), hereby accepts the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement should the grantholder-linked student assistantship/bursary/fellowships/staff development grant (hereinafter referred to as 'bursary') be awarded to me. I acknowledge that the Grantholder's 'Conditions of Grant' attached to the grantholder's award letter, and the 'NRF Bursary, Scholarships Values Rules and Guidelines', or such other terms and conditions as may be imposed by the NRF and of which I shall be advised in writing, shall form an integral part of this Agreement. I acknowledge that the award is subject to the following terms and conditions:

A. GRANTHOLDER-LINKED STUDENT SUPPORT CONDITIONS

1. A bursary will be awarded for one year at a time only. It may, in the sole discretion of the NRF, be renewed on submission of annual nominations for the subsequent year(s), up to the allowable maximum period of support indicated below within the tenure of the grant under which the bursary is awarded, depending on the -
 - duration of the grant awarded to the (co)supervisor/grantholder;
 - the availability of funds; and
 - academic progress by the bursar.

Nothing herein contained shall, however, create an expectation that the bursary shall be renewed for subsequent years.

LEVEL	MAXIMUM PERIOD OF SUPPORT
Student Assistantships	
Final-year Undergraduate degree/diploma (only full-time)	1 year
BTech/Honours (only full-time)	1 year
Post-graduate Bursaries	
Master's full-time	2 years
Master's part-time	3 years
Doctoral full-time	3 years
Doctoral part-time	5 years
Postdoctoral Fellowships	
Staff Development Grants	
Master's level	3 years
Doctoral level	5 years

2. Concerning citizenship, the bursar must comply with the conditions as applicable to each academic level as stated in the 'Conditions for the Award of Grantholder-linked Student Support' provided to the grantholder with his/her award letter.
3. The non-South African bursar will be registered and based at the university as stipulated in the nomination form during the tenure of the award.
4. The bursar may not hold any bursaries, awards, assistantships or receive emoluments concurrently with the NRF bursary which bind him/her to enter the service of any organisation upon completion of his/her studies. The bursary may also not be held concurrently with any other NRF or South African Government funded bursary scheme.
5. Bursars registered on a full-time basis for the degree, may not hold full-time salaried employment during the tenure of the bursary, but he/she will be allowed to undertake a maximum of twelve hours of teaching, tutorials, assistance or demonstration duties per week on average during the year of study, and he/she may be remunerated for his/her services, provided that he/she is reimbursed at the normal university tariff for services rendered.
6. The following conditions will apply with regard to supplementary funding (top-ups):
 - The bursary may be topped-up by other sources to the university's maximum allowable supplementation amount per level.
 - Where the university does not have a maximum allowable amount, the bursary may be topped up with half of the NRF allowable maximum value per level.
 - The bursary may be topped-up by the NRF grantholder's running costs up to a maximum value of R20 000 p.a.
7. The bursar must obtain the degree for which the bursary was awarded within two years after NRF funding has ceased, and notify the NRF by that date of the status of completion. If a bursar does not obtain the degree for which the bursary was awarded, relinquishes his/her studies, or leaves the university during the period for which the bursary was awarded, he/she will have to refund all payments of the bursary already received for study towards the particular degree/diploma, plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF's bankers. If a bursar received a bursary for study towards a Master's which was upgraded to Doctoral status and he/she does not obtain the Doctoral degree, NRF support awarded for both Master's and Doctoral studies will have to be refunded.
8. Should the bursar fail to fulfil any of the aforesaid conditions or should it transpire that a bursary was awarded on the basis of false information supplied to the NRF, the NRF would be entitled to forthwith cancel the Agreement, in which event the bursar will be liable to refund the bursary plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF's bankers.
9. If a bursar wishes to change the research project or field of study, supervisor or institution for which the bursary was awarded, details

must be submitted to the NRF through the appropriate university authority for consideration **prior** to such a change.

10. Where a Master's degree is upgraded to Doctoral study, the maximum support for Master's and Doctoral study will be four years. Upgrading of a bursary from Master's is not automatic and students must apply to the NRF to have the bursary upgraded providing proof of upgrading, and provided that sufficient funds are available.

11. The bursar will acknowledge the financial assistance of the NRF as follows on the title page of the (mini) thesis/dissertation as well as in all papers and publications that emanate from the study funded by the NRF:

The financial assistance of the National Research Foundation (NRF) towards this research is hereby acknowledged. Opinions expressed and conclusions arrived at, are those of the author and are not necessarily to be attributed to the NRF.

Note: If statements concerning the research are made to the media, it should be stated explicitly that the bursar initiated the research and that it should under no circumstances be regarded as research done on behalf of or commissioned by the NRF.

12. **This bursary must be used in compliance with all South African laws and international laws, where these do not contradict South African laws, and the research outputs must be used entirely and wholly for legal purposes.**

13. All NRF awards are subject to the NRF Statement on Open Access to Research Publications. Please refer to the copy of this document on the NRF Website regarding terms and conditions around publications (<http://ir.nrf.ac.za/handle/10907/103>).

14. On having been awarded the degree to which this bursary pertains, the bursar must submit the following documentation to the NRF within 6 months after obtaining the qualification:

- **Student Assistantships:** a copy of the certificate.
- **Postgraduate degrees:** The bursar is required to upload the final corrected version of the dissertation or thesis in an approved electronic format (single Adobe readable file (PDF)) to the NRF. The institutional office responsible for the award should ensure that the bursar submits the handle or link of the dissertation or thesis deposited in the University Library's digital repository to the NRF, either before or latest one month after their graduation ceremony to the following address, http://www.nrf.ac.za/nrf_funded_thesis_dissertation_requirements. Failure to comply with the requirement, will lead to the bursar being liable to refund all support provided by the NRF for the degree under which the funding was awarded.

15. As stipulated in the bursary conditions, the relevant degree has to be obtained within two (2) years after expiry of NRF funding for the relevant qualification.

16. **Notwithstanding the conditions referred to in the clauses of this Agreement, the NRF reserves the right to adjust or cancel the bursary.**

B. REGULATORY CLAUSES

A bursary will be awarded for a full year or for half a year depending on the date of registration of the bursar and the period for which the bursary is requested.

1. The bursary will be cancelled if it is not claimed by the grantholder.
2. The bursar will notify the NRF immediately of any change in the circumstances under which the bursary was awarded that might affect the award. Should the bursar fail to do this, the bursary may be cancelled by the NRF with immediate effect.
3. The bursar will notify the NRF immediately of any change of residential address.
4. Should the bursar not perform in terms of this Agreement, the NRF will be entitled to institute legal action for the recovery of any award. The bursar will be liable for all costs incurred on the scale of attorney and client basis and further agrees to the jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Court in accordance with Section 45 of Act 32 of 1944, as amended, for any action that may arise from this Agreement.
5. By signing this Agreement, the bursar gives permission to the NRF to use his/her information as required from time to time for statistical purposes, beyond the date of completion of the bursary requirements.
6. The bursar must register for ORCID (www.orcid.org) for integration into RISA processes and systems. This is a requirement in an effort to create and maintain a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to these identifiers. Linking the identifier to institutional systems minimises the effort from institutions and researchers and ensures integrity of system content.
7. A unique identifier, as provided by ORCID, which the grantholder can associate with their name variations and their research works, is a way to ensure that these links can be made accurately and reliably. This will help the bursar to uniquely identify him/her as the author of his/her work across all systems integrated with the ORCID registry. The aforementioned identifier must be provided to the NRF by the bursar on acceptance of the agreement.
8. The bursar hereby elects the following address as his/her **domicilium citandi et executandi** for the service of all notices or court processes in terms of this Agreement:

NB: Please provide a residential address. PO Box numbers and university residence or departmental addresses are not acceptable.

