



Call for Applications under the Public Policy Initiative: Master's and PhD Students at the University of Pretoria

Shape the Future of Public Policy and Municipal Finance in Africa

Are you ready to make a meaningful impact through your academic research? The [Public Policy Hub](#) (PPH) at the University of Pretoria is seeking motivated Master's and PhD students who can contribute to transformative public policy and municipal finance in Africa.

By leveraging on your expertise and knowledge in your respective field, you too can help address problems related to municipal finance and play a role in shaping effective governance, improving service delivery, and enhancing the overall quality of life in your community and beyond! Apply today in your field of expertise and use your knowledge to drive change.

Fields of Study

- Economics
- Data Science
- Town and Regional Planning
- Other relevant disciplines

About the Public Policy Hub (PPH)

The mission of the PPH is to bridge research and policy for sustainable development in Africa through transformative, collaborative, and evidence-based solutions. The PPH encourages transdisciplinary research by integrating perspectives and methodologies from various disciplines to generate innovative solutions to complex challenges relating to public policy and municipal finance in Africa. This initiative not only provides students with opportunities to work alongside public sector officials, gaining practical insights and experience, but also promotes a collaborative academic environment with opportunities for co-supervision and co-publication across diverse fields such as Economics, Data Science, Urban Planning, Public Administration, and Law among others.

As a postgraduate student, you are encouraged to join this unique initiative and apply your specialised knowledge in addressing and solving critical issues, contributing significantly to Africa's sustainable development.

Benefits

- ✓ **Expert Supervision:** Receive guidance from leading academics and public policy experts from diverse disciplines, benefiting from the transdisciplinary nature of the research.
- ✓ **Funding Opportunities:** Apply for the DSI-NRF Postgraduate Student Funding to support your postgraduate studies and research
- ✓ **Collaborative Research:** Engage with public officials and academics from other disciplines in research initiatives that directly influence public policy and municipal finance and contribute to resolving practical challenges of local government while earning your degree.
- ✓ **Professional Development:** Enhance your skills and experience through research-to-policy dialogues, workshops, seminars, and conferences.

Master's and PhD Application Requirements

You will apply directly to the department linked to your area of study.

- ✓ Please refer to the relevant Faculty in terms of the application process, requirements, and specific Faculty-based closing dates for applications. To access the Faculty websites, refer to: <https://www.up.ac.za/article/2749393/faculties>
- ✓ A strong academic record in your chosen field.
- ✓ A research proposal grounded in your specified area of study, while aiming to address a challenge related to public policy or municipal finance in Africa.

What to send for consideration to the PPH initiative?

Submit the following documents to publicpolicyhub@up.ac.za by **05 July 2024**, including:

- ✓ A detailed CV
- ✓ A research proposal
 - Candidates are required to submit a research proposal with a maximum length of 2,000 words. The proposal must be grounded in your specified area of study and should aim to address a challenge related to public policy or municipal finance in Africa. The proposal should clearly demonstrate how the research and its methodology will innovatively contribute to the existing literature and provide transformative, sustainable, and implementable evidence-based recommendations to improve sustainable development in Africa, with a particular focus on municipal finance.

Postgraduate Funding Application Links

To apply for DSI-NRF funding, please visit the following links:

1. Official call for applications for postgraduate student funding by the DSI-NRF for the 2025 academic year - [DSI-NRF Postgraduate Student Funding Call](#)
2. NRF Connect Application Portal to initiate and submit your application - [NRF Connect Application Portal](#)
3. An outline of the principles, eligibility criteria, and implementation guidelines for postgraduate student funding under the DSI-NRF Programme to ensure your application meets the requirements - [DSI-NRF Funding Framework](#)
4. Detailed instructions on the application process, required documents, evaluation criteria, and additional information to help you effectively prepare your submission - [DSI-NRF Application and Funding Guide for 2025](#)

The deadline for application for the DSI-NRF Funding is 5 July 2024.

To explore other funding opportunities, please visit: <https://www.up.ac.za/funding>.

Seize this opportunity to be part of a dynamic research community dedicated to improving public policy and municipal finance in Africa. Together, we can drive sustainable development and enhance the quality of life for communities across the continent.

For more information and to apply, visit our website <https://www.up.ac.za/up-public-policy-hub> or contact us at publicpolicyhub@up.ac.za.