



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



RISA  
Research and Innovation  
Support and Advancement

## EXTENSION BURSARIES FOR MASTERS AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FROM NRF SUPPORTED POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS FOR EXTENSION BURSARIES FOR COMPLETION OF MASTERS AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

In recognition of the need for funding support for masters and doctoral students beyond the standard NRF funding of two and three years respectively, the DST-NRF has implemented a special category of funding called “*Extension Bursaries for Masters and Doctoral Studies.*”

This intervention is intended to accelerate the throughput rates of full-time masters and doctoral students that are NRF bursars and, to increase research outputs from masters and doctoral students at public higher education institutions. An extension bursary for up to 12 months is offered to existing NRF supported masters and doctoral bursary holders. Priority will be given to academically deserving but financially needy students, and those that are in the process of finalising their thesis for examination and/or submitting a manuscript to an accredited journal. Applicants must adequately demonstrate why extended funding is required; provide a clear work plan for completion of the degree; and in the case of doctoral candidates specify the submission of at least one manuscript for publication in a peer reviewed journal.

#### ELIGIBILITY

In selecting applicants for consideration for funding, the following criteria will apply:-

- Applicants must be South African citizens or permanent residents.
- The student must have been an NRF bursary recipient for the current degree i.e. either in receipt of an NRF freestanding or grant-holder linked bursary.
- An applicant may not concurrently hold the extension bursary support with another NRF scholarship or any other scholarship from a South African government source.
- The NRF scholarship should be held as the primary funding in all cases of supplementary funding.

- Scholarship recipients will be allowed to undertake a maximum of 12 hours of employment per week, such as teaching, tutorials, assistance or demonstration duties during tenure of the award provided that they are remunerated for these duties at a rate not exceeding the normal institution tariff for services rendered.
- An applicant may not be in full-time employment for the duration of the funding period.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applications for funding in 2015 must be submitted through an online application process to the NRF by accessing the link: <https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/> **no later than 23 January 2015**

On accessing the link, please follow the instructions as follows:

- Register/Login using your email address and password.
- Select “create new application” from the list of existing calls.
- Select the call for which you are applying to: Extension of NRF Support for Masters and Doctoral Scholarships 2015
- Select “Apply now”.
- Remember to complete all sections of the application.
- Remember to invite your supervisor/ host to comment on progress of study by selecting the invite button on the application.
- Remember to submit your application on completion.

### **Please note:**

- Complete applications will be forwarded to the host university for verification before being submitted to the NRF for further processing.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered.
- Contact the university post graduate office or research office if you have any queries relating institutional processes and deadlines.
- NRF contact persons are listed below for NRF related inquiries.
- The closing date for submitting applications is 23 January 2015

## VALUE OF EXTENSION BURSARY

Support for completion of studies will be made on a *pro rata* basis. For the 2015 academic year, the value of the bursaries will be the same as the current annual bursary values of the NRF funding instruments as follows:

<b>Funding Instruments</b>	<b>Masters Bursary values for 12 months  (Rand)</b>	<b>Doctoral Bursary values for 12 months  (Rand)</b>
Innovation Bursary Scheme	80 000	110 000
Scarce Skills Development Fund	70 000	100 000
NRF Free-standing Bursaries	40 000	60 000
Grant-holder linked Bursaries	40 000	60 000

## CONDITIONS OF GRANT

At the end of the funding period, a final report must be submitted by the bursary recipient indicating the outputs. In addition, each student will be required to provide proof of submission of the thesis and, where applicable, proof of submission of a manuscript to an accredited journal.

## NRF CONTACT PERSONS

### **For Funding Instrument related enquiries:**

Ms June-Rose Ngcobo, Acting Director: Human and Infrastructure Capacity Development, (e-mail: [june-rose.ngcobo@nrf.ac.za](mailto:june-rose.ngcobo@nrf.ac.za), phone: 012 481 4390)

### **For grant management systems and administration related inquiries:**

Ms Thashni Maistry-Pillay, Professional Officer: Scholarships and Fellowships, (e-mail: [thashni.maistry@nrf.ac.za](mailto:thashni.maistry@nrf.ac.za), phone: 012 481 4241)

### **For reviews and evaluation related inquiries:**

Dr James Meiring, Professional Officer: Reviews and Evaluations, (e-mail: [james.meiring@nrf.ac.za](mailto:james.meiring@nrf.ac.za), phone: 012 481 4389)