Funding Instrument: South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI)

Domains: Research Chairs and Centres of Excellence and Grants
Management & Systems Administration

Document: Framework & Funding Guide
DST/NRF/SACN Research Chairs

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1. Strategic background

1.1. Context

The White Paper on Science and Technology (1996) and the National Research and Development Strategy (2002) put emphasis on the need for South Africa to transform its Science, Engineering and Technology (SET) workforce. Other policy and strategies of government, including the Human Resource Development Strategy (2009) and the Medium Term Strategic Framework (2009) note the shortage of high-level skills as a significant constraint in the development of the economy and society. In this regard, South Africa must produce a greater number of highly skilled individuals; particularly in SET, to achieve the goal of “an equitable, sustainable, and inclusive growth path that brings decent work and sustainable livelihoods, education, health, safe and secure communities, and rural development”.

The South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) was established in 2006 by the Department of Science and Technology (DST). This Funding Instrument is managed by the National Research Foundation (NRF) through a contractual agreement with DST. It is a strategic intervention of the South African government designed to attract and retain excellence in research and innovation at South African universities. In particular, the instrument is aimed at increasing scientific research capacity through the development of human capacity and stimulating the generation of new knowledge. It is also intended to support the realisation of South Africa’s transformation into a knowledge economy in which the generation of knowledge translates into socio-economic benefits.

SARChI is designed to significantly expand the scientific research base of South Africa in a way that supports implementation of the national Research and Development policies. Since inception, 238 Research Chairs have been awarded in various disciplines and research fields and the funding instrument has been
successful in retaining leading South African scientists in the university system and attracting leading foreign researchers and expatriate researchers to South Africa.

1.2. SARChI aim and objectives

The aim of the initiative is to strengthen and improve research and innovation capacity of public universities for producing high quality postgraduate students, research, and innovation outputs.

The objectives of SARChI are to:

1. Expand the scientific research and innovation capacity of South Africa;
2. Improve South Africa’s international research and innovation competitiveness while responding to social and economic challenges of the country;
3. Attract and retain excellent researchers and scientists;
4. Increase the production of Masters and Doctoral graduates; and
5. Create research career pathways for young and mid-career researchers, with a strong research, innovation and human capital development output trajectory,

1.3. Co-funding with the South African Cities Network (SACN)

The NRF has to constantly explore innovative approaches to grow and strengthen the SARChI, especially in the face of budgetary constraints. Consequently, the NRF has initiated the establishment of international bilateral chairs with other African countries (e.g. Namibia), European countries (e.g. United Kingdom and Switzerland) and has also established co-funded chairs in partnership with other government departments (e.g. Department of Higher Education and Training), other Science Councils (e.g. South African Medical Research Council) as well as the private sector (e.g. First Rand Foundation, Anglo American and Nedbank). It is in this context that the NRF has partnered with the South African Cities Network to establish four (4) SARChI Research and Development (R&D) Chairs. R&D Chairs have a strong leaning towards evidenced based interventions.
1.4. Guiding principles for SARChI Research Chair in SACN

The following principles will inform the awarding of the Research Chairs to the successful university:

- The proposed research plan must seek to respond to national priorities and strategies;
- SARChI is a funding instrument for universities but Research Chairs may be held by a university in partnership with a public research institution such as another university, a science council or a public research institution;
- Public universities in South Africa will bid for the Research Chair in an open and competitive process, and no Research Chair will be;
- Each university may submit two (2) applications for each category outlined for the Research Chairs in this call, nominating a maximum of two (2) candidates per research category or area;
- The university and candidate must demonstrate a commitment to closely cooperate with a SACN partners where applicable;
- The Research Chair will only be tenable at a university with valid Programme and Qualification Mix (PQM) approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training;
- The Chair will be expected to dedicate 80% of their time conducting research, supervising Masters and Doctoral students and mentoring emerging researchers (Post-doctoral Fellows). The remainder of the time may be dedicated to administration or undergraduate teaching as well as to meetings with the NRF and SACN project partner;
- Research Chairs are tenable at Tier 1 or Tier 2. The Chair is therefore expected to be an established researcher with at least national recognition as a leader in his/her field, and has very strong affiliations with the university that will host the chair.
1.5. University accountability for SARChI/SACN Research Chairs

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for research at the South African host university will be directly accountable for the Research Chair. The chair will fit into the normal management structures of the host institution.

2. Candidate Profile and Research Scope

2.1. Profile and minimum requirements of the DST/NRF/SACN Research Chairs

a) The candidate must have a doctoral qualification in a relevant field.

b) The candidate must be an Associate or a full professor \(^1\) at the time of application.

c) Candidates recruited from industry with strong industry background as practitioners must have proof of university affiliation and a developmental plan from the university on how the candidate will be assisted in obtaining associate or full professorship in order to be considered.

d) Must be an established researcher, recognised nationally in one of the following transdisciplinary research fields:
   1. Metropolitan Financing
   2. Urban Spatial Transformation
   3. Urban Economies
   4. Inclusive Cities

e) Must have an extensive research profile, including peer reviewed journal articles.

f) Must have transdisciplinary qualifications and track record relating to urban development.

g) Must have an extensive student supervision record and the ability to attract, recruit and train postgraduate student in the field of study that they are applying for.

h) There are no restrictions on the gender and citizenship status of the candidates, but preference will be given to applications from institutions with black and/or female candidates as proposed Chair holders.

The DST/NRF/SACN Research Chairs will be awarded to a public university in South Africa that can host such Research Chairs in its own right, or in partnership

\(^1\) Candidates that are still applying for professorship at their respective institutions should not apply until these have been approved.
with a public research institution in South Africa; such as another university, a science council or a national research facility. Only institutions that adequately demonstrate research strength and competencies in the thematic area of the Research Chairs and have the required research infrastructure will be considered for awarding of the Research Chairs.

This Chair will be funded in partnership with the SACN (South African Cities Network), through the NRF.

2.2. Research Focus and thematic areas

The proposed thematic areas for the awarding of the DST/NRF/SACN Research Chair is intended to support scientific research and innovation generally, but also to respond to the urban policy momentum in Chapter 8 of the South African National Development Plan (NDP 2030) and the Integrated Urban Development Framework (IUDF) of the South African government in relation to the UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 *(Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable)* and the New Urban Agenda, a 20 year roadmap for creating sustainable and equitable cities for all. The Research Chair will also conduct research aligned to the SACN Strategic Framework 2021 and respond to SACN’s goal, to use its Knowledge Generation Programme to continue anticipating and developing new knowledge, but specifically to focus in on key areas that have been identified as being new or deficient, and also to build those into knowledge competencies in South Africa that support the New Urban Agenda (NUA).

The main objectives of the R&D Research Chair as aligned to SACN’s knowledge generation agenda are:

- To implement urban research programmes across nationally important themes through outcome-driven partnerships;
- To use these partnerships to build sustained, focused urban research capacities in institutions throughout the country; and
• To retain the capacity to undertake complementary internal research programmes for purposes of continuity or responsiveness.
• To create new knowledge competencies aligned to the thematic focus areas of the chairs as stated above.

2.3. Research scope of the DST/NRF/SACN Research Chairs

The NRF and SACN will establish four (4) R&D Research Chairs focussed on the transdisciplinary research priorities articulated in the SACN strategic research agenda. SACN has undertaken an analysis of existing Research Chairs that focus on urban issues in order to ensure maximum coverage and avoid duplication in the SACN Research Agenda.

SACN proposes to establish SARChI chairs in Metropolitan Financing, Urban Spatial Transformation, Urban Economies, and Inclusive Cities as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Research focus areas for DST-NRF/SACN Research Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed research chair</th>
<th>Description¹</th>
<th>Alignment with priority areas identified in the SACN research agenda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1. Sustainable Metropolitan Financing** | Chair: Sustainable Metropolitan Financing  
Goals:  
a) Establish a monitoring hub / Observatory for State of City Finances – databases, analytics, emergent research questions | Institutions: Sustainable Metro Financing priority area and Systems: Urban Data Project |
b) Alternative Metropolitan Financing studies and modeling, exploring approaches to achieving sustainable metropolitan financing which is aligned to a longer-term development agenda.

**Study issues:**
- Tracking and analysing large-city fiscal performance and financial management
- Innovations for achieving sustainable city financing
- Budget-Mission alignment: Financing economic development and spatial transformation
- Long-term metropolitan finance modeling and sustainability
- Infrastructure financing and transaction management and innovation

**Requirements:**
1. The Chair should have a track record in relevant substantive areas that are central to the respective research Chairs and also in city, metro and urban
2. The trans-disciplinary nature of research means that the Chair should have demonstrated an interest to work across disciplines, professions and institutions in producing research knowledge and output.

The Chair candidate should have a multi-disciplinary background with qualifications and/or experience across a combination of disciplines including but not limited to:

for Spatial Transformation Chair:
transport, urban and regional planning, architecture & design, urban politics, engineering or urban anthropology and other relevant disciplines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2. Urban Spatial Transformation</th>
<th>Chair: <strong>Urban Spatial Transformation</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goals:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Conceptual and analytical research on “spatial transformation”. What does Spatial Transformation mean for:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space: Spatial Transformation priority area and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People: Spatial Determinants of Well-being and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study issues:</td>
<td>Systems: Future City Development Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Integrating planning and design of: transport; infrastructure; property and land-use (The physical)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Budgeting and investment decision making in, and governance of urban areas (The political)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o The aspirations, interactions, perceptions, behaviours, and inclusion of people (The socio-economic)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Studies on practical interventions and innovations to articulate and advance spatial transformation into the future</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Training emerging researchers on inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to studying urban spatial issues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated built environment delivery and performance data and analytics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How space is used and perceived by people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive development strategies (e.g. Transit Oriented Development)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and management of liveable neighborhoods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visioning and imagery of future cities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Requirements:**

1. The Chair should have a track record in relevant substantive areas that are central to the respective research Chairs and also in city, metro and urban and Built Environment research and/or practice.
2. The trans-disciplinary nature of research means that the Chair should have demonstrated an interest to work across disciplines, professions and institutions in producing research knowledge and output.

The Chair candidate should have a multi-disciplinary background with qualifications and/or experience.
across a combination of disciplines including but not limited to: public sector finance, development financing, urban development planning, local or micro-economic development, and other relevant disciplines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Strengthening Urban Economies</th>
<th>Chair: <strong>Strengthening Urban Economies</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goals:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Research on assessing and growing inclusive and resilient urban economies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o R&amp;D on developing and deploying robust intelligence about city economies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Training emerging researchers on inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to studying urban economies.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study issues:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Future city economies – nature, industry mix, trends and dynamics (including impacts of technological change / 4iR, innovation-driven economies, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

People: Strengthened Urban Economies priority area and

Systems: Urban Data Project
| | o Enabling urban livelihoods - employment (including PEP), income generation  
o Improving local conditions for diverse enterprise development and growth (formal, informal, SMMEs, big business, township economies etc.)  
o Inclusive economic infrastructure and services  
o Strategies for leveraging spatial transformation  
o Improving partnerships and multi-stakeholder governance of local economies  
o Studying regional economic dynamics and value chains (city regions, functional regions, urban-rural interfaces)  
o Socio-economic studies on special geographies e.g. townships; intermediate / secondary cities; urban-rural linkages and interdependencies; Coastal cities.  
o Institutional and systemic studies on how municipalities can effectively enable the achievement of stronger  |
economies and strengthen economic development arrangements and partnerships

Requirements:

1. The Chair should have a track record in relevant substantive areas that are central to the respective research Chairs and also in city, metro and urban and Built Environment research and/or practice.

2. The trans-disciplinary nature of research means that the Chair should have demonstrated an interest to work across disciplines, professions and institutions in producing research knowledge and output.

The Chair candidate should have a multi-disciplinary background with qualifications and/or experience across a combination of disciplines including but not limited to: local economic development, micro-economics, econometrics, modelling, data science, urban development and other relevant disciplines
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. Urban inclusion &amp; well-being</th>
<th><strong>Chair:</strong> Urban Inclusion &amp; Well-being: Inclusive Cities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Goals:**                     | a) Studies on practical interventions and innovations to enable and assess collective governance and increase active citizenry  
|                                 | b) Systematic studies on how municipalities can effectively support the achievement of well-being outcomes at local level (e.g. in relation to assignment of key functions like Education and Health)  
|                                 | c) Action research on realising safer cities through spatial & social approaches  
|                                 | d) Methodological work on how, for example, narrative and knowledge co-creation could be used to increase inclusion  
|                                 | e) Training emerging researchers on inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to studying urban inclusion and well-being.  
| Study issues:                  | People: Spatial Determinants of Well-being priority area and  
<p>|                                | <strong>Institutions:</strong> Urban Governance Project |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Chair should have a track record in relevant substantive areas that are central to the respective research Chairs and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Environmental / public health studies linked to cities (stress related disease, environmental health, mobile populations / migrancy, food scarcity, safe and inclusive open/green public spaces)
- Spatial determinants as linked to structural inequality – e.g. life chances being worse in historically poor / excluded locations; intersection of spatial and non-spatial factors in inequality/exclusion
- Governance / Institutional issues as affecting or enabling inclusion – e.g. of vulnerable populations (such as children, youth, women, migrants, disabled and LGBTIQ)
- Inclusion data, indicators and analytics observatory (e.g. on community violence/protest action/ “listening institution”; SDG Indicators process)
also in city, metro and urban and Built Environment research and/or practice.

2. The trans-disciplinary nature of research means that the Chair should have demonstrated an interest to work across disciplines, professions and institutions in producing research knowledge and output.

The Chair candidate should have a multi-disciplinary background with qualifications and/or experience across a combination of disciplines including but not limited to:

Governance, public policy, social sciences, data science, urban politics, GIS and spatial analysis, urban planning and other relevant disciplines.

The proposed topics of research are also informed by the need to strategically grow specific research areas capable of generating knowledge and capabilities in important areas of cities development and governance as well as the absorptive capacity of individual universities and the university system in general. It is expected that the topics of research will foster new approaches to understanding
these interrelated areas in multidisciplinary ways. The research and development Chair will also ensures that there is a practical implementation and consideration of the work of the research chairs.

2.4. Working Conditions

The NRF will require that the approved candidate for the Research Chairs enter into a five (5)-year performance agreement in the form of ‘Conditions of Grant’ and will evaluate the performance of the Chairs against the research plan, stated objectives and targets. The track record of the nominated candidate is therefore very important to the selection process and success of the Research Chairs.

3. Proposal submission and assessment process

Proposals submitted by universities to host Research Chairs will be reviewed via a two-tier process, namely; postal peer reviews by subject specific experts with relevant expertise in the respective applications’ research area and panel reviews comprising of individuals from broad disciplines covering the directed and thematic areas identified for this call for SARCHI applications. The review panels comprising of individuals from broad disciplines will draw on the expert reviewers’ written feedback and make recommendations to the NRF for the approval of research programmes and plans and on the suitability of the candidate for appointment as a SARCHI Chair. Such review panels will be comprised of respected individuals with knowledge and insights of the Higher Education System and the NSI and will consider the recommendations of the review panels and select the Research Chairs to be awarded taking into account the strategic objectives of SARCHI and the transformation needs of the sector.

3.1. Criteria for Awarding

The selection and awarding of candidates will be based on the merits of each candidate’s full research proposal. This will include the strength of the candidate’s profile, including his/her qualifications and experience, publications in the discipline of the Research Chair and postgraduate student supervision track
records. The track record of candidates based in industry or who are practitioners, with strong university affiliations will be assessed based on their experience, innovation outputs and their ability to attract postgraduate students, should they not already have a strong postgraduate supervisory track record at the time of application. This will also include an assessment of the candidate’s research and activity plan in respect of its ability to deliver on SARChI objectives, as well as a proposed budget.

The full proposal must also give specific details on:

1. Proposed teaching to research time ratio;
2. Research objectives for the five year period;
3. Expected knowledge outputs in the first five year period;
4. Expected human capital outputs in the first five year period; and
5. Existing and planned collaborations in the first five-year period.

The classic criteria that must be met by nominated candidates for approval at the Tier 1 or Tier 2 level are detailed in table 1 below. An added advantage for a candidate to be nominated/recommended at a Tier 1 level, would be that the candidate must be typically an A or B rated researcher and not older than 60. At the Tier 2 level an added advantage for a candidate to be nominated/recommended, is that the candidate should not be older than 40 at the time of the application and should typically have a C rating.

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2 Teaching of postgraduate students only. Note: Chair-holders may not spend more than 20% of their time on undergraduate teaching and/or management responsibilities not related to activities of the Research Chair.
3 Peer-reviewed journal articles, peer-reviewed research reports, policy briefs, peer-reviewed conference proceedings, scholarly books and book chapters, patents, invited keynote presentations, conference presentations etc.
4 Numbers of Masters and Doctoral graduates and completed postdoctoral fellowships.
Table 2: Criteria for SARChI Tier 1 and Tier 2 Research Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier 1 Research Chairs</th>
<th>Tier 2 Research Chairs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Should be appointable at the level of a full Professor benchmarked nationally;</td>
<td>• Should be appointable at the level of an Associate Professor or full Professor benchmarked nationally;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Should be an outstanding and innovative researcher whose accomplishments have made a major impact in their field;</td>
<td>• Should be an established researcher, with a strong research, innovation and human capital development output trajectory;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Should be recognised internationally as an undisputed leader in their field and/or have received substantial international recognition for their research contributions;</td>
<td>• Should have the potential to achieve substantial international recognition for their research contributions in the next five to ten years;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Should have a superior record in attracting and successfully supervising post-graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, taking into account the practices of the field; and</td>
<td>• Should have demonstrated the ability to attract and successfully supervise postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Should reside full time in South Africa for the duration of the Research Chair award. Candidates from abroad, including African scholars and South Africans in the diaspora, that are willing to spend at least spend 50% of their time within South Africa are eligible for consideration.</td>
<td>• Should reside full-time in South Africa for the duration of the Research Chair award. Candidates from abroad, including African scholars and South Africans in the diaspora willing to reside full-time in South Africa for the duration of the Chair are eligible for consideration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. These are high-level descriptions which are to be detailed with the successful Chairs, and in consultation with relevant partners.

3.2. Application, Review and Selection Process
A Research Chair will be awarded in an open and competitive process. Both the institution and the proposed candidate will be reviewed where (i) the motivation by the South African public university to host the Research Chair; (ii) the nomination of a candidate for appointment to the Chair position; (iii) a research and activity plan drafted by the nominated candidate(s) will be scored.
Beside the nomination of a candidate for appointment to the Chair position and a research and activity plan, the application should give details on:

(i) the readiness and commitment of the institution to provide an enabling environment to ensure the success of the Research Chair;
(ii) strengths, capabilities, strategic environment and competencies of the university;
(iii) the alignment of the proposed Research Chair with the proposed thematic areas and the university research strategy;
(iv) the potential of the proposed candidate(s) to enhance the international research and/or innovation competitiveness within the discipline;
(v) the potential of the research to impact on social and/or economic development of the country;
(vi) the research focus of the candidate(s);
(vii) a proposed plan on how the R&D Research Chair will fulfill SARChI objectives, including the strategic considerations mentioned in the university proposal, and how it will deliver on the university research strategy;
(viii) specific objectives, outputs and outcomes for the five (5)-year period, and;

The proposed candidate(s) must use the NRF Online Submission System (https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za) to register and/or update her/his curriculum vitae and complete the application.

As awards of SARChI Research Chairs are to be made to the host university and/or research institution, the application by the proposed candidate has to be supported through the electronic application process as mentioned above. The support must be made by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for research and postgraduate affairs at the university. Each university and/or research institution must submit the following documentation to be considered as a host university for Research Chairs, through the online application:
• University or Research Institution Research Strategy;
• University Programme and Qualification Mix (PQM) approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training;
• Details of current academic and research staff of the university and/or Research Institution in the specific discipline; and
• Statistics on university and/or research institution’s research outputs and postgraduate students trained and graduated for the period 2014 to 2018, in the specific discipline.

Applications should be submitted on the NRF Online Submission System (https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za), by the DVC responsible for Research and validated by the relevant Designated Authority (DA).

**NB**: Only submissions that provide all the requested information will be eligible and considered for review. Following a competitive review process, led by experts in the selected discipline, the Research Chair will be awarded to the successful university for appointment of the candidate.

**4. Management of the Research Chair**

This section of the Framework and Funding Guide for Applications describes what follows after the Research Chair has been awarded to the university.

**4.1. Duration of the Research Chair**

Tier 1 or Tier 2 Research Chairs will be tenable for five (5) years, renewable for one and/or two further five (5)-year period giving a total life lifespan of 10 years for Tier 2 and 15 years at Tier 1. Eligibility for renewal will be entirely performance-linked.

**4.2. Management of Research Chairs**

The management of SARChI grants is illustrated in Figure 1 and described below. On accepting the award and signing the ‘Conditions of Grant’, the newly appointed incumbent of the Research Chair will be required to deliver on the research activity
plan that formed part of the accepted and approved full proposal. At the end of each financial year the incumbent will be required to submit to the NRF an annual progress report addressing milestones and expected outcomes presented in the research activity plan. This report will be shared with SACN. From time to time the incumbent will be required to meet with both the NRF and the SACN.

During year five of the five-year funding cycle, the Research Chair will be subjected to an in depth evaluation undertaken by peers following the framework set out in the *SARChI Monitoring and Evaluation Framework*.

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 1**: Management of Research Chairs over the tenure of the Research Chair

### 4.3. Funding Levels

SARChI funding instrument provides initial awards of up to R2,680,000 and R1,680,000 per annum for Tier 1 and Tier 2 Chairs, respectively. Each award covers
salaries\(^5\); postdoctoral fellowships and bursaries for postgraduate students; research operating costs; research equipment & infrastructure, and overheads for host institution. The guidelines for apportioning of the grant across these categories and the values of fellowships and scholarships are shown in Table 4.

**Table 4:** Guidelines for SARChI annual budget breakdown for Tier 1 and Tier 2 Research Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget category</th>
<th>Sub-item</th>
<th>Cost pa (ZAR)</th>
<th>Minimum number of people</th>
<th>Maximum number of people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>550 000 (Tier 2) to 700 000 (Tier 1)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Admin support</td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Assistants (per person)</td>
<td>30 000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellows (per person awarded pro rata)</td>
<td>200 000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bursaries</td>
<td>Doctoral (full time)</td>
<td>100 000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Masters (full time)</td>
<td>70 000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honours</td>
<td>40 000</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research equipment or infrastructure</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>≤400 000</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Up to 30% of total budget</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Overheads</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Up to 10% of total budget</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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\(^5\) Salaries of the incumbent and limited administrative support
It is important to note that this budget template provides a guide that stipulates the minimum and maximum amounts per budget category and has the flexibility for the Chair to allocate the SARChI grant based on the research activity plan. The proposed budget will be approved at the commencement of each five-year funding cycle. The incumbent will be given an opportunity, at the end of each calendar year, to make budget adjustments for the subsequent year, in consultation with the Director of the Research Chairs & Centres of Excellence and Grants Management and Systems Administration directorates.

Due to budget constraints, the NRF cannot fund the full cost of research and training, therefore Chairs are strongly encouraged to attract additional funding for research and human capital development from other national and international funders and donors to supplement the SARChI grant.

Tier 1 Research Chairs will not be eligible for additional NRF parliamentary core grant funding, except in respect of Rated Researchers Incentive Funding. Incumbents must apply for grants for large equipment through the NRF Infrastructure Funding Instrument.

However, Tier 2 Chairs may apply for NRF grants as outlined in the Multiple Grants Eligibility Overview (http://www.nrf.ac.za/document/multiple-grants-eligibility-overview).

**4.3.1. Payment of Grants**

The grant for year 1 of 5 for the awarded Research Chair will be fully disbursed to the university upon receiving the signed copy of the NRF ‘Conditions of Grant’ by the incumbent. Grants will thereafter be disbursed to the universities on an annual basis, for the approved funding period, subject to the appointed Chair meeting the requirements as contained in the ‘Conditions of Grant’ and submitting an Annual Progress report.
6. References


7. NRF contact persons

1. Dr Makobetsa Khati, Executive Director: Research Chairs and Centres of Excellence (phone: 012 481 4022; e-mail: makobetsa.khati@nrf.ac.za).

2. Dr Nana Boaduo, Director: Research Chairs and Centres of Excellence (phone: 012 481 4326; e-mail: nana.boaduo@nrf.ac.za).

3. Ms Andisiwe Jukuda, Professional Officer: Research Chairs and Centres of Excellence (phone: 012 481 4113; e-mail: andisiwe.jukuda@nrf.ac.za).

4. Dr Rocky Skeef, Executive Director: Reviews and Evaluation (phone: 012 481 4129; e-mail: Rocky@nrf.ac.za).

5. Dr Rendani Ladzani, Director: Reviews and Evaluation (phone: 012 481 4384; e-mail: rendani.ladzani@nrf.ac.za).

6. Mrs. Anthipi Pouris, Acting Executive Director: Grants Management and Systems Administration (phone: 012-481 4240; email: Anthipi@nrf.ac.za).

7. Mr Simon Lotz, Director: Grants Management and Systems Administration (phone: 012 481 4125; e-mail: simon.lotz@nrf.ac.za).