ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS FOR NRF- SASOL YOUNG ACADEMICS ACCELERATOR PROGRAMME (YAAP) RESEARCH GRANTS FOR 2026

The National Research Foundation (NRF) and Sasol are pleased to announce the provisional NRF–Sasol Young Academics Accelerator Programme (YAAP) grant awards for the 2026 academic year. The awards for applicants who responded to the 2026 Call for applications have been made according to the strategic objectives of the NRF-SASOL-YAAP Funding Instrument and the available budget. The successful applicants are listed in Table 1. **The NRF reserves the right to withdraw and cancel the scholarship should the applicant fail to meet all necessary conditions and/or requirements as stated in the NRF- SASOL-YAAP research grant Call for 2026 Framework document and the Conditions of Grant.**

PLEASE NOTE:

- If your name does not appear in Table 1, you have not been awarded an NRF-SASOL Young Academics Accelerator Programme (YAAP) research grant for 2026.
- Successful candidates will be able to view and download their award letters in January 2026, via NRF Connect against their applications.
- Read through the Conditions of Grant (CoG) letter and award letter documents carefully before accepting the award.
- **Guidelines on how to accept the award: https://www.nrf.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Acceptance-of-Award.pdf**
- All required documentation must be uploaded on the awardees' NRF Connect profile within thirty (30) days of receipt of the award letter.
- Funds will only be released once the completed and required documentation has been received by the NRF. We urge all the successful candidates to submit all the required documentation in order for the funds to be released expeditiously.
- The NRF feedback on the review of applications will be forwarded to all unsuccessful applicants between January and March 2026.

Table 1. Successful applicants for the NRF- Sasol Young Academics Accelerator Programme (YAAP) research grant for 2026 academic year

#	Programme Track	Reference	First Name	Last Name	Institution Applied At
1	PhD Track	YAAP250603319083	Mukovhe	Ratshitanga	Cape Peninsula University of Technology
2	PhD Track	YAAP250605319694	Nonsindiso	Mkhize	Durban University of Technology
3	PhD Track	YAAP250615322896	Nokwanda Pearl Nombali	Mthembu	Mangosuthu University of Technology
4	PhD Track	YAAP250624327091	Beverley	Wingfield	University of Pretoria
5	PhD Track	YAAP250625327983	Miranda	Baloyi	University of Pretoria
6	PhD Track	YAAP250515312486	Elelwani Daphney	Nevhufumba	University of the Witwatersrand
7	PhD Track	YAAP250626329191	Sabrina	Chatur	University of the Witwatersrand
8	PhD Track	YAAP250613322693	Tokozani	Mangesi	Walter Sisulu University
9	PhD Track	YAAP250624327167	Khaya Ntutuzelo	Dwaza	Walter Sisulu University

We congratulate all 2026 awardees