



ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS FOR THE DSTI-NRF MARINE AND ANTARCTIC MASTERS AND DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FUNDING IN 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (DSTI) and National Research Foundation (NRF) are pleased to announce the **provisional awards** for the **DSTI NRF Masters and Doctoral Scholarships** in 2026. The awards have been made according to the strategic objectives of the masters and doctoral funding instruments, the DSI-NRF Postgraduate Funding Policy and the available budget. Successful applications for the **DSTI-NRF Masters and Doctoral Scholarships** are listed in the Table 1 (Masters) and Table 2 (Doctoral). Candidates are either awarded at Full Cost of Study (FCS) or Partial Cost of Study (PCS).

PLEASE NOTE:

- If your name appears in the tables below, you have been **provisionally successful** in receiving an award for 2026, provided that you meet the minimum requirements according to the DSTI-NRF Postgraduate Scholarship Framework for 2026, DSTI-NRF Masters and Doctoral Application and Funding Guide, and the Conditions of Grant.
- Successful candidates will receive notifications to view and download their scholarship award letters and conditions of grant, as well as accept the award via the NRF Connect system.
- The awarded candidates must carefully read the Award Letter, Conditions of Grant and the Additional Conditions of Grant documents before accepting the award.
- **Guidelines on how to accept the award on the NRF Connect System:** <https://www.nrf.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Acceptance-of-Award.pdf>
- Once the successful candidate has accepted the award on the NRF Connect System. The Designated Authority from the university postgraduate/research office must validate and accept the award on behalf of the institution before it can be created as a grant on the Connect system.



- The NRF has made all attempts to support Financial Needy applicants at FCS however not all Financial Needy candidates could be supported at FCS due to budget constraints. The NRF will not consider requests from students for category changes from PCS to FCS based on financial need.
- Should it later be discovered that the candidate does not meet the relevant requirements for FCS or PCS funding, the NRF reserves the right to retract the awarded scholarship.
- Should the candidate not meet the relevant requirements for FCS funding, the NRF reserves the right to change the scholarship to PCS funding.
- Funds will only be released once the award has been accepted on NRF Connect and all required documentation uploaded to the grant on the NRF Connect System.
- The scholarship award must be taken up within Two (2) months from the date of issue of the letter of award, unless otherwise approved by the NRF. Awards not taken up within Two (2) months from the date of issue of the award letter, will be automatically cancelled. Candidates that will be taking up funding in the second semester should notify the NRF in writing via the Designated Authority at the institution's postgraduate/research office and obtain the necessary approvals.
- If your name does not appear in the Table below or any other published list of successful applicants, it means you have not been awarded a scholarship for 2026.
- Feedback letters to unsuccessful candidates will be provided between January and March 2026.
- All programme eligibility requirements will be confirmed by the institutional office and the NRF on acceptance of award. **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 DSTI-NRF Postgraduate Scholarship Framework for 2026, DSTI-NRF Masters and Doctoral Application and Funding Guide, and the Conditions of Grant.**

Table 1: List of Successful Applicants for DSTI-NRF Masters Scholarships for Funding in 2026 Academic Year

| Reference | Title | First Name | Last Name | Institution Name | FCS/ PCS |
|-------------------|-------|------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
| SAMOS251020373783 | Miss | Amanda | Duma | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| SAMOS251020373756 | Mr | Aphile | Vezi | University of Cape Town | PCS |



| Reference | Title | First Name | Last Name | Institution Name | FCS/ PCS |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| SAMOS251020373721 | Miss | Asanda | Mthembu | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| SAMOS251021374108 | Miss | Corienne | Erasmus | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| SAMOS251016372875 | Mr | Gcobani | Mtwazana | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| SAMOS251021373961 | Mr | Mahlatse Hendrik | Motubatse | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| SAMOS251017373134 | Miss | Robyn Margaret Audrey | Watson | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| SAMOS251020373851 | Mr | Sanele | Caluza | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| SAMOS251020373775 | Miss | Shaakirah | Sulaiman | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| SAMOS251023374662 | Miss | Shine Lithakazi | Mkatshwa | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| SAMOS251021373958 | Miss | tebatso | Ngobeni | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| SAMOS251020373753 | Miss | Zibuyile | Mabaso | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250520314474 | Miss | Lungi | Bergh | Stellenbosch University | PCS |
| PMDS250611321622 | Mr | Dan | Rom | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250623326211 | Mr | Niël Adriaan | Fick | Stellenbosch University | PCS |
| PMDS250702334181 | Mr | Gabriel | Nichollas | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250617323556 | Mr | Robert | Dugmore | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| PMDS250617323318 | Miss | Tanaka | Pedro | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250708338296 | Ms | Kaelo | Olifant | University of the Witwatersrand | FCS |
| PMDS250530317836 | Miss | Bianca | Louw | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250614322805 | Ms | Elizabeth Leone | van Staden | Nelson Mandela University | PCS |
| PMDS250617323222 | Miss | Nokwanda | Lukhele | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250623326140 | Ms | Mila | Truter | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| PMDS250707337169 | Miss | Joane | Van Dyk | Stellenbosch University | PCS |
| PMDS250627329549 | Ms | Agreanette | Sibanyoni | University of Pretoria | FCS |
| PMDS250609320635 | Mrs | Lieschen | Shepherd | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| PMDS250627329808 | Ms | Meagan | Classen | Stellenbosch University | PCS |
| PMDS250607320307 | Mr | Sanele | Caluza | University of KwaZulu-Natal | PCS |
| PMDS250701332617 | Ms | Kiara | Ranjit | University of KwaZulu-Natal | PCS |
| PMDS250703334485 | Miss | Kiara | Sewpujan | Nelson Mandela University | PCS |



Table 2: List of Successful Applicants for DSTI-NRF Doctoral Scholarships for funding in 2026 Academic Year

| Reference | Title | First Name | Last Name | Institution Name | FCS/ PCS |
|------------------|-------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
| PMDS250515312545 | Miss | Anele Ntokozo | Mahlangu | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250601318233 | Miss | Kezia | Madell | University of Cape Town | FCS |
| PMDS250702333395 | Miss | Merishka | Archary | University of Pretoria | PCS |
| PMDS250701332379 | Miss | Thulisile | Nkomo | University of Cape Town | PCS |
| PMDS250625327684 | Mr | Willem Frederik | Olivier | University of Pretoria | PCS |

We congratulate all new 2026 awardees.