



SOUTH AFRICAN CULTIVAR AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY. NPC ("SACTA")

Reg No: 2016/217906/08

Honours, Masters by Dissertation and Doctoral study Bursary Application Form - 2020

Applications open from: 26 August 2019 – 30 September 2019

APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY

BRIEF BACKGROUND TO SACTA

SA Cultivar & Technology Agency (SACTA) came into existence with the purpose of addressing a dilemma that developed over the years regarding the lack of new technology for self- or open-pollinated grain and oilseed crops in South Africa.

The relevant crops are: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Soya Beans and some Canola cultivars. Although farmers have the fullest right to hold back seeds from these self-pollinated crops for future planting, this practice reduces the quantity of new seed sold and it is thus not worthwhile for seed companies to invest in the breeding and technology of these crops. Without the latest seed technology, it is impossible for South African producers to compete against their international counterparts, who make use of the best seeds and latest technologies available. With no investment in the development of self-pollinated seeds there will be no progress - genetic gain and local production will stagnate or decline. Consequently, South Africa will need to import more of these grains, putting our food security at risk. In addition, the quality (baking worth) of imported grains is not always on par with South African standards.

Breeders' Rights are protected worldwide by means of the Plant Breeders' Rights Act, patents and contract law. According to the Plant Breeders' Rights Act, IP holders have the right to license and charge a reasonable fee. On the other hand, South African producers have the right to retain grain to use as seed.

For further details about the SACTA bursary scheme, kindly contact Laura du Plessis at L&L Agricultural Services (the Administrators of SACTA) electronically via laura@llagric.co.za.

<http://www.sactalevy.co.za/>

<http://llagric.co.za/>

BURSARY CRITERIA

i) BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are invited to apply for postgraduate bursaries with SACTA to further their studies within the grain and oilseed industry.

The basic requirements for application of a bursary with SACTA are:

- Applicants must be South African citizens.
- Applicants must be admitted to study fulltime with the institution of their choice.
- SACTA bursaries are only awarded to Honours, Masters and Doctoral studies.
- The field of study must be relevant to the South African grain and oilseeds industry.
- Successful applicants may not be in receipt of alternative funding from alternate sources.
- The proposal for the dissertation/thesis must be approved by SACTA before commencement with the studies.
- Upon application, SACTA requires:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A completed application form, b) A certified copy of a South African identity document/passport, c) Updated curriculum vitae, d) The latest academic transcript/record on an official letterhead, e) Proof of registration and a fee statement.
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- A formal bursary agreement is to be concluded with SACTA should a bursary be awarded.
- A supervisor for the study programme must be designated by the University where the study will be undertaken and must be approved by SACTA.
- Applicants will be expected to work in the South African grain and oilseed industry for the same period for which a bursary was awarded.
- Annual bursary amounts will be determined by SACTA each year.
- Closing date for bursary application submissions is 30 September of every year.

ii) BURSARY CONDITIONS:

- This bursary will **ONLY** fund Applicants registered for Honours, Masters by Dissertation or Doctoral qualifications.
- Only Applicants who apply by the specified date, have completed the application form and submitted all necessary supporting documents will be considered.

¹ All correspondence will primarily be made via the bursary holder's email account.

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- Applications will not be processed unless the Legal Undertaking (Section I) on this Application form has been completed and signed by the applicant concerned.
- Application for a bursary does not obligate SACTA to award a student a bursary, nor does it guarantee that any bursaries will be awarded.
- Telephonic interviews with shortlisted applicants will be conducted.
- Applicants will be notified of a successful outcome within 8 weeks of the closing date. Should applicants not receive correspondence from SACTA within 8 weeks from the closing date, applicants may accept that their application has been unsuccessful.
- The Initial instalment of the bursary is payable in January 2020.
- All bursary awards are conditional upon receipt of a positive report from the student's supervisor.
- Continued receipt of the bursary is dependent on a favourable supervisor's progress report/s and the acceptance of the bursary holder's progress report by SACTA indicating how the recipient is progressing with his/her studies.
- Applicants will be expected to submit a hard and soft copy of the completed thesis/dissertation on completion of their studies, which will be posted on relevant industry websites.

iii) SCOPE OF BURSARY

- **Honours:**
 - Bursaries totaling R65 000,00 per annum for **two years** in respect of **Hons** Applicants.
 - Bursaries will only be paid out according to the submitted and approved progress reports by both the student and their supervisor.
- **Masters by Dissertation:**
 - Bursaries totaling R95 000,00 per annum for **two years** in respect of **MSc** Applicants.
 - Bursaries will only be paid out according to the submitted and approved progress reports by both the student and their supervisor.
- **Doctoral Research:**
 - Bursaries totaling R125 000,00 per annum for **three years** in respect of **PhD** Applicants.
 - Bursaries will only be paid out according to the submitted and approved progress reports by both the student and their supervisor.

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iv) BURSARY POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

- **Policy Preamble**

SACTA acknowledges its responsibility to the South African grain and oilseeds industry to make a contribution towards ensuring that sufficient graduates address the relevant functional areas affecting the industry. For this reason, the policy and procedures for the awarding of bursaries has been developed to ensure that SACTA's Bursary Scheme will enable the Agency to play a role in increasing the availability of appropriately qualified scientists and professionals within the industry and that this process is managed equitably and in a transparent manner.

- **Policy**

- The policy will apply to SACTA Bursary Scheme and it will hereinafter and in general be referred to as "**the bursary**".
- The evaluation and approval of applications for bursaries will be handled by the Directors of SACTA.

➤ Applications must please be submitted electronically to: laura@llagric.co.za with the subject "**SACTA BURSARY**".

- Students who enrolled for a tertiary qualification, at a tertiary institution that is recognised by SACTA, will be allowed to apply for the bursary.
- Students in receipt of the bursary will have to collaborate with a supervisor who is subject to the approval of SACTA and the University.
- All recipients of the bursary must submit quarterly progress reports to SACTA, together with quarterly progress reports from the relevant supervisor until completion of the study.
- All progress results of the student shall be directed to the Administrators of SACTA in writing (email) and will be treated by SACTA as confidential.
- Failure to pass a semester or year course can result in the cancellation of the bursary.
- Failure, as referred to above, will result in the student repaying the full amount of the bursary as was awarded up to that point in time. Interest at prime overdraft rate will be calculated as from the date of failure until repayment.
- Students will be expected to submit a hard and soft copy of the completed thesis/dissertation on completion of their studies to SACTA.
- After completion of a student's course, the student must work for an industry related organisation or institution in

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the RSA for a period equivalent to the period for which the bursary was awarded.

- Failure to work for an industry related organisation or institution, as approved by SACTA, will affect an immediate repayment by the student of such amount(s) as the student had received.
- Interest at prime overdraft rate will be calculated as from the date of non-compliance until the actual date of repayment. The student will be exempt from repayment of such portion of the amount(s) pro rata to the period for which the student has been employed.
- SACTA reserves the right as custodian of the bursary to change the policy, as and when it deems it necessary, but this will only be done with prior notification.

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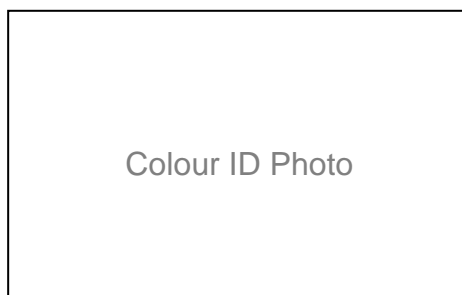
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SECTION A: PERSONAL PARTICULARS

PERSONAL PARTICULARS	
Title	
Forename	
Surname	
Nationality	
Gender	
Population Group	
Cell phone	
Email	

PHYSICAL ADDRESS	POSTAL ADDRESS
Postal Code:	Postal Code:

BANKING DETAILS	
Account Holder	
Branch Code	
Account Number	
Account Type	



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_____ **Initials**

SECTION B: STUDENT REPORT

TERTIARY EDUCATION					
Please select your field of study from the list below (mark with an X):					
Plant breeding		Soil microbiology		Plant biochemistry	
Plant physiology		Plant entomology		Plant Virology	
Biometry		Plant nematology		Seed Applied Technologies	
Agronomy (Especially important)		Food sciences (relevant to crop industry)		Data Science	
Weed science		Plant pathology		Demand Planner	
Soil science		Molecular biology		Conservation Agriculture	
Precision Agriculture		Agricultural Writers			
Other field of study					
Qualification applied for		Honours (Hons)	Masters (MSc)	Doctorate (PhD)	
Institution applied to					
Estimated Completion Date			Number of study years		

- a) Briefly assess and discuss your progress within your Undergrad/Hons/MSc academic year/s.

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- b) Should your progress have not been satisfactory, provide a reason/s for your slow progress.

	Unable to reach supervisor
	Unable to gain access to research material/s
	Slow return of data from respondents/ participants
	Other (please specify):

Final award of the bursary will be considered by SACTA.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____ DD/MM/YY

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SECTION C: PROPOSED RESEARCH DETAILS

Please provide your dissertation/thesis working research title **and** a brief description of the proposed research.

Working Research Title

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Brief Description of Research

(Include Rationale, Problem Statement, Objectives, Industry Relevance and a separate Gantt Chart - Max 300 words)

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SECTION D: MOTIVATION

Motivate your application for a bursary in terms of your academic ability, financial need and career plans.

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SECTION E: CHECKLIST

Please take note that L & L Agricultural Services will not consider incomplete applications. Before submitting your application, please check that you have done everything that is applicable, as shown in the list below. However, due to the variations in registration periods, please submit the application form although you may have not yet obtained proof of registration and a fee structure. You may forward these documents once you have registered.

We suggest you tick the box next to each point when you have checked it.

Have you:	✓
1) Completed the sections in the application form that apply to you?	
2) Ensured that you can meet the requirements and conditions of application?	
3) Have you signed the “Legal Undertaking” declaring that the information provided is complete and correct?	
4) Attached a certified copy of a South African identity document/passport (less than 3 months old)?	
5) Updated and attached a copy of your curriculum vitae?	
6) Included the latest academic transcript/record on an official letterhead?	
7) Included your proof of registration and a 2020 fee statement?	

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_____ **Initials**

SECTION F: SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor	Mr.	Mrs.	Miss	Ms.	Dr.	Rev.	Prof.	Other (please specify):
	Full name							
	Cell				Email			
Co-supervisor	Mr.	Mrs.	Miss	Ms.	Dr.	Rev.	Prof.	Other (please specify):
	Full name							
	Cell				Email			

- a) Please provide a succinct statement based on the quality of work submitted by the applicant thus far.

- b) Discuss the applicant's capacity to deal with methodological issues.

- c) Please provide an estimated completion date for the applied qualification.

Is there any likelihood that the applicant will be able to complete the research within this prescribed period?

- d) In view of your assessment, do you recommend the applicant's application for a bursary for the 2020 academic year?

YES	NO
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Final awarding of the bursary will be considered by SACTA.

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: DD/MM/YY _____

¹ All correspondence will primarily be made via the bursary holder's email account.

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SECTION G: STUDENT PROGRESS REPORT

(Completed and signed by the student and handed in to The Maize Trust at the beginning of **March, June, September and December**)

Although this may be subject to change, the following headings act as an example of what would need to appear on a typical progress report.

A progress report need only be **ONE page**.

Progress reports are to be submitted to SACTA every quarter.

1st/2nd/3rd/4th Quarter Progress Report

Proposed title of thesis/dissertation

Student: _____

Institution: _____ **Degree:** _____

Supervisor: _____

Co-supervisor: _____

FIRST QUARTER OUTLINE

1. STUDENT DETAILS AS ABOVE
2. BACKGROUND
3. AIM OF STUDY
4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY
5. PROGRESS IN 1st Quarter
6. SUMMARY OF RESULTS (If applicable)
7. SUMMARY OF 2nd QUARTER INTENTIONS
8. APPENDICES (If applicable)
9. STUDENT SIGNATURE
10. DATE

SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTER OUTLINE

1. STUDENT DETAILS AS ABOVE
2. PROGRESS IN 2nd or 3rd or 4th Quarter
3. SUMMARY OF RESULTS (If applicable)
4. SUMMARY OF 3rd or 4th QUARTER INTENTIONS
5. APPENDICES (If applicable)
6. STUDENT SIGNATURE
7. DATE

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SECTION H: SUPERVISOR PROGRESS REPORT

(Completed and signed by the supervisor and handed in to The Maize Trust at the beginning of **March, June, September and December**)

Although this may be subject to change, the following questions act as an example of what would need to appear on a typical supervisor progress report. These questions, pertaining to the progress of a student, would need to be answered and elaborated on further using an official university letterhead, every quarter.

1st/2nd/3rd/4th Quarter Progress Report

Student name: _____

Date: DD/MM/YY

1. Is the student progressing satisfactorily and, in your opinion, is he/she in control of their studies?
2. Are you satisfied that the student should be able to complete his/her degree in the designated time?
3. Do you believe the student is using the SACTA bursary money properly for purposes of studies/research?
4. Are you, as supervisor, pleased with the progress of the student?
5. Is the data collection required for the study finalised by the student?
6. Has the student commenced with the capturing of data for purposes of his/her dissertation/thesis?
7. Has the student produced and presented any posters, lectures or papers related to his/her studies?
8. Does the student, in your opinion, demonstrate the ability to become a good researcher?
9. Did the student give any indication whether he/she would be interested in further studies?
10. Has the student been networking with international peers or other researchers?
11. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 – poor and 10 – good), how would you rate the student's quality of work thus far? (Please circle the correct option)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

SENIOR SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: _____

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SECTION I: LEGAL UNDERTAKING (COMPULSORY)

I, _____, ID number _____ declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the information furnished in this application is true and correct and that if it be found to be false and/or misleading in any respect, this application may be invalidated and the applicant's application terminated.

- 1) I undertake:
 - 1.1) That I understand and will comply with all the requirements and conditions contained herein,
 - 1.2) To notify L & L Agricultural Services immediately should:
 - 1.2.1) I fail/cancel or abandon my studies.
 - 1.2.2) I need to rectify any information that has been submitted within this application form.
- 2) That the information is supplied voluntarily, without undue influence from any party and not under any duress.
- 3) To familiarise myself with and adhere to all the rules and general regulations applicable to the bursary for which I intend to apply.
- 4) I undertake that I will not hold SACTA and its affiliates liable, nor make any claim against SACTA and its affiliates for any compensation and/or any expenses incurred or damages suffered as a result of or in respect of any injury to me or illness or my death, irrespective of whether any such damages, injury or death may have been attributable to any degree of negligence on the part of SACTA or one or more of its affiliates or other person(s) for whose actions it might, but for this undertaking, have been responsible.
- 5) I am aware that the bursary is only valid if it complies with the applicable prescripts and regulations governing the bursary concerned.
- 6) I accept that, if I abandon, cancel or change my qualification or my studies at the University at any time, no cancellation or reduction of fees will be considered and that I will remain liable for the payment of all fees payable to SACTA in full.
- 7) I undertake to accept the responsibility for the payment of fees (tuition, residence and any other applicable fees).
- 8) I hereby give permission that information about my academic progress be divulged to SACTA and person/bursar liable for the payment of fees. I consent to my study being used on industry websites.
- 9) I agree, understand, consent and irrevocably authorise L & L Agricultural Services to keep, use, process and verify information in paper and electronic format, including information supplied by me during the bursary application process.
- 10) I hereby undertake to inform L & L Agricultural Services of any disciplinary and criminal proceedings (finalised or pending) against me prior to applying for the bursary.
- 11) I hereby confirm that I have not secured funding from alternate sources and understand that the Masters or Doctoral bursary awarded to me by SACTA can be cancelled at the discretion of the Agency.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: ___ DD/MM/YY ___