



# THE SORGHUM TRUST

Reg no. IT9221/97

## Masters by Dissertation and Doctoral study Scholarship Application Form - 2020

Applications open from: 26 August 2019 – 30 September 2019

### APPLICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY

#### BRIEF BACKGROUND TO THE SORGHUM TRUST

The Sorghum Trust endeavours to aid and promote higher education in agriculture, more specifically, to promote the study of sorghum and its impact on agriculture. The collective founders of the Trust including producers, researchers and private industry know the world of agriculture is changing as times change. The Sorghum Trust seeks to promote agricultural progress by identifying, educating and equipping demographically, responsible and diverse individuals who have the potential to excel and make a significant future impact within the agricultural industry. The interests of the Trust are best summarised in a quote from Gladys Kriebel Delmas:

*“Western societies produced a flowering of human values and enduring beauty; I hope they will not be entirely lost in the new society whose shape we cannot know. Let us try to preserve the best and encourage the shoots of the new to grow in a direction that will not entirely distort the old.”*

For further details about the Sorghum Trust scholarship scheme, kindly contact Laura du Plessis at L&L Agricultural Services (the Administrators of the Sorghum Trust) electronically via [laura@llagric.co.za](mailto:laura@llagric.co.za).

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

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



## SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

### i) BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are invited to apply for postgraduate scholarships with Sorghum Trust to further their studies within the sorghum industry.

The basic requirements for application of a scholarship with Sorghum Trust are:

- Applicants must be South African citizens.
- Applicants must be admitted to study fulltime with the institution of their choice.
- Sorghum Trust scholarships are only awarded to Masters and Doctoral studies.
- The field of study must be relevant to the South African sorghum industry.
- The proposal for the dissertation/thesis must be approved by Sorghum before commencement with the studies.
- Upon application, Sorghum Trust requires:
 

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

### ii) SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS:

- This scholarship will **ONLY** fund applicants registered for 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.
- Applications will not be processed unless the Legal Undertaking (Section G) on this Application form has been completed and signed by the applicant concerned.

- Application for a scholarship does not obligate Sorghum Trust to award a student a scholarship, nor does it guarantee that any scholarships 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 Sorghum Trust within 8 weeks from the closing date, applicants may accept that their application has been unsuccessful.
- The Initial instalment of the scholarship is payable in January 2020.
- All scholarship awards are conditional upon receipt of a positive report from the student's supervisor.
- 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 SCHOLARSHIP

- **Masters by Dissertation/Doctoral Research:**
  - The Sorghum Trust scholarship of R30 000 is awarded to two applicants who have fulfilled all of the criteria.
  - Recipients of the scholarship are awarded at the discretion of the Trustees of Sorghum Trust.

### iv) SCHOLARSHIP POLICY AND PROCEDURES:

- **Policy Preamble**

Sorghum Trust acknowledges its responsibility to the South African sorghum 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 scholarships has been developed to ensure that Sorghum Trust will enable the Trust 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 Sorghum Trust Scholarship Scheme and it will hereinafter and in general be referred to as **"the scholarship"**.

- The evaluation and approval of applications for scholarships will be handled by the Directors of Sorghum Trust.

➤ Applications must please be submitted electronically to: [laura@llagric.co.za](mailto:laura@llagric.co.za) with the subject “**ST Scholarship**”.

- Students who enrolled for a tertiary qualification, at a tertiary institution that is recognised by Sorghum Trust, will be allowed to apply for the scholarship.
- Students in receipt of the scholarship will have to collaborate with a supervisor who is subject to the approval of Sorghum Trust and the University.
- Failure to pass a semester or year course can result in the cancellation of the scholarship.
- Failure, as referred to above, will result in the student repaying the full amount of the scholarship 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 Sorghum Trust.
- Sorghum Trust reserves the right as custodian of the scholarship to change the policy, as and when it deems it necessary, but this will only be done with prior notification.

## SECTION A: PERSONAL PARTICULARS

PERSONAL PARTICULARS							
Title	Mr.	Mrs.	Miss	Ms.	Dr.	Rev.	Other (please specify):
First Name/s				Surname			
Cellphone				Email			
Nationality				ID Number			
Gender	Male		Female		Population Group		

PERMANENT PHYSICAL ADDRESS	POSTAL ADDRESS
Postal Code:	Postal Code:

BANKING DETAILS	
Account holder	
Branch Code	
Account Number	
Account Type	



All correspondence will primarily be made via the scholarship recipient's email account.  
Please initial each page of this document to indicate that all pages have been read and understood.

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Initials

## **SECTION B: STUDENT REPORT**

<b>TERTIARY EDUCATION</b>			
Please select your field of study from the list below:			
Plant breeding		Soil microbiology	
Plant physiology		Plant entomology	
Biometry		Plant nematology	
Agronomy (Especially important)		Food sciences (relevant to crop industry)	
Weed science		Plant pathology	
Soil science		Molecular biology	
<b>Other Field of Study</b>			
<b>Qualification applied for</b>	Masters (MSc)		Doctorate (PhD)
<b>Institution applied to</b>			
<b>Estimated Completion Date</b>		<b>Number of Study Years</b>	

Briefly assess and discuss your progress within your Hons/MSc academic year/s.

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Should your progress have not been satisfactory, please provide a reason/s for this.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to reach supervisor
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to gain access to research material/s
<input type="checkbox"/>	Slow return of data from respondents/ participants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify):

Final award of the scholarship will be considered by the Sorghum Trust.

**STUDENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ DD/MM/YY

All correspondence will primarily be made via the scholarship recipient's email account.  
Please initial each page of this document to indicate that all pages have been read and understood.

\_\_\_\_\_ Initials

## **SECTION C: PROPOSED RESEARCH DETAILS**

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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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All correspondence will primarily be made via the scholarship recipient's email account.

**Please initial each page of this document to indicate that all pages have been read and understood.**

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**Initials**

**SECTION D: WHO ARE YOU?**

(Please limit your response to no more than 100 words).

1. Tell us about yourself and your family.

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2. How do you see your future ambitions contributing towards the South Africa that you want to see in the next ten years? Outline some of the things you plan to do and how you would carry them out.

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5. The Sorghum Trust's vision is to create and support a sorghum industry of emerging, high-impact and responsible members. The aim is therefore, that all our selected recipients will become individuals who will significantly impact and positively change the world around them. Given the above, please provide us with the reasons why you decided to apply for this opportunity?

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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.

<b>Have you:</b>	✓
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?	

## SECTION F: SUPERVISOR REPORT

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

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

- b) Kindly provide a brief synopsis of the applicant as a person?

- c) Will the applicant be able to apply the knowledge gained through this study in the South African agricultural sector?

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

YES	NO
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Final awarding of the scholarship will be considered by the Sorghum Trust.

**SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ DD/MM/YY

All correspondence will primarily be made via the scholarship recipient's email account.  
Please initial each page of this document to indicate that all pages have been read and understood.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Initials**

## **SECTION G: LEGAL UNDERTAKING (COMPULSORY)**

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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 scholarship for which I intend to apply.
- 4) I undertake that I will not hold the Sorghum Trust and its affiliates liable, nor make any claim against the Sorghum Trust 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 the Sorghum Trust 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 scholarship is only valid if it complies with the applicable prescripts and regulations governing the scholarship 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 the Sorghum Trust 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 the Sorghum Trust and person 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 scholarship 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 scholarship.

**APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_ DD/MM/YY \_\_