

Postgraduate Scholarship Programme

Terms and Conditions

1. CONDITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

1.1. Scholarship conditions

- 1.1.1. The **point of departure** for the allocation of the PSP scholarships is the promotion and support of the **institutional research project; and the strengthening of the institution's postgraduate pipeline**. These prestigious and competitive scholarship awards seek to build on our existing research expertise while producing emerging and early-career researchers of the future.
- 1.1.2. Applicants are advised that the University may require additional information, over and above the information supplied in the application, in order to reach a decision about the suitability of any candidate for the award of a scholarship. The University also retains the right to award, or not to award, scholarships to any persons who meet the eligibility, award, and/or preference criteria.
- 1.1.3. Applicants must intend to register for **full-time programmes at Honours or Master's or doctoral** level, adhering to the entry requirements of the University.
- 1.1.4. Students may receive either a full-cost scholarship or a partial-cost scholarship which may fluctuate per faculty.
- 1.1.5. Recipients will be required to declare the value of any other scholarship(s) or award(s), whether in cash or in-kind or direct payments into their personal bank accounts that they may hold for the same study programme.
- 1.1.6. **Furthermore, scholarship awards may be decreased should recipients also hold additional scholarships** amounting to more than the maximum value of the **full-cost scholarship**, according to the rules of supplementation outlined at point 1.1.8. Exceptions will only be considered by the PGO based on a solid motivation by the student/supervisor.
- 1.1.7. Recipients will only be funded up to the following **period of support** per level:
 - 1.1.7.1. Honours: 1 year of registration only
 - 1.1.7.2. Master's: 2 years of registration only
 - 1.1.7.3. Doctoral: 3 years of registration only
 - 1.1.7.4. Any special registrations (preparatory doctoral students/special registrations) will be counted as year 1 of the doctoral degree, in line with established practice on the PSP.
 - 1.1.7.5. **Upgrades** from Master's to PhD: Master's students who are approved for an upgrade to PhD will only be funded with one additional year of funding at the PhD level, **or in total 4 years of registration inclusive of the number of registrations at Master's level**.
- 1.1.8. The following supplementation conditions will apply:

- 1.1.8.1 Students receiving a **full-cost scholarship may not receive any additional funding**. Top-ups received from other sources will be cancelled against the PSP amount, unless duly motivated in exceptional circumstances. Such requests must be submitted by the supervisor to the Postgraduate Office Funding Office (Scholarship Coordinator) for consideration and approval. Approval will be granted by the Deputy Director: Postgraduate Funding
- 1.1.8.2 Students receiving a **partial scholarship** may be topped up from other funding sources, but only to the same value of the full scholarship value for the PSP per degree level as confirmed in the annual call documentation. **Any additional funding received** beyond this amount from other sources **will be cancelled** against the PSP amount.
- 1.1.9 Students who are registered on a full-time basis for the relevant postgraduate degree programme, **may not hold full-time salaried employment** during the tenure of the bursary, but he/she will be allowed to undertake a maximum of **twenty (20) working hours per week** on average during the year of study, and he/she may be remunerated for his/her services, provided that he/she is reimbursed at the normal university tariff for services rendered.
- 1.1.10 The bursary may **also not be held concurrently with any other full scholarship** or statutory funding scholarship, i.e. NRF, MRC, CSIR, etc.
- 1.1.11 Students who are awarded **full-cost NRF scholarships** are not eligible for funding under the Postgraduate Scholarship Programme.
- 1.1.12 **Permanent staff members** or applicants receiving employer bursaries will not qualify for this funding.
- 1.1.13 Applicants who **already hold a qualification on the same NQF level** or higher, **will not qualify for this funding**.

1.2 Student Expectations

- 1.2.1 Students are expected to ensure that they enter into a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with their supervisor (**except at Honours level**). A MoU template can be found [here](#).
- 1.2.2 Awarded students must also **sign a scholarship agreement**, which will be communicated by the scholarship coordinator.
- 1.2.3 Students are expected to enrol for **postgraduate skills development opportunities** via the Postgraduate Office, other support services and more broadly (as recommended by their supervisor).
- 1.2.4 Students are expected to adhere to the institution's Student Disciplinary Code; failure might result in the cancellation of the scholarship.
- 1.2.5 Students and their supervisors must adhere to the institutional ethics policies and guidelines and ensure the integrity of their research.

- 1.2.6 All students must submit **two** progress reports:
- 1.2.6.1 **June Progress Report:** used to allocate the second tranche of funding. Students who are not progressing as per the agreed-upon timelines with their supervisors will be contacted for more information. If necessary, an improvement plan should be devised and accepted, before the second tranche of funding is released.
 - 1.2.6.2 **November Progress Report:** outlines final progress and date of completion of the degree programme. For Master's and Doctoral Students, the November progress report will be used to allocate further funding according to 1.1.8.
 - 1.2.6.3 Continuation of funding for Masters and doctoral students are subject to the submission of a satisfactory progress report from both student and supervisor.
 - 1.2.6.4 Failure to submit **a** progress report will result in further funding being ceased and will be considered as non-compliance with the PSP terms and conditions and PSP contract.
- 1.2.7 All recipients are expected to complete **their degree programme within the minimum duration of the programme** [i.e. one registered year for Honours, two registered years for Master's and three registered years for doctoral], and may be granted an **additional 1 year to complete their degree (no-cost extension)**.
- 1.2.8 **Masters awardees** will be expected to prepare at least **one** submission ready article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
- 1.2.9 **Doctoral awardees** will be expected to prepare at least **two** submission ready article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.