



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI



Edgewood
Campus



Howard College
Campus



Nelson R
Mandela Campus



Pietermaritzburg
Campus



Westville
Campus

Postgraduate Funding for Research

NRF Proposals

Neil Koorbanally
Dean of Research

INSPIRING GREATNESS

- Introduction and Purpose
- Scorecard (Review criteria)
- What to write and how to write it
- Checking
- Opinion
- Supervisor approval

Masters Funding Review Scorecard: New Applications

| Review Criteria/Weight | Description | Four Point Rating Scale, Weight and Descriptor | | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | 3 = Excellent | 2 = Good | 1 = Average | 0 = Below average |
| 1. Academic merit (35%) | Average percentage mark for the honours degree if completed; OR Average percentage mark for major subjects in the final-year undergraduate courses for students currently registered for honours degree; OR Average percentage mark for major subjects in 3rd-year undergraduate courses for students in the final year of a 4-year undergraduate degree. | 75% and above | 70-74% | 65-69% | 64% and below Not eligible for funding |
| | | (If a minimum average of 65% is not achieved at the time of application, it must be confirmed with the submission of the Condition of Grant by April 2023) | | | |
| 2. Completion time for previous degree (15%) | Time taken to complete the honours degree if completed; OR Time taken to complete the undergraduate degree if the honours degree is in progress; OR Time taken to complete 3rd-year undergraduate courses for students in the final year of a 4-year undergraduate degree. | Minimum prescribed period* | Minimum prescribed period + 6 months | Minimum prescribed period +1 year | Minimum prescribed period +2 years |
| 3. Priority Research Area (20%) | Research aligned with one of the national research priority areas. | Yes | - | - | Not a national research priority area |
| 4. Project Outline (30%) | Provide an overview of your research concept and your proposed aim. | Comprehensive | Adequately described | Partially described | Poorly stated Not eligible for funding |

Doctoral Funding Merit Review Scorecard: New Applications

| Review Criteria/Weight | Description | Four Point Rating Scale, Weight and Descriptor | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | 3 = Excellent | 2 = Good | 1 = Average | 0= Below average |
| 1. Academic merit (30%) | Percentage mark for the Masters degree if completed; OR If the Masters degree is in progress, average percentage mark for the honours degree; OR Average percentage mark for major subjects in the final year of a four-year undergraduate degree. | 75% and above | 70-74% | 65-69% | 64% and below Not eligible for funding |
| | | (If minimum average of 65% is not achieved at the time of application, it must be confirmed with the submission of the Condition of Grant by April 2023) | | | |
| 2. Completion time for previous degree (15%) | Time taken to complete the Masters degree if completed; OR If the Masters degree is in progress, time taken to complete the honours degree or four-year undergraduate degree. | Minimum prescribed period* | Minimum prescribed period + 6 months | Minimum prescribed period +1 year | Minimum prescribed period +2 years |
| 3. Track record or Research Outputs (15%) | Evidence of research outputs in accredited peer-reviewed publications and, presentations at conferences/symposiums. | 1 Journal article and conference presentation | 2 conference presentation | 1 conference presentation | No outputs |
| 4. Priority Research Area (10%) | Research aligned with one of the national research priority areas. | Yes | - | - | Not national research priority area |
| 5. Originality of the Doctoral study (20%) | Problem statement, Identified knowledge gaps relating to the problem statement, Aim and Objectives of the study. | Fully aligned and comprehensive | Fully aligned and motivated | Described with minor gaps | Poorly developed Not eligible for funding |
| 6. Potential Impact of the research (10%) | Potential to contribute to national research strategies and the strategic goals of the knowledge economy. | Potential impact has been comprehensively demonstrated | Potential impact has been demonstrated without details | Potential impact partially demonstrated with minor gaps | Potential impact has not been demonstrated |

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|----|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|----|----|----|
| | | | | | 1. Academic merit (35%) | 2. Completion time for previous degree (15%) | 4. Priority Research Area (20%) | Project Outline (30%) | Overall score | | | |
| 1 | South African Citizenship Status | COLLEGENAME | SCHOOLNAME | FIRSTREGYR | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | South African permanent resident | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF AGRI, EARTH & ENV SC | 2020 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 1.75 | | | |
| 3 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2020 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |
| 4 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS | 2020 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |
| 5 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | 2020 | 0 | 1 | 3 | | 0.75 | | | |
| 6 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF AGRI, EARTH & ENV SC | | | | 3 | | 0.6 | | | |
| 7 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF AGRI, EARTH & ENV SC | 2020 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |
| 8 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2020 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |
| 9 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2020 | 1 | 3 | 3 | | 1.4 | | | |
| 10 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF MATHS,STATS &COMP SC | 2020 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 2.1 | | | |
| 11 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | 2020 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 1.75 | | | |
| 12 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | 2016 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |
| 13 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF AGRI, EARTH & ENV SC | 2020 | 0 | 3 | 3 | | 1.05 | | | |

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| | AP | AQ | AR | AS | AT | AU | AV | AW | AX | AY | AZ |
|----|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|--|---|---------------|
| | | | | | 1. Academic merit (30%) | 2. Completion time for previous degree (15%) | 3. Track record or Research or Research outputs (15%) | 4. Priority Research Area (10%) | 5. Originality of the doctoral study (20%) | 6. Potential impact of the research (10%) | Overall score |
| 1 | South African Citizenship Status | COLLEGENAME | SCHOOLNAME | FIRSTREGYR | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Non-South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | | 0 | 3 | | 3 | | | 0.75 |
| 3 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS | 2017 | 0 | 2 | | 3 | | | 0.6 |
| 4 | Non-South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS | 2019 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | | | 1.05 |
| 5 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | COLLEGE ADMIN OFFICE: AES | 2016 | 3 | 0 | | 3 | | | 1.2 |
| 6 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS | | 3 | 0 | | 3 | | | 1.2 |
| 7 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS | 2019 | 0 | 3 | | 3 | | | 0.75 |
| 8 | South African permanent resident | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2018 | 0 | 3 | | 3 | | | 0.75 |
| 9 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2019 | 2 | 0 | | 3 | | | 0.9 |
| 10 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2018 | 0 | 3 | | 3 | | | 0.75 |
| 11 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF AGRI, EARTH & ENV SC | | 1 | 0 | | 3 | | | 0.6 |
| 12 | Non-South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | | 3 | 3 | | 3 | | | 1.65 |
| 13 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2018 | 1 | 3 | | 3 | | | 1.05 |
| 14 | Non-South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | 2019 | 1 | | | 3 | | | 0.6 |
| 15 | South African citizen | COLLEGE OF AGR, ENG & SCIENCE | SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES | 2019 | 0 | 1 | | 3 | | | 0.45 |

Sheet1

Ready

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Masters

- Abstract
- Project outline

PhD

- Abstract
- Problem Statement
- Aims and Objectives
- Potential Impact

ORIGINALITY

- Clear and concise
- What the aim of the project is.
 - Cure cancer
- How do you aim to do it.
 - Identify a gap in the literature
 - Synthesise a drug related to the compounds found in a natural remedy known to have anticancer properties (no one has done this)
 - Test it for anticancer activity
 - Compare the activity to known drugs
 - Evaluate its toxicity
- What result do you aim to achieve
 - Find a lead compound that can be developed into a drug

- Rationale and Literature review (**Referencing** important)
- Identify the gaps in the literature
- What do you intend to do?
- How are you going to do it – methodology?
- What results do you hope to get.
- What is the significance and impact of your work?
- What problem do you hope to solve?
- How are you going to make life better and improve on what we already have?

“When I was young I drove to work in a Lamborgini”father to son

“Dad, did you melt the polar ice caps? Don’t forget to charge the car when you get home.”son to father

“Dad, why did you have telephone lines in your day. Did you hang the telephones from there?”son to father

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PhD

Problem
statement

- What problem are you trying to solve?
- Show the severity of the problem.
 - Finding a cure for COVID.
- Some statistics will help.
- Provide **references** to support your claims (important)

- What is the aim of your project
 - Do you want to find a cure cancer (cliché)
 - Do you want to reduce the side-effects of cancer treatments by finding a drug based on a natural remedy.
 - You need to highlight the gap in the literature here and link this to your aim?
- What are your objectives
 - How are you going to reach your aim?
 - What is your plan and methodology?
 - What are your chances of success?
 - Are you building on work already done?
 - Is this a completely new idea?
 - What are the chances of succeeding?
 - **Referencing** is important to support your arguments.

- Is your research going to make a difference to the world?
- Are you going to make people's lives easier or better?
- If so, by how much.
 - I made a phone that people could carry around with them as it operates off a beacon and not through wires. How convenient.
 - I made three new antibiotics against a wide spectrum of pathogenic bacteria. These can be used when currently used drugs are no longer effective against pathogenic bacterial species due to mutations. This will save millions of lives.
 - I found a new antiviral drug active against SARS COV-2. COVID can now be treated with this drug. This has reduced the mortality rates caused by COVID by 99%.