

DSI-NRF Postgraduate Student Funding for the 2025 Academic Year - NOW OPEN

The DSI and NRF are pleased to announce a call for new applications for DSI-NRF Postgraduate Student Funding for the academic year 2025. All continuing students who are eligible for a second or third year of funding must submit a Progress Report and not a new application.

The NRF **minimum academic requirement** for postgraduate funding is **65%**. The entry age requirement is 28, 30 and 32 years or younger for honours, master's and doctoral studies respectively, in the year of application, regardless of first year of registration. Successful applicants will be funded either at **Full Cost of Study (FCS)** or **Partial Cost of Study (PCS)**.

The FCS funding will be awarded to South African citizens and Permanent Residents only, who are either **financially needy** (i.e., those whose combined household family income is less than or equals to R350 000 per annum), **living with a disability** or **exceptional academic achievers**. However, the PCS funding will be awarded to **5% of international students** including South African citizens and Permanent Residents who could not be funded under FCS but meet other minimum requirements for the NRF scholarship funding criteria.

The scholarships are intended to support honours, master's and doctoral candidates to pursue studies in all areas of Science, Engineering, Technology, Social Sciences, and Humanities.

All applicants will be expected to apply online on the [NRF Connect system](#). **No manual applications will be accepted. Applicants may apply for one of the application categories listed below.**

APPLICATION CATEGORY	NRF CONNECT APPLICATION NAME	UCT INTERNAL CLOSING DATE
First-time Masters	Masters	05 July 24
First-time Doctoral	Doctoral	05 July 24
Extension support for Masters and Doctoral Scholarships	Extension support for Master's and Doctoral Scholarships	15 September 24
SARAO: Masters	SARAO Masters	15 August 24
SARAO: Doctoral	SARAO Doctoral	15 August 24
SARAO: Honours	TBC	TBC
Honours (General) - Call will open in July 2024	TBC	30 September 24

Honours applicants requiring ISFAP assessment should submit their applications by 02 September 2024.

Please refer to the Application and Funding Guide and Framework documents when completing the online application form at every step of the process.

[2025 DSI-NRF Postgraduate Scholarship Framework](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[NRF Statement of expectation for Postgraduate Training](#)

[ISFAP – Application Consent Form](#)

[2025 SRAO Master's Scholarships Application Guide](#)

[2025 SRAO Doctoral Scholarships Application Guide](#)