



SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

AGREEMENT: SCHOLARSHIP FOR FULL-TIME MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL STUDY AT A SOUTH AFRICAN UNIVERSITY/UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY/UNIVERSITY ABROAD

I, _____ (full name) ID _____ (hereinafter the **scholarship-holder**), hereby accept the scholarship awarded to me as stipulated in the attached letter of award. The said letter or such other terms and conditions as may be imposed by the NRF, and of which the scholarship-holder shall be advised in writing, shall form an integral part of this agreement. The scholarship is awarded subject to the following terms:

A. SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

1. **The NRF award must be your primary source of funding.**
2. The scholarship will be awarded for one (1) year only for full-time study and may, in the sole discretion of NRF, be renewed for the subsequent year/s depending on the:
 - availability of funds
 - academic progress by the scholarship-holder.

Nothing herein contained shall however, create an expectation that the scholarship shall be renewed for subsequent years.

3. The period of support is calculated from the first year of registration for the study or research regardless of NRF funding.

Table 1: The maximum periods of support for the various levels of study

Level	Full-time
Honours	1 Year
Master's	2 Years
Doctoral	3 Years 4 Years (abroad)
Master's upgrade to Doctoral	4 Years

In the case of a Master's study, a maximum period of support of two (2) years will be considered and in the case of a doctoral study, a maximum allowable period will be three (3) years, depending on the scholarship-holder's academic year.

However, in the case of doctoral scholarships abroad, a maximum period of four (4) years is allowable (three (3) years for the doctoral study and one (1) additional year for mandatory coursework). Please note that proof of mandatory coursework is required in order to add the fourth (4th) year of support under the award.

Where a Master's study is upgraded to Doctoral study, the maximum support for Master's and Doctoral study will be four (4) years. The NRF will only upgrade Master's awards to Doctoral level upon receipt of official university upgrade documents.

Signature: scholarship-holder _____ **As witnesses (1)** _____ **(2)** _____

4. The scholarship values are:

Master's Level:

- Scarce Skills Development Fund Master's Scholarship: R80 000 p.a. (Eighty thousand rand per annum) (South African citizens and permanent residents only).
 - DST Innovation Master's Scholarship: R80 000 p.a. (Eighty thousand rand per annum)
 - NRF Free-standing Master's Scholarship: R50 000 p. a. (Fifty thousand rand per annum)
 - Manus MatSci Master's Scholarship: R80 000 p.a. (Eighty thousand rand per annum) (South African citizens only).

Doctoral Level:

- Scarce Skills Development Fund Doctoral Scholarship: R110 000 p.a. (One hundred and ten thousand rand per annum) (South African citizens and permanent residents only).
 - DST Innovation Doctoral Scholarship: R110 000 p.a. (One hundred and ten thousand rand per annum).
 - NRF Doctoral Scholarships for Studies Abroad: US \$24 000p.a. (Twenty-four thousand US dollars per annum) (South African citizens and permanent residents only).
 - NRF Free-standing Doctoral Scholarship: R70 000 p. a. (Seventy thousand rand per annum).
5. The Grant will only be deemed valid on receipt of the duly initialled and signed Agreement and the uploading thereof on the NRF Online Submission System by the Institution's Designated Authority (DA) within one (1) month of the date of issue of the Grant Award Letter for the Grant.
6. Only upon compliance with the provisions of Clause 5 above and the receipt of *all* requested award documents by the NRF for newly awarded students; and outstanding Annual Reports for all eligible and continuing grants received from any NRF funding instrument, will funds be released for claiming and payment according to the standard NRF financial policies and procedures (details of which are available on request from the NRF Finance Directorate). Failure to comply as aforesaid will result in the Grant being cancelled and the funds reallocated appropriately at the NRF's discretion.
7. Travel grants (once-off) are available for certain funding programmes and are awarded based on successful travel grant applications. Scholarship-holders must consult the Scholarship and Fellowship Travel Policy and Guidelines booklet when applying for a travel grant. This can be found on the NRF Online Submissions website (<https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za>).
- Travel grant applications must be submitted online no less than three (3) months prior to the intended travel dates.
 - Scholarship-holders abroad are only eligible for travel grants that contribute to the following: a single economy airfare for travel to the country in which the doctoral studies will be undertaken; and/or a single economy airfare to return to South Africa upon completion of the doctoral studies abroad.
 - If a travel grant application is successful, upon the scholarship-holder's return from said travel, a travel feedback form must be completed. This can be found on NRF Online Submissions. ***not applicable to scholarships abroad**
8. The scholarship-holder must be registered at an accredited South African public Higher Education Institution as a full-time student during the tenure of the scholarship. ***not applicable to scholarships abroad**
9. The scholarship may not be held concurrently with any other NRF or Government funded scholarship/bursary. Failure to comply with the aforementioned will entitle the NRF to forthwith cancel the agreement, in which event the scholarship-holder will be liable to refund the scholarship plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF bankers.
10. The scholarship-holder may not hold full-time salaried employment during the tenure of the scholarship, but he/she will be allowed to undertake a maximum of twelve (12) hours of teaching, tutorials, assistance or demonstration duties 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/university of technology tariff for services rendered.

Signature: scholarship-holder _____ As witnesses (1) _____ (2) _____

11. Supplementation (*not applicable to scholarships abroad):

- The scholarship may be supplemented by other sources to the University's maximum value at Master's and Doctoral level.
 - Where the university does not have a maximum allowable value, the scholarship may be supplemented up to R 200 000 p.a. (two hundred thousand rand per annum) for Master's and R 250 000 p.a. (two hundred and fifty thousand rand per annum) for Doctoral or in accordance with the South African Receiver of Revenue (SARS) permissible amounts for non-taxable bursaries and scholarships.
12. The scholarship-holder must obtain the degree for which the scholarship was awarded by the contractual date which is within one (1) year after NRF funding has ceased and notify the NRF via the university authority. Should the scholarship-holder not complete the degree for which the scholarship was awarded, the funds will have to be returned to the NRF plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF bankers.
13. NRF scholarships for full-time doctoral study abroad are awarded with the objective that the scholarship-holder returns to South Africa after completion of the studies abroad and, with the knowledge gained abroad, contributes to the fields of science, engineering and technology in South Africa. Therefore, should the fellowship-holder choose not to return to South Africa within one (1) year after the research period for which the scholarship was awarded, he/she will have to refund the full scholarship, including all future renewals thereof as well as any contribution made towards airfare, plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF's bankers. Should the scholarship-holder return but leave South Africa permanently before the expiry of this contract, the amount repayable to the NRF will be decreased in proportion to the period for which he/she worked in South Africa after his/her return.
14. Should the scholarship-holder fail to fulfil any of the aforesaid conditions or should it transpire that a scholarship was awarded on the basis of false information supplied to the NRF, the NRF is entitled to forthwith cancel the agreement, in which event the scholarship-holder will be liable to refund the scholarship plus interest at the prevailing prime rate charged by the NRF bankers.
15. If a scholarship-holder wishes to change the research project or field of study, supervisor or institution for which the scholarship was awarded, a letter of request from the student, initial supervisor and new supervisor must be submitted to the NRF through the appropriate institutional authority for consideration prior to such a change.
16. Doctoral students studying abroad should provide the NRF with information on their scholarship abroad such as their abroad bank account details, physical address abroad and other necessary information required. Funds will only be released once this information is received.
17. The scholarship-holder will acknowledge the financial assistance of the NRF as follows on the title page of the mini thesis/dissertation as well as in all papers and publications that emanate from the study:

The financial assistance of the National Research Foundation (NRF) towards this research is hereby acknowledged. Opinions expressed and conclusions arrived at, are those of the author and are not necessarily to be attributed to the NRF.

Note: If statements concerning the research are made to the media, it should be stated explicitly that the scholarship-holder initiated the research and that it should under no circumstances be regarded as research done on behalf of or commissioned by the NRF.

18. This grant must be used in compliance with all South African laws and international laws, where these do not contradict South African laws, and the research outputs must be used entirely and wholly for legal purposes.
19. The scholarship/bursary-holder is required to upload the final corrected version of the dissertation or thesis in an approved electronic format (single Adobe readable file (PDF)) to the NRF. The institutional office responsible for the award should ensure that the scholarship/bursary-holder submits the handle or link of the dissertation or thesis deposited in the University Library's digital repository to the NRF, before or a month after their graduation ceremony to the following address, http://www.nrf.ac.za/nrf_funded_thesis_dissertation_requirements. Failure to comply with the requirement, the scholarship/bursary-holder will be liable to refund all support provided by the NRF for the degree under which the funding was awarded.

Signature: scholarship-holder _____ As witnesses (1) _____ (2) _____

20. All NRF awards are subject to the NRF Statement on Open Access to Research Publications. Please refer to the copy of this document on the NRF website regarding terms and conditions around publications (<http://ir.nrf.ac.za/handle/10907/103>).

Notwithstanding the conditions referred to in the clauses of this agreement, the NRF reserves the right to adjust or cancel its scholarship.

B. REGULATORY CLAUSES

21. Scholarships will be awarded for a full year (new awards) or on a pro-rata basis (existing awards) depending on the period for which the scholarship is requested.
22. The scholarship will be cancelled if it is not taken up by end June of the year of award unless otherwise motivated.
23. Should the scholarship be renewed (note: renewal is based on period of support), the terms and conditions as per the initial signed agreement apply to the subsequent year/s of funding.
24. The Grantholder will make himself/herself available to participate in NRF reviewing activities during the period of the grant, or anytime thereafter for an additional period not exceeding five (5) years from the expiration or lapse of the grant. ***Applicable to PhD-holders.**
25. The scholarship-holder will notify the NRF immediately of any change in the circumstances under which the scholarship was awarded that might affect the award of the scholarship. Should the scholarship-holder fail to do this, the scholarship may be cancelled by the NRF with immediate effect.
26. The scholarship-holder will notify the NRF immediately of any change of address.
27. If the NRF policy applicable to the award changes in subsequent years to the date of the award, the new policy applies. Please consult with your research or post graduate or financial aid office regarding any policy updates.
28. Should the scholarship-holder not perform in terms of this agreement and the NRF be compelled to institute legal action for the recovery of any award, the scholarship-holder will be liable for all costs incurred on the scale of attorney-and-client basis and further agrees to the jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Court in accordance with Section 45 of Act 32 of 1944, as amended, for any action that may arise from this agreement.
29. The scholarship-holder hereby elects the following address as his/her **domicilium citandi et executandi** for the service of all notices or court process in terms of this Agreement:

(NB: PO Box or private bag numbers and university residence or departmental addresses are not acceptable. Please provide a residential address.)

Accepted and signed at _____ this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Signature: Scholarship-holder

As witnesses (1) _____

Scholarship-holder's identity number

(2) _____

ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS NRF MASTERS AND DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOLARSHIP-HOLDER			
I hereby accept the terms and conditions of the award and confirm that the following documents are attached:			
1.	Acceptance of conditions, appropriately signed and completed by the student and institutional authority		
2.	Proof of registration/proof of commencement of research		
3.	Full certified academic record		
4.	Copy of ID		
5.	Proof of citizen (if applicable)		
Name of scholarship-holder (please print)			
ID/Passport Number of scholarship-holder			
Type of scholarship (e.g. Honours, Master's etc)			
Student Number			
Name of Supervisor/Host (Title, Name and Surname)			
Email Address of Supervisor/ Host			
Signature of Scholarship-Holder			Date
Please provide the following demographical information:			
Name of Home Province		Province where the university is based	
TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIP (EXCLUDING DOCTORAL ABROAD)			
SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING			
SOURCE		VALUE (R)	
TOTAL			
I hereby declare that the:			
1.	Details regarding the registration or commencement of the research of the scholarship/fellowship-holder are correct and complete as requested		
2.	<div style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 80%; display: inline-block;"></div> agrees to administer the <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">(name of institution)</div> above scholarship/fellowship to the above scholarship/fellowship-holder under the conditions specified in the agreement. I further declare that I will notify the NRF if and when it comes to my attention that the conditions specified in the agreement are not met by the scholarship/fellowship-holder.		
3.	Above university will report the examination results of said scholarship-holder to the NRF at the end of his/her studies for the degree concerned. (where applicable)		
Name		Signature	
Date		Designation	

**PROOF OF REGISTRATION
NRF MASTERS AND DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP**

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIP					
<p>I hereby declare that _____ (name of student)</p> <p>is registered as a full-time _____ student in the faculty of _____</p> <p>for the _____ degree in the _____ academic year</p>					
Year of study, i.e. 1st, 2nd		Date of registration	(D)	(M)	(Y)
<p>Is this an upgrade (applicable to doctoral studies only): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 450px; height: 150px; margin: 20px auto; text-align: center; vertical-align: top; padding: 10px;">Official Stamp</div>					
<p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>					