



Biological
Sciences

Department of Biological Sciences

University of Cape Town

Private Bag X3, Rhodes Gift, 7701 South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 3604 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 3301
<http://www.biologicalsciences.uct.ac.za>



Kristina Plattner Scholarship: 2027 awards

Eligibility: The **Kristina Plattner** Scholarship is intended to support deserving MSc or PhD students whose projects address the impact that climate change, fire or any anthropogenic activity may have on the biodiversity, function or conservation of fynbos ecosystems.

Applications are invited from all full-time MSc and PhD students in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cape Town. The award will only be made to PhD students who are within their first 3 years of PhD registration, MSc by dissertation students within 2 years. The award is made based on a combination of academic merit and financial need

Conditions: The successful incumbent will be required to:

- Be registered for full time study in the Department of Biological Sciences
- Comply with the University's policies on postgraduate funding.

Value and Tenure:

PhD award value of R180000 p.a., renewable for up to a total of three years

MSc dissertation R150000 p.a., renewable for up to a total of two years

The department reserves the right to alter the number or amount of the awards.

Application: Your application should be in the form of a single pdf file which includes a completed application form, letter of motivation, CV, copies of academic transcripts, personal budget and a detailed project abstract (<300 words) clearly indicating the botanical framework/theme/methods of the research. Names and contact details of at least two academic referees who have taught, supervised or worked alongside the applicant must be provided. The motivation letter (< 300 words) should describe why you should receive this award (i.e. **merit**) and describe the **need** that you have for this funding (i.e. current funding and financial needs). Financial statements should include Rand value of awards or income and a monthly budget reflecting income and expenses.

Selection process: The awards are based on a competitive process decided by a committee comprising academic staff of the Department of Biological Sciences. The criteria for this award are that the project must meet the scope stated above. The applications will be ranked on a combination of merit (60%) and need (40%). Merit is judged by academic achievements at Honours and MSc level, evidence of publications or publication quality research and awards or other recognition of excellence.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 31 OCTOBER 2026.

Application forms are available from Natalie Jodamus and the completed form should be sent to the Biological Sciences Admin Assistant: Ms Natalie Jodamus, room 1.33 John Day Bldg, Tel: 021 650 3627, email: Natalie.Jodamus@uct.ac.za

UCT's Indemnities: The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of award or to make no award at all.



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1. Name:
2. Student ID:
3. Email:
4. Thesis title:
5. Year of first registration:
6. Degree registered for (i.e. MSc or PhD):
7. Name(s) of Supervisor(s):
8. Other bursaries applied for (give details of source and Rand value):
9. Other bursaries received (provide source and Rand value):
10. Bursaries received in previous years (provide source and Rand value):
11. Student loan for this year (source and Rand value):
12. Total study loan commitment to date (Rand value):
13. Other support (e.g. top-ups from supervisor; give details):
14. Other support received in previous years (give details):
15. Earnings from part- or full-time employment (give details and annual or monthly salary before tax):



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Please include the following with this form:

- Motivation letter (< 300 words).
- Detailed project abstract (< 300 words).
- Transcripts (e.g. Peoplesoft) of your academic record(s).
- Monthly summary budget reflecting income and expenses (see suggested template below).
- Names and addresses of two academic referees.

The application form, letter of motivation and any supporting documentation should be combined into one PDF document. Completed forms should be submitted to Natalie.Jodamus@uct.ac.za by the closing date of **31 October 2026**.

Suggested budget template:

	Monthly budget	
	Budget Item	Rands
Monthly expenditure	Rent	
	Food	
	Personal Expenses	
	Transportation	
	Books and Supplies	
	Health care costs	
	<i>Total Non-Tuition Expenses</i>	
Monthly income	Employment (demonstrating/part- full-time work)	
Note: for lump amounts	Parental Support	
take annual amount divided by 12	Scholarships (totals from form above)	
	Financial Aid/loans	
	Other sources	
	<i>Total monthly income</i>	
	Annual costs	
Expenditure	Annual tuition fee	
	Other annual expenditure (e.g. dependents, society memberships)	