



UCT POSTGRADUATE FUNDING OFFICE

An intro to our team, services & scholarships

We're here to help
postgraduates at UCT
navigate funding opportunities



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

“Starting postgrad studies is not an overnight decision. Lots of thinking goes into it! Finding and applying for funding is a key part. Every year, my team helps thousands of students kick-start their individual postgraduate journeys. For assistance, all you have to do is knock on our (virtual) door!”

Chantal Swartz | Senior Manager,
Postgraduate Funding Office

Contact details

Email

pgfunding@uct.ac.za

To get in touch with a specific team, see details on pg. 3.

Web

bit.ly/PGFundingUCT

Visit us

Virtual one-on-one sessions available during COVID-19

Twitter

[@UCTpostgrads](https://twitter.com/UCTpostgrads)



LISTEN to the [audio interviews](#) with the PGFO leadership team for useful insights and advice!

UCT POSTGRADUATE FUNDING OFFICE

Meet the PGFO leadership team

Three teams make up the PGFO



Chantal Swartz
SENIOR MANAGER

We are responsible for the management and administration of postgraduate and postdoctoral awards, as well as for monitoring the postgraduate and postdoctoral sectors and for the development of policies and procedures for financial and other types of support.



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
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GENERAL AWARDS TEAM



Stacey-Lee Harrison
GENERAL AWARDS MANAGER

Contact her team:
Email: generalfunding@uct.ac.za
Tel: +27 21 650 2141

Go to pg. 4 for an overview of what's covered in this portfolio

NRF & DEPARTMENTAL TEAM



Bongiwé Ndamane
NRF & DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS MANAGER

Contact her team:
Email: NRFFunding@uct.ac.za
Tel: +27 21 650 2206

Go to pg. 5 for an overview of what's covered in this portfolio

FELLOWSHIP & MISC TEAM



Chantel Reed
INFORMATION MANAGER

Contact her team:
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Tel: +27 21 650 2349

Go to pg. 6 for an overview of what's covered in this portfolio



GENERAL AWARDS TEAM

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW*

- Financial Aid/GAP Form 10A: South African and permanent residents
- Departmental via 10A
- Apply via Form 10A
- Nomination by department

- International Students Scholarships
- Refugee Students' Scholarships
- JW Jagger Centenary Scholarships
- JW Jagger Trust Scholarship

- John Davidson Educational Trust
- Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund
- Women Scientist Fellowship
- Commonwealth
- Lestrade
- Huawei
- Garden Cities
- Dr J Graaf & Dr A Strebel
- Posco

*These awards & grants are covered in detail online (see pg. 9 for details)



NRF & DEPARTMENTAL TEAM

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW*

A new NRF Funding Policy kicks in in 2021. Read more here: bit.ly/NRFpolicy2021

Scholarships

- Innovation, Scarce Skills, Freestanding, DAAD
- Nuffic (Single/Split Site)
- TWAS Doctoral
- Grant Holder/SARChI Bursaries

NRF Travel Grants

Respective Departments

- Departmental Scholarships
- Consult the Departments/Faculties

*These awards & grants are covered in detail online (see pg. 9 for details)

A photograph of two young women with long dark hair sitting at a dark wooden table outdoors. The woman on the left is wearing glasses and a dark top, looking down at an open book. The woman on the right is wearing a yellow top and is writing in a notebook with a pen. A clear plastic cup with a straw is on the table near her. The background is a light-colored concrete wall.

FELLOWSHIP & MISC TEAM

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW*

Travel Grants

By independent application form

- Conference Travel Grants
- International Travel Scholarships
- Scarbrow Bursary

Miscellaneous Awards

By independent application form

- Awards listed on Section 4 in [Handbook 14](#)
- Staff Tuition Bursaries

Prestigious Fellowships

By independent application form

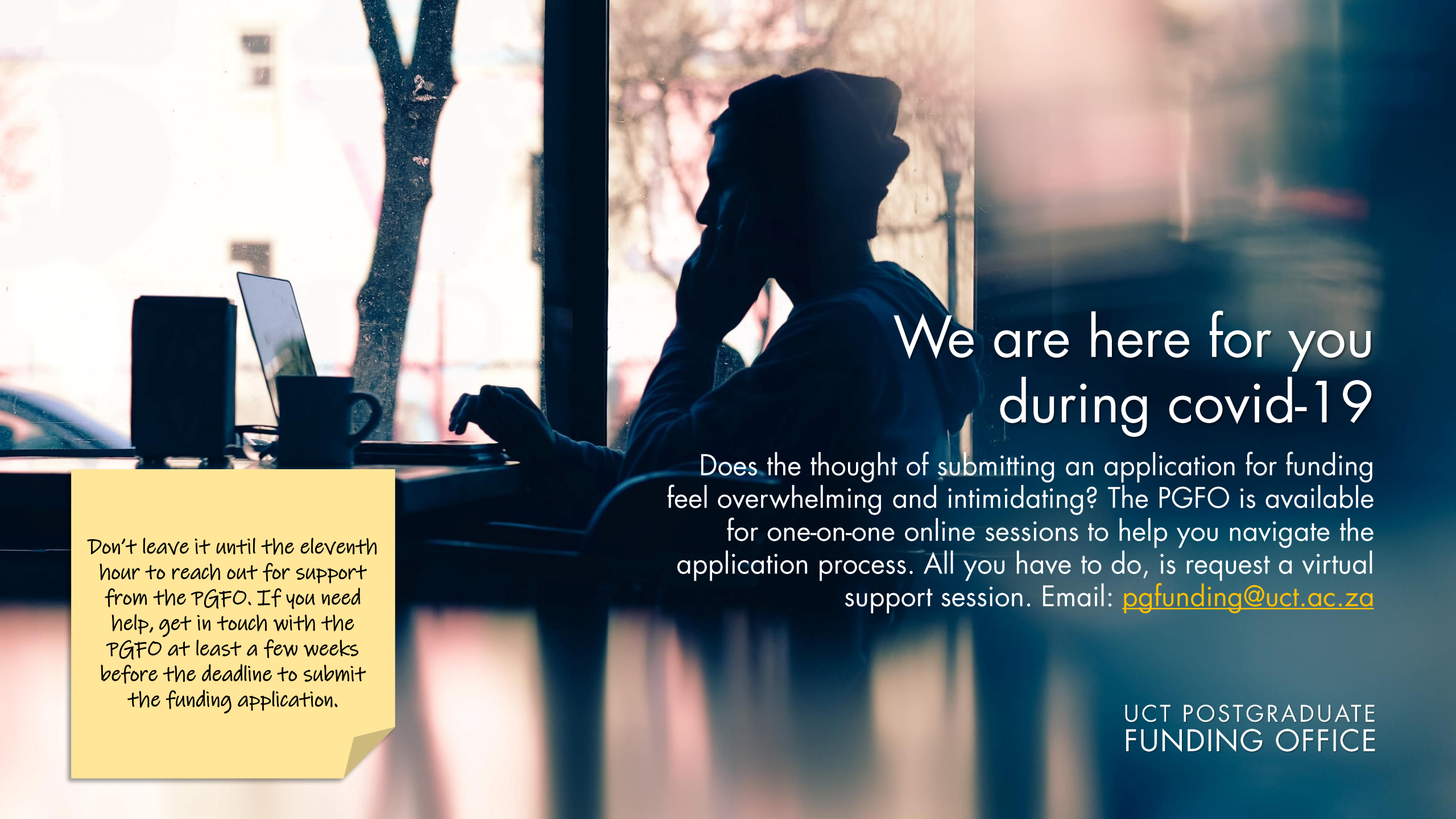
- The Harry Crossley Research Fellowships
- The David and Elaine Potter Fellowships
- The Annette-Campbell White Scholarship

Awards by nominations

- The Mamokgethi Phakeng Scholarship Fund
- The Mamokgethi Phakeng Prize
- The Max Price and Deborah Posel Postgraduate Scholarship
- UCT Doctoral Package Project
- December Faculty, 3-Year Bachelor and Senior Scholarships. All awards listed on Section 7 in [Handbook 14](#)

Due to COVID-19, all travel grants have been suspended until further notice.

*These awards & grants are covered in detail online (see pg. 9 for details)

A person is sitting at a desk in front of a large window. On the desk, there is a laptop, a black mug, and a pair of glasses. The person is looking out the window at a tree. The scene is dimly lit, with light coming from the window.

We are here for you during covid-19

Does the thought of submitting an application for funding feel overwhelming and intimidating? The PGFO is available for one-on-one online sessions to help you navigate the application process. All you have to do, is request a virtual support session. Email: pgfunding@uct.ac.za

Don't leave it until the eleventh hour to reach out for support from the PGFO. If you need help, get in touch with the PGFO at least a few weeks before the deadline to submit the funding application.

UCT POSTGRADUATE
FUNDING OFFICE



FINDING FUNDING

7 KEY THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT FUNDING YOUR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

- 1 BE FLEXIBLE.** Financial assistance for postgraduates comes in various forms. Some are administered by the university and others by external agencies and donors. Be sure to investigate a range of options.
- 2 KEEP THOSE MARKS UP.** Many postgraduate awards are based on either academic merit alone or a combination of financial need and merit. While there are awards based only on financial need, the better your academic scores, the more awards are available.
- 3 PLAN AHEAD.** Start looking for funding opportunities well in advance. Opportunities for funding are often announced months before the deadline to register for your degree (e.g., in the year preceding the start of your postgraduate studies).
- 4 FOLLOW @UCTPOSTGRADS** Our Twitter account announces bursaries, scholarships and other opportunities. Otherwise, details are available on the Postgrad Hub's electronic noticeboard.



- 5 GATHER AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE.** The Postgraduate Funding Office (PGFO) offers a range of material to help you find funding for your studies. Booklets, such as this one, and handbooks can be obtained from the PGFO or downloaded from the Postgrad Hub.
- 6 PREPARE FOR A BALANCING ACT.** With the exception of some prestigious scholarships and a specific group of UCT-supported, full-cost awards, full financial support via a single award is rare. This means financing your postgraduate studies is likely to involve a combination of bursaries, part-time employment and loans. Bear in mind, some awards cannot be held concurrently with others. So, when you plan, consider as many sources of support as possible.
- 7 ASK FOR HELP.** The PGFO is within easy walking distance of most faculties and departments on Upper Campus. Our staff are there to advise you on the diverse funding opportunities available to postgraduates and help with the submission of applications. Also speak to researchers and potential supervisors as they may have access to grantholder bursaries.
Upper Level, Otto Beit Building, University Avenue North, Upper Campus
☎ +27 (0)21 650 3622 📧 pgfunding@uct.ac.za

Visit our Postgrad Hub and consult UCT Handbook 14 for details on the full spectrum of postgraduate funding awards available.

www.postgradhub.uct.ac.za

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS
Most funding is restricted to South African citizens and

Read the Postgrad Studies brochure for tips on finding funding



IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER REGARDING FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

1 Postgraduate funding is not automatically granted based on admission to UCT or as a follow-on to the undergraduate funding you may have had. There are many awards, each with specific criteria and rules that must be fulfilled/matched. Hence there is an application process for all awards, including deadlines for submission dates, which must be adhered to.

2 To be considered for postgraduate funding, prospective students must have applied for an academic place at UCT (in addition to applying for funding).

3 Currently, students registering only for full-time honours, masters and doctoral degrees are eligible to apply for funding. Students who register for postgraduate diplomas and certificates, the BArch, the LLB or for the fourth year of any bachelor degree are not eligible for postgraduate awards.

4 Students who intend to study for a second degree at the same level as one they already hold (e.g., a second honours degree) are also not eligible for postgraduate awards.

If you can't read the small print on this page, please read it in the online brochure

Take note!

Funding opportunities are announced throughout the year, so make sure you keep an eye on these platforms!

Our go-to-places for funding opportunities

Our electronic
funding noticeboard
bit.ly/UCTPGFundingNoticeboard

Financial
Assistance for
Postgraduate Study
and Postdoctoral
Research
[Handbook 14](#)

Follow us on
Twitter
 [@UCTpostgrads](https://twitter.com/UCTpostgrads)

Our prestigious
suite of awards
bit.ly/PrestigeUCT



Scholars
Program

Deadline to apply:
30 September 2020

10 x honours &
48 x master's scholarships
are available for 2021

www.mcfsp.uct.ac.za

Main areas of support/sources of funds

UCT (GOB) - University of Cape town - General Operating Budget

Funds provided by UCT Council to the General Operating Budget

DEPT - Departmental Scholarships

Departmental funds are derived from funds raised by individual academics, academic departments and/or units

DON - Donated Funds

Donated funds are funds received from sponsors

INV - Invested Funds

Part of the annual income from specific investments that are held by the university are used for scholarship support

NRF - National Research Foundation

NRF is a government funded agency that provides funds to support research at universities

The PGFO is the guardian of all these funds. We are responsible for managing these funds and ensuring that the recipients of each scholarship are paid

In 2019, the PGFO gave
R400 million
to postgraduate students
to fund their studies

Funding tenure & income limits

Annual funding limitations

These funding limitations apply to the scholarships and bursaries managed by the PGFO. Students can accept more than one scholarship as long as the total amount doesn't exceed these figures each year.

FIRST THREE YEARS of doctoral study

R283 000 funding limit

FIRST TWO YEARS of master's study

R230 000 funding limit

FIRST YEAR of honours study

R172 000 funding limit

Please note that financial-need* applicants will only be awarded funding up to their cost of attendance which is calculated as follows:

- tuition
- once-off book allowance
- res/rental or live-at-home allowance
- food allowance
- travel allowance

Eligibility criteria

- **TYPES OF DEGREES:** Honours, master's & doctoral
- **STUDENT STATUS:** Most funding opportunities are only available for full-time studies, but there are a few options available to students studying part-time
- **NATIONALITY:** Most of the scholarships are only available to South African citizens or permanent residents. However, there are a few scholarships for students located elsewhere in the world.

Ineligible categories

- These degrees do not qualify for funding from the PGFO because they do not have a research focus: diplomas, certificates, BArch & LLB.
- Any fourth year linked to an undergraduate degree
- In addition, a second degree at the same level as one they already hold e.g. a second honours degree

*UCT allocates a variety of postgraduate funding awards for South Africans and permanent residents. These awards are allocated based on merit, financial need or both.

Good luck!
If you need help,
we look forward
to hearing from you!

