

Announcement of ONE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS for 2024 NRF Postdoctoral Grants



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS	APPLICANT CLOSING DATES
Postdoctoral Fellowships (Freestanding, Scarce Skills, Innovation)	9 June 2023
SARAO Postdoctoral Fellowships	31 August 2023
SASOL Postdoctoral Fellowships	5 May 2023

The NRF has pleasure in announcing the opening of the NRF for Postdoctoral Grants.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must have graduated with their doctoral degree within four (4) years of applying to the NRF. For this Call, applicants must have graduated with their doctoral degree no later than 31 December 2018;
- Applicants who are currently completing their doctoral dissertation for submission may apply. They should however complete their doctoral degree by 31 December 2023, as all awards that are not taken up by 30 June 2024 will be cancelled by the NRF;
- Full-time employees of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) or other research institutions are only eligible to apply if they intend to take unpaid leave for the duration of the postdoctoral fellowship.
- Applicants who are applying for a second NRF Postdoctoral research placement will be eligible if they intend undertaking research on a new project;
- Applicants who are applying for a second NRF Postdoctoral research placement to continue with research on the same project are not eligible; and
- Applicants who are applying for a third NRF Postdoctoral research placement are not eligible.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted electronically on the *NRF Connect* system at <https://nrfconnect.nrf.ac.za> unless otherwise indicated.

Summary of the Postdoctoral fellowships

	FREESTANDING	INNOVATION	SCARCE SKILLS
Areas of support	Natural Sciences; Engineering; Technology; Social Sciences; and Humanities.	Biotechnology; Cellular and Molecular Biology; Engineering; Computer Science; Physics; Astronomy; Mathematical Sciences; Nanotechnology; Chemistry; Earth Science; Ecology; Medical Sciences; Social Sciences; and Humanities	Management: Financial Management; Financial sector: Accounting, Auditing, Statistics, Actuarial Science; Biological sciences: Biotechnology; Physical sciences: Mathematical Sciences, Physics, Geology, Computer Science, Information Systems, Chemistry; Engineering: All fields of Engineering.
Citizenship	SA and permanent residents and international citizens	SA and permanent residents and citizens from the African continent	SA and permanent residents
Value	R200 000	R255 000	R255 000
Tenure	2 years	2 years	2 years

It is important to read the relevant documents before deciding on which funding opportunity to apply to. All eligibility criteria, as well as the applicable requirements, must be taken into consideration.

Please download the

- **General Application Guide** here: <https://www.nrf.ac.za/nrf-call-for-proposals-for-funding-in-2023-and-2024/>
- **Freestanding, Innovation and Scarce Skills Postdoctoral Fellowships Framework** here: <https://www.nrf.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Freestanding-Innovation-and-Scarce-Skills-Postdoctoral-Fellowships-%E2%80%93-2024-Funding-Framework-2.pdf>

Application Requirements

- Applicants should apply to undertake postdoctoral research (i) on a research project that is different from the doctoral research; (ii) located in a different department from that where the doctoral training was undertaken; or (iii) at a different institution to that where the previous study was undertaken, as fellowships will preferably be awarded to individuals that will be expanding their research training on a new project and/or at a new institution
- Special consideration will be given to applicants who are applying for a first NRF postdoctoral research placement where the individual's research training and outputs may be enhanced by continuing with postdoctoral research at the same institution; department; or under the same mentor. In such instances the applicant must provide a **strong motivation** describing the benefits to the applicant and for advancing research and innovation. **Failure to provide a motivation will result in a rejection without review**
- Applicants' must attach proof of their masters and doctoral qualifications to their application. For those who are in the process of completing their doctoral degree, a letter of confirmation from their current institution, stating that their doctoral qualification will be completed by December 2023 must be attached to the application
- Requested information that is not included in the appropriate section of the online application form, but is submitted as an attachment instead, will render the application incomplete resulting in a rejection without review

For Enquiries:

Please email Emile van Wyk in the UCT's Postdoctoral Administration Office – pdocs@uct.ac.za