

UEC Research Equipment Call - 2026

Faculty-prioritised Large Equipment Grants

Deadline for submission to Faculty Equipment Committees (FEC) - 27 May 2026¹

All queries must be directed FEC Chairs / Representatives. See contact list below.

The University Equipment Committee seeks to advance, extend, and support the **research**² equipment infrastructure of UCT in concert with the research strategies of UCT, the faculties and departments. Equipment may be defined as a facility or system that is used for research purposes and that provides experimental, analytical, processing, testing, measurement, storing, housing, preparation, performative or recording capabilities. The UEC considers applications for funding of either single, or multiple items of equipment which together constitute a coherent unit. When dealing with an application which features multiple items, the UEC shall consider the coherence of the system being requested and may thus exclude applications which feature distinctly independent items. When dealing with applications that include computing facilities or software³, the UEC shall consider the necessity of the items to drive or operate a coherent facility.

A. Eligibility:

UCT researchers are eligible to apply if they are:

- Permanent academic staff; or
- Academic staff on T2 contracts of at least 5 years; or
- Joint PGWC/UCT academic staff in Health Sciences on UCT Conditions of Service (excluding registrars).

Honorary Research Associates; Emeritus Professors; Emeritus Associate Professors; Honorary Professors; Honorary Associate Professors and Senior Research Scholars are **NOT** eligible to apply.

Those who wish to have access to new equipment must form part of research groupings and may not be the Principal Applicant.

B. Application process:

1. The UEC will only consider one Category 1 application per individual or research grouping per year.
2. Applicants must use the correct and most recent application form for this call (**R&I18**) which is available here: <https://forms.uct.ac.za/ri18.doc>
 - a. Please read the first 2 pages of the form carefully and **complete all sections**.
 - b. The application must be accompanied by at least **two recent quotes**.
 - c. The application must describe how the equipment will advance the **research strategies** of the Department, the Faculty, and the University.
 - d. The motivation must make clear that the appropriate **infrastructural support** and **staffing** has been investigated, and that the **physical space** required is available.
3. The applicant must ensure that the completed application form, signed by the Head of Department, is submitted to the Faculty Equipment Committee / representative by the deadline above.

¹ The NRF National Equipment Programme (NEP) call is expected to open this year. Another call for applications will be circulated if/when it does. The deadline is usually the first week of May.

² Funding requests for equipment used mainly for teaching or clinical purposes must be directed to the department/faculty/other funding sources.

³ Applications for strategic research related computer equipment and software items must be directed to the [Advanced Computing Committee](#).

4. Faculty Equipment Committees must prioritize the requests and submit the endorsed applications to the UEC via the Servicing Officer (Robyn.Udemans@uct.ac.za) by the deadline indicated below.
5. The Research Office will not accept late, incomplete, retrospective or ad hoc applications. Please be advised that no late or retrospective applications will be accepted and awarded funds will only be available to successful applicants at the end of January / in early February of the following year i.e. after the CAPEX budget has been allocated.

C. Award conditions:

1. Equipment must be purchased within 6 months of receiving the award as the UEC will not be responsible for currency differences caused by delays in purchasing equipment.
2. If the final purchase price is less than the original quote, or there is a saving due to currency differences, the same proportions of contribution from each party remain in effect and excess funds must be returned to the UEC.
3. A copy of the final invoice(s) must be submitted with the amount(s) in Rands where applicable. Details of the location and contact person for the equipment must also be provided for the central equipment database. Kindly be advised that the non-submission of invoices could result in the delayed release of future UEC awards.
4. Within two years of the original award date grant recipients will be required to submit a report on the research outcomes supported by the acquisition of the equipment including details of students trained and publications produced.

D. Timelines

Deadline for submission of applications to relevant faculty committees.	27 May 2026
Faculty Equipment Committees to submit prioritised applications to the UEC Servicing Officer.	24 June 2026
UEC application review meeting.	13 July 2026
Review outcomes sent to applicants.	31 July 2026
Budget for UEC approved applications to be submitted to RAAG.	
Funding outcome confirmed to Faculty Equipment Committee and individual applicants.	End January 2027

E. Faculty Equipment Committee Chairs / Representatives

Faculty	Name	Contact details
CHED	Mr Lubabalo Badi	lubabalo.badi@uct.ac.za
Commerce	Dr Dirk Snyman	dirk.snyman@uct.ac.za
EBE	Dr Reuben Govender	reuben.govender@uct.ac.za
Humanities	A/Prof Marion Walton	marion.walton@uct.ac.za
Health Sciences	Prof Sudesh Sivarasu	research.health@uct.ac.za Sudesh.Sivarasu@uct.ac.za
Law	A/Prof Kelley Moult	kelley.moult@uct.ac.za
Science	A/Prof Sarah Fawcett	sarah.fawcett@uct.ac.za