

Communiqué

From the Desk of Dr Ndanduleni B. Nthambeleni, Executive Director: Grants Management and Systems Administration (GMSA)

NRF One Call for Proposals

Background

During the last two years the National Research Foundation (NRF) has embarked on a processes designed to enhance and simplify the NRF administrative interface with Researchers, Students and Designated Authorities. This has been done by streamlining its application templates and its Call Opening process in line with the forthcoming Research Support Strategies by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the NRF. These changes will create more efficiency in receiving and processing applications and be more effective in prioritising funding to best serve the NRF mandate. As a result the NRF will publish One Call for applications for funding in February 2019 under the following ten (10) categories:

- General Research Grants
- International Grants
- Honours Block Grants
- Masters and Doctoral Grants
- Postdoctoral Grants
- Targeted Grants
- Concept Notes
- Travel, Training and Conference Grants
- Institutional Grants
- Customised Programmes

To effect such streamlining, it was decided that:

1. The NRF Online System will open for all applications during the first week in February 2019;
2. Funding Frameworks and one Application & Funding Guide lines will become available on the NRF Web site (<https://www.nrf.ac.za/>), under sections 01: Funding and 02: Bursaries and Scholarships, from January 2019 onwards;
3. Applications will be sought in broad categories, each of which might have one or more funding opportunities;
4. Categories will have specific cut-off dates for Designated Authorities to submit applications to the NRF;
5. International Research Grants; and Travel, Training and Conference Grants will have two dates for closing the call and for reviews, respectively.

Categories and Funding Opportunities

The following Categories (in Blue) will be available in the Call. These Funding Opportunities will be available as dropdown menus, once the Category for application has been selected.

NB. Please note that researchers and students will be able to apply in only one of the drop-down options within the Category of Grants available for applications.

General Research Grants	International Research Grants	Travel, Training & Conference Grants
Blue Skies Full Proposal	Brazil (FAPESP) (Review Period 1)	DST-NRF Conference Fund (Review Period 1)
Support for Rated and Unrated Researchers	BRICS (Review Period 1)	Equipment Related Travel & Training (Review Period 1)
FBIP Small Grants	China (YSEP) (Review Period 2)	Equipment Related Travel & Training (Review Period 2)
FBIP Large Grants	Flanders (FWO) (Review Period 2)	ERC Mobility (Review Period 1)
	Germany (IRTGs) (Review Period 2)	ICSU Grants for Travel & Hosting of Events (Review Period 1)
General Research Grants (with no HCD support)	India (Review Period 1)	ICTP - NRF Bilateral (Review Period 1)
Support for Y-rated Researchers	Japan (JSPS) (Review Period 2)	KIC (Review Period 1)
Black Academics Advancement Programme	Mozambique (Review Period 2)	KIC (Review Period 2)
	Netherlands (FWO) (Review Period 2)	Early Researchers (SASAC) (Review Period 1)
Thuthuka Grants	Newton Fund (Review Period 2)	
Thuthuka	Portugal (FCT) (Review Period 2)	Institutional Grants
	Romania (Review Period 2)	CoE- Water Research
Honours Block Grants	Russia: JINR (Review Period 2)	CoE-Human Settlements
Honours : SASAC, OTHER	Sweden (Review Period 2)	CoE-Nuclear Medicine
	Taiwan (Review Period 1)	SARChI-Albertina Sisulu Chair in Nursing
Masters & Doctoral Grants	Tunisia (Review Period 2)	SARChI-DUT Co-funding
Masters: SASAC, DAAD, OTHER	USA (NSF) Dimensions of Biodiversity (Review Period 1)	SARChI-SU Co-funding
Masters: Extensions	Wallonia (FNRS) (Review Period 2)	SARChI-TUT Co-funding
Doctoral: TWAS, DAAD, SASAC, OTHER	Zambia (Review Period 2)	
Doctoral: Abroad		Customised Programmes
Doctoral: Extensions	Targeted Grants	KFD Development Grants
	nGAP	Customised Interventions
Postdoctoral Grants		SASAC (Host)
Postdoctoral - South Africa	Concept Notes	
Postdoctoral - Abroad	FBIP	

Cut-off dates and Review Periods

Institutional (internal) closing dates should be set to ensure that institutional processes take place before submission of the applications to the NRF is due.

The cut-off dates for the Designated Authorities to submit applications to the NRF are included in the Table below.

Category	Cut off Dates (DA dates)	Screening & Review Period	Funding Decisions
Travel, Training & Conference Grants (Review Period 1)	28-Feb-19	Mar-May 2019	June 2019
International Grants (Review Period 1)	28-Mar-19	Apr - Jun 2019	July 2019
General Research Grants*	30-Apr-19	May - Oct 2019	November 2019
Institutional Grants			
Infrastructure Grants			
Postdoctoral Grants			
Masters & Doctoral Grants	30-Jun-19	Jul-Oct 2019	November 2019
Extension	30-Jul-19	Aug-Oct 2019	November 2019
Travel, Training & Conference Grants (Review Period 2)	30-Aug-19	Sept-Oct 2019	November 2019
International Grants (Review Period 2)	30-Sep-19	Oct-Dec 2019	January 2020
Honours Block Grants	15-Dec-19	n/a	n/a
Customised Programmes	To be advised		
Targeted Grants (nGAP)	Open: 7 January 2019 Closing: 15 February 2019 Funding Decisions: 15 March 2019		
Concept Grants	Cut-off dates to be advised in order for Review outcomes to feed into FBIP Large Grants		
* includes Thuthuka and Grants without HCD Support			

Contact details

For any further information/clarification please contact Mrs Anthipi Pouris (anthipi@nrf.ac.za or 012-481 4240).

We acknowledge that initially there may be some challenges. However, this is part of the process of enhancing efficiencies. The NRF counts on your assistance in ensuring that a simple and seamless process emerges. Your inputs, suggestions and criticisms are therefore central to this “change”.

Kind regards



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National Research Foundation