

DIVISION OF RESEARCH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS CALENDAR 2026

The SAMRC's Division of Research Capacity Development (RCD) supports the growth and transformation of health research capacity in South Africa through strategic grants and streamlined funding programmes aligned with national research priorities. In support of SAMRC Strategic Goal 4 — building sustainable health research human capacity — the division manages two portfolios: the Research Grants Portfolio and the Scholarship Portfolio.

The Request For Application Calendar includes all current and upcoming calls, for postgraduate funding.

RCD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES

Programme caters for: PhD and Masters students (in scarce skills and emerging areas).

Scholarships include stipend and tuition; and in some programmes tuition fee, protected time and/or research project funds.

Funding Programmes	Funding Start Year	Call Opening Date	Call Closing Date	Awarding	Application Process
Bongani Mayosi National Health Scholars Programme	2026/2027	6 May 2026	23 July 2026 23:59	November-December 2026	Apply here
SAMRC Researcher Development Award	2026/2027	18 June 2026	18 August 2026 23:59	November-December 2026	Apply here.
SAMRC Postgraduate Research Associate Programme	2026/2027	July/August 2026	September 2026	November-December 2026	Read more about the programme here .
SAMRC Clinician Researcher Development Programme	2027/2028	July/August 2026	September 2026	April 2027	Read more about the programme here .
Biostatistics Capacity Development Initiative	2027/2028	October 2026	January 2027	April 2027	Read more about the programme here .
Specialized Training in Vaccinology	No current calls				

***Disclaimer:** Dates are subject to change, updated versions will be posted on the Research Capacity Development website. **Read more** about the Division for Research Capacity Development **by scanning the QR code OR click [here](#) to access the calendar & RCD's website**



***For calls opening soon: Scan the QR code**
OR click [here](#) to join our mailing list and receive future Calls for Applications



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RCD GRANT PROGRAMMES

Programme caters for: Postdoctoral Fellows; Early Career Scientists; Mid-Career Researchers; and MSc and PhD students in the RCDI programme

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SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI): Nested Postdoctoral fellowships and Postgraduate Scholarships: (At Selected Universities: UNIVEN, UNIZULU, UL, UFH, SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT)	2026/2027	July/August 2026	TBD	TBD	Read more about the programme here
SAMRC Early Investigators Programme (EIP)	2027/2028	July 2026	September 2026	30 April 2027	Read more about the programme here .
SAMRC Mid-Career Scientist Programme (Closed)	2026/2027	18 November 2025	20 January 2026	15 October 2026	Read more about the programme here .
SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI) Programme at Selected Universities (closed call – SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT) (Closed)	2026/2027	20 March 2026	30 April-Extended to 8 May 2026	15 October 2026	Read more about the programme here .

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