

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
SAMRC Postgraduate Research Associate Programme	2026/2027	22 July 2026	22 September 2026 23:59	November-December 2026	Apply here
National Health Research Enterprise Doctoral Programme	2026/2027	28 July 2026	22 September 2026 23:59	November-December 2026	Apply here
SAMRC Clinician Researcher Development Programme	2027/2028	September/October 2026	September/October 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 .
SAMRC Researcher Development Award	2026/2027	Call Closed - Read more about the programme here			
Bongani Mayosi National Health Scholars Programme	2026/2027	Call Closed - Read more about the programme here			

***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 Early Investigators Programme (EIP)	2027/2028	13 August 2026	09 October 2026	30 April 2027	Apply here
SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI): Nested Postdoctoral fellowships and Postgraduate Scholarships: (At Selected Universities: UNIVEN, UNIZULU, UL, UFH, SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT) (Closed)	2026/2027	27 July 2026	Extended to 31 August 2026	October 2026	Read more about the programme here .
SAMRC Mid-Career Scientist Programme	2026/2027	Call Closed - Read more about the programme here .			
SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI) Programme at Selected Universities (closed call – SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT)	2026/2027	Call Closed - Read more about the programme here .			

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