UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA

UFS
ECONOMIC AND
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Dear applicant

Thank you for your interest in our **PhD Programme**

We are pleased to assist you and share all necessary information with you.

Overview

The Centre for Development Support (CDS) is a progressive research and development unit within the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences at the University of the Free State (UFS) with the broad aim of promoting sustainable human development in the broader South African society.
Qualifications are designed for individuals who are currently working or intend to work/do work in a development-related context.

We primarily are looking for individuals looking to pursue studies in the following areas:

1. **Mining towns and closure**
2. **Informal Housing and Policy**
3. **Climate change and Socio-economic development**
4. **Alternative Housing**
5. **Renewable Energy**

Documents needed for application review:

- Academic records of previous degrees/Academic transcripts

- Certificates of previous degrees (SAQA accredited if qualification was not obtained at South African University)

- Letter of student conduct (student conduct is not indicated on academic record)

- Curriculum Vitae

- ID/ Passport copy

- 5 page concept note - this should explain the problem that you would like to research, a background literature review , and how you propose that you will apply methodology.

We review all submitted documents and holistically make a decision on several factors that are the minimum:

- Good academic record of **65%+** for the Master's degree
- Previous Research Papers completed
- Research proposal relevant to the department's research interests
- Supervision capacity within the department

Please note that the concept note will be subject to plagiarism checks and AI verification. The plagiarism and AI use should not exceed 10%, as stipulated in the UFS plagiarism policy.

*(**CDS Review Committee** still has the full discretion to make the final decision to accept a research study or not)*

We look forward to reviewing your application.

Thank you
Centre for Development Support