



Funding opportunities

Tips on how to secure funding for your postgraduate studies

Some scholarships do not require you to apply, as some universities will automatically consider you for scholarships or bursaries you are eligible for. However, this is not always the case, and you will need to apply. When applying for funding, please take note that the funding body could receive a high volume of applications and will look for applicants who best fit their eligibility criteria. Here are some tips that will help you to apply for funding successfully.

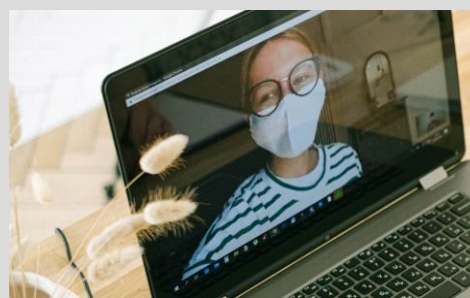
Plan– A good funding application takes time. You may also want to apply for other funding opportunities to increase your chances. Therefore, take the time to plan ahead.

Carefully read through the eligibility criteria – Most funding bodies look for specific academic programs,

students of certain citizenship or location. Carefully reading these will ensure that you do not waste your time.

Think like the funder – funding bodies have a broader aim than just funding. This could be to provide support in certain areas or to increase research output. Your application must align with those aims. Start your funding search as early as possible and tailor your application for each funding opportunity

[Click here for funding opportunities](#)



Virtual learning

Research Capacity Development during the lockdown period

As per lockdown regulations announced by the Minister of Higher Education, the University of the Free State will remain closed with academic programmes being facilitated online. The Postgraduate School continues with teaching and learning during this lockdown period.

The Postgraduate School continues to present webinars on topics such as;

- Article, thesis and research proposal writing
- Quantitative and mixed methods in research
- Plagiarism
- EvaSys
- Excel basic
- How to write a funding proposal for research and postgraduate studies

[Click here to view the webinar calendar](#)

Life after postgraduate studies

Work readiness

Career Services at the UFS offers a range of services and resources designed to assist students develop the employability skills they need in today's world of work.

Wherever you are in your career, they will help you explore your career opportunities and achieve key employment skills.

The Career Services office has a Blackboard page for Career Services, which all registered students have access to.

They have the following work readiness programmes available on Blackboard:

- CV Writing (and cover letter)
- Interview skills

- Future of Work (with sheets explaining the changing world of work per faculty, and some fields are specified within each faculty)
- Digital World: Personal Branding for Success
- Networking & Job Hunting skills
- LinkedIn (Building an attractive LinkedIn profile)
- Time management

Each work readiness programme mentioned above has a video recording, a step-by-step tutorial, and some cheat sheets. So students can use only one, or two or all three of the options to get quick or thorough info.

For updates from Career Services visit their page on Blackboard. For more information email Career Services at career@ufs.ac.za, or Skype for mock interviews or career guidance

Three-Minute Thesis competition

[Click here](#) to secure your spot to watch contestants go head to head online for the UFS Three- Minute Thesis title.

Date: 9 October 2020
Time: 10:30-13:00.

The [Three-Minute Thesis Competition](#), also known as the '3MT', is an annual competition held at 200 universities around the world. It is open to PhD and master's students, and challenges participants to present their research in just 180 seconds – in a way that is understood by an audience with no background in the research area.

The UFS Postgraduate School was the first to bring the 'Three-Minute Thesis' (3MT) competition to Africa, as the Three-Minute Thesis competition originates from the University of Queensland, Australia, and has now become an annual event at the UFS.

The competition aims to help participants develop presentation, research, and academic communication skills, as well as to support the development of research students' ability to explain their work effectively.

Although our country is amidst a pandemic, the annual competition continues. This year's Three-Minute Thesis competition will be hosted online.

The competition will first be hosted at the faculty level. Winners at the faculty level will compete against each other at the Institutional level on 9 October 2020 and will stand a chance at winning these awesome cash prizes

Master's winner	R6 000
Master's 1st runner-up	R4 000
Master's 2nd runner-up	R2 000
PhD winner	R8 000
PhD 1st runner-up	R6 000
PhD 2nd runner-up	R4 000

How will COVID-19 affect research collaboration?

A key question for research universities is how the coronavirus pandemic will affect research and international collaboration in the future. How well has virtual communication worked and how will the expected financial stringency affect us?

[read more](#)

Postgraduate studies – Rethinking the international experience

The suspension of international travel to attend conferences; the inability to take up postgraduate scholarships and posts; financial losses due to the fall-off in tuition fees from foreign students and, the landscape of the world of tertiary education has been completely, perhaps irrevocably, altered by the coronavirus pandemic. Privileged status and the fault lines between developing and developed countries have been starkly exposed.

[read more](#)