

NRF Funding: Call for Applications 2026

The Research Office is pleased to announce the opening of the NRF Calls for Proposals for the 2026/27 funding cycle.

The first set of calls opened on 5 February, with additional calls scheduled to open later in the month. A general application guide will also be shared during this period.

Open calls on Connect:

Targeted Grants Category

Research Development Grants for nGAP Scholars – closes early!

(Closed call for individuals)

- UFS internal closing date: 5 March 2026

Postdoctoral Grants Category

NRF Postdoctoral Grants

UFS internal closing date: 10 April 2026

Research Grants Category

Black Academics Advancement Programme (BAAP) – PhD Track

- UFS internal closing date: 10 April 2026

Black Academics Advancement Programme (BAAP) – Post-PhD Track

- UFS internal closing date: 10 April 2026

Research Grants Category

Thuthuka – PhD Track

Thuthuka – Post-PhD Track

Thuthuka – Rating Track

- UFS internal closing date: 10 April 2026

*Refer to email sent earlier regarding additional information and the grant writing workshop. Link to be shared upon RSVP.

Travel, Training and Conference Grants Category

Equipment-related Travel and Training Grants (ERTTG) – closes early!

- UFS internal closing date: 2 March 2026

Knowledge Interchange and Collaboration (KIC) – closes early!

- UFS internal closing date: 2 March 2026

*Coordinator: Mandy Jampies (JampiesMG@ufs.ac.za) / 051 401 9725 – contact her for more information and framework document.

Please contact Thabi (Mosoetsat@ufs.ac.za) / xx7708 and cc Nthabiseng (Mosehlap@ufs.ac.za) for queries or concerns.

Access the following supporting documentation:

- [NRF-FREF:Black Academics Advancement Programme PhD Track; and Post PhD Track: Application Guide](#)
- [Application and Funding Guide for NRF Postdoctoral Fellowships 2026](#)
- [Equipment-Related Travel and Training Grants](#)
- [NRF Postdoctoral Fellowships: Framework Document](#)
- [DSTI-NRF Research Development Grants for 'New Generation of Academics Programme \(nGAP\)' Scholars Framework Document](#)
- [Research Development Grants for Y-Rated Researchers: Framework Document](#)
- [National Research Foundation \(NRF\) - FirstRand Empowerment Foundation \(FREF\): Black Academics Advancement Programme \(BAAP\): Framework document](#)
- [NRF-FREF: Black academics advancement programme: HoD research nomination letter](#)
- [Institutional support for Thuthuka grant applications](#)
- [Thuthuka Framework Document: Next Generation and Emerging Researchers \(NGER\)](#)