**Science Faculty Doctoral Equity Fellowships**

The Faculty of Science invites applications for up to two Doctoral level Equity Fellowships. These Fellowships are aligned with the Faculty’s strategic objective of increasing the pool of Black South Africans with postgraduate science qualifications who will be able to become competitive for academic positions at UCT and the Higher Education sector in South Africa.

Closing date for applications: **30 September 2025**

**Criteria and eligibility:**

* Academic excellence
* Black South African
* Completed a Master’s degree. Master’s dissertations under examination will be considered
* Identified supervisor(s) and host department in the Faculty of Science, UCT

**Conditions of award**:

* Successful applicants must register for full-time doctoral study in the Science Faculty, University of Cape Town.
* Successful applicants must comply with the University’s policies, rules and procedures.
* Successful applicants must enter into and adhere to a bi-lateral Memorandum of Understanding with their supervisor outlining the work-plan for the research project and time frame for completion of the degree/research.
* The Faculty PhD Equity Scholarship should be awarded only to new students.
* Renewal of the award is dependent on the submission of a satisfactory progress report, and an updated statement of other scholarships held by the applicant.

**Value:**

The total value of the Science Faculty Doctoral Equity Scholarship is R450 000 spread over three years to be paid according the following guidelines.

* The maximum component for running expenses is restricted to R60 000 in total, with a limit of R25 000 per annum.
* The maximum component for a bursary is restricted to R140 000 for any one year.
* The value of the Science Faculty Doctoral Equity fellowship will be reduced pro-rata if an applicant receives in total more than R250 000 in bursary/scholarship funding in any one year.
* Students who register for the degree in the second semester will receive 50% of the grant for that year.

**Application process:**

A completed and signed application form together with a CV, an academic transcript, and two references should be submitted to the Head of Department.

HODs must rank applications that have been received and forward them and their supporting documentation to Science Faculty Postgraduate Office (Ayesha Shaik ayesha.shaik@uct.ac.za) for consideration by the Committee chaired by the Dean.

**SCIENCE FACULTY DOCTORAL EQUITY SCHOLARSHIP 2026**

**APPLICATION FORM**

**Application Guidelines**

Interested applicants should contact the Department in which they wish to study as soon as possible and identify a supervisor and topic for their doctoral research. Applicants should complete sections 1 to 3 of the application form and submit an electronic copy of the application form, together with a CV, degree certificates and transcripts, and two references, **to the Department for consideration.** Departments must complete sections 4 and 5, rank and forward the applications and supporting documentation to the Science Faculty Postgraduate Office (Ayesha Shaik ayesha.shaik@uct.ac.za)

*Note: Candidates must also apply to the University through the Admissions Office\*1. Final award ofscholarship is conditional on candidates being accepted into the Faculty of Science according to the following guidelines published in the Faculty handbook.*

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| --- |
| **1. Personal information of applicant** |
| **Name:** |  |
| **SA ID Number:** |  |
| **Department:** |  |
| **Supervisor:** |  |
| **Co-supervisor:** |  |
| **Co-supervisor:** |  |
| **Student Number:** |  |
| **Race:** |  |

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| --- |
| **2. Summary of Academic record\*2, Awards and Publications** |
| **Institution that awarded BSc degree:** |
| **Year obtained:** |
| **Distinctions/awards:** |
| **Institution that awarded Honours degree:** |
| **Year obtained:** |
| **Distinctions/awards:** |
| **Institution that awarded Masters degree:** |
| **Year obtained:** |
| **Distinctions/awards:** |
| **Peer reviewed DHET accredited publications to date:** |
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\*1 <http://www.students.uct.ac.za/students/applications/apply/forms>

\*2 A copy of the applicants complete academic record should be attached to this application.

**3. PhD Proposal** (*word limits to be strictly adhered to and all content should be clear to a non-specialist reviewer*)

**3.1. Title of project proposal:**

**3.2. Research rationale, originality and aims:** (750 *word limit)*

word count:

**3.3. Planned research activities/methods during 3 year period:** (*500 word limit*)

word count:

**4. Sources of available funding:** (Supervisor to complete, in consultation with the applicant.Provide a summary of other sources of funding that will be used to support the student and their running expenses**)**

**All other sources of funding**

**A) Student support**

**B) Research support**

**5. Motivation by Supervisor and Head of Department**

**Motivation by Supervisor :** *(500 word limit)* **Date:**

**Motivation by Head of Department:** *(200 word limit)* **Date:**