

September 2024 RFA
2025 Enrollment

The Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation (CSSFF)-South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Capacity Development Programme

Building a vaccine R&D and manufacturing workforce for Africa

MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation Scholarships for pharmacy, health, life and allied sciences graduates

The Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation (CSSFF) - South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Capacity Development Program is a partnership aimed at training and building an Africa-based workforce for vaccine development, testing and manufacturing in Africa. The programme is geared to enhance Africa's health and biotechnology human capital and to grow Africa's workforce in vaccine manufacturing.

We are seeking applications from promising candidates for the CSSFF-SAMRC-UWC MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation Scholarship. The UWC master's programme provides regulators and those working in the regulatory departments of pharmaceutical companies with the skills to lead the development, licensing, and ongoing pharmacovigilance of drugs in their countries. The programme comprises interactive online coursework (of 18 months) followed by an industry relevant research project and mini-thesis preparation (six (6) months). The average required time commitment per week is 10 to 12 hours dependent on a student's prior knowledge of the subject and the time they wish to invest to successfully pass each module. The entry requirements for this MSc are:

- Four-year degree in pharmacy – [e.g., BPharm or BSc (Pharm)].
- Degree in medicine or allied discipline.
- Four-year degree in science (e.g., BSc Hons).
- Four-year degree in a non-scientific discipline plus three years' work experience.
- Three-year degree in science plus three years' work experience.
- Post Graduate Diploma in Regulatory Sciences delivered by FCD in partnership with UWC plus three years' work experience.

More information on the MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation programme can be found [here](#). For more details, please contact Prof Samuel Egieyeh at segieyeh@uwc.ac.za or +27 21 959 3388.

The CSSFF-SAMRC-UWC MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation Scholarship comprises:

- R195 000 for tuition over 2 years
- R160 000 stipend per annum only for unemployed candidates
- Once-off research project funds may be requested in year 2. Approval of project funds is dependent on budget availability.



Requirements for all applications

- Must be South African citizen, permanent resident and/or African planning to study in South Africa.
- Must intend to register for the MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation degree at the University of the Western Cape in 2025.
- Must meet the entry criteria for the degree.
- At the time of commencement of the award, applicants must be registered for or admitted to the master's degree.
- The research project must fall within the industrial pharmacy, vaccine research, development and manufacturing areas.
- Applicants must provide a reference letter highlighting their suitability for the program.
- Applicants must provide a motivation letter stating their career objectives and how success in this program will impact their career and include a curriculum vitae (cv) detailing their work experience and achievements.
- Additionally, employed applicants must provide a support letter from their employer: i) describing how the applicant will be supported to complete the degree; ii) confirming that the applicant will be granted protected time for the duration of the degree; and iii) indicating the percentage of time per week secured by the applicant for their studies.
- In year two, all awarded candidates will be required to provide a title and abstract for the intended industry-based research project that the candidate will be working on and indicate the availability of project funds.

How to apply

Opening date: 13 September 2024
Closing date: 24 October 2024, 23:59 SAST

Application process

Application steps below must be completed before or by **24 October 2024, 23:59 SAST**.

- Step 1 - Complete the [online](#) application form.
- Step 2 - Upload all the required supporting documents.

Please use the checklist below to ensure that you have submitted all necessary supporting documents.

Checklist of required supporting documents	check (✓)
To start the application, the applicant must satisfy the conditions of this check list.	
1) Certified copy of South African identity document or study permit	
2) UWC application number for 2025	
3) Certified copy of qualifications that meet the entry criteria	
4) Certified academic transcripts	



5) Reference or recommendation letter from an academic or industry mentor who has worked with the applicant, highlighting the applicant's key skills, strengths, accomplishments and suitability for the program	
6) Applicant's motivation letter stating their career objectives and how success in this program will impact their career	
7) Applicant's curriculum vitae listing work and research experience, research outputs and any other awards received	
8) Additionally, employed applicants must submit a support letter from their current employer	

The South African Medical Research Council reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete, unresponsive and/or inappropriate applications, change the conditions of the award, extend the closing date, or make no awards at all. Please note that only successful candidates will be contacted after completion of the review, selection, and approval processes. Should you not hear from the SAMRC by 31 December 2024, please assume that your application has been unsuccessful.

For enquiries on the submission process please contact Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla at Lindokuhle.Ndlandla@mrc.ac.za/Tel. 021 938 0442.

Scholarship Conditions

- Scholarship holders may not receive, concurrently with this scholarship, other bursaries, grants, or remuneration which bind them to enter the service of any organisation without prior agreement of the SAMRC.
- Candidates may not hold a bursary from more than one South African government or statutory entity at any given time.
- Once awarded, scholarship holders may not, without seeking approval from the SAMRC, change the degree, their supervisor or research project.
- Awardees are required to submit bi-annual (or upon request) progress reports endorsed by the supervisor or course manager.
- The awards are made for one year at a time. Renewal of funding for year 2 will be subject to satisfactory progress and availability of funds.
- Awardees are required to attend all training and support workshops organised by the SAMRC RCD.
- Successful applicants will be required to enter into an agreement with the SAMRC to complete their studies within the specified time period.
- If awarded, applicants must be able to take up the award immediately.
- The scholarship is for the specified enrolment year (2025), and therefore cannot be deferred to subsequent years.
- Project funds will not be awarded in cases where the supervisor or principal investigator is already receiving SAMRC funding for the project.
- Awardees are expected to conduct research within the following areas: industrial pharmacy, vaccine research, development and manufacturing areas.

Funding will only be released once awardees have provided proof of registration for the funded master's programme for the first year of study. For the second year of study, proof of registration for 2026, evidence of successful



completion of year one, research project approval and ethics clearance where applicable will be required before funding can be released.

Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA)

As of the 1st of July 2020, the new Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) came into full effect. The law is designed to protect how all juristic persons use, store and process data. You can read the full details on the act here: <https://popia.co.za/>

The SAMRC as a responsible statutory science council will comply with POPIA. The SAMRC will receive personal information through applications submitted to the SAMRC for the purposes of applying for funding. The personal information requested on the application template is necessary for the SAMRC to fully evaluate the applications for funding. This information will be shared with independent reviewers, members of Scholarship Selection Committees of the SAMRC, representatives from the Chan Soon-Shiong Family Foundation, the CSSFF-SAMRC Steering Committee and the SAMRC management for the purposes of processing the applications. The SAMRC will process this personal information strictly in accordance with POPIA. The SAMRC undertakes specifically to process the personal information on the basis that (a) it was provided voluntarily and (b) the information will be processed only as far may be necessary and within the limitation and ambit of the purpose of evaluating the application for funding (i.e., the purpose with which the personal information was received). The SAMRC confirms that it is lawfully processing the information since the purpose of processing is to seek quality applications for funding which the SAMRC is mandated to do in terms of Section 4 of the SAMRC Act 58 of 1991, thus the SAMRC is fulfilling its legislated and lawful mandate, and strategic objectives as provided for in the SAMRC Act.

I hereby authorise and consent to the organisation sharing my personal information for the purpose of evaluating my application for funding.

Y	N
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For enquiries contact: Dr Lindokuhle Ndlandla at Lindokuhle.Ndlandla@mrc.ac.za/Tel 021 938 0442



APPLICATION FORM *(Must be completed online by the master's candidate)*

Personal details (Mark the correct one with a X)

1. Title (Ms, Mr, Dr)						2. First Name		
3. Surname						Gender F/M		
4. Population group	African	Coloured	Indian	Asian	White	5. Date of Birth DD/MM/YYYY		
6. Citizenship						South African citizen	South African permanent resident	Other (Specify)
7. South African ID number or study permit number								
8. Postal address								
9. Work telephone number (<i>where applicable</i>)						10. Mobile number		
11. Alternative number								
12. University e-mail address								
13. Alternative e-mail address								

Academic information (Mark the correct one with a X)

14. Highest qualification	(Major subjects and full course name e.g. BSc Honours Biotechnology)		
15. Other / previous tertiary qualifications	(Major subjects and full course name e.g. BSc Honours Biotechnology)		
16. Field of specialisation	Pharmacy	Biochemistry	Chemical engineering
	Chemistry	Immunology	Microbiology
	Biotechnology	Virology	Other (specify field of specialisation)
17. Are you currently studying?	Yes (if yes)		No
	Full name of the qualification (e.g., Biotechnology Honours)		



	Institution where registered	
	Anticipated completion date	
18. Are you currently employed	Yes (if yes)	No
	Name of the employer (please include the department)	
	Please provide details on how the studies will be accommodated in the next 2 years (2025 and 2026)	
19. SAPC registration number (if applicable)		
20. Years of relevant work experience:		
21. Is this application for MSc Pharmacy Administration and Policy Regulation at UWC	Yes (Please enter your UWC application number or current student number.)	No
22. Year of study in 2025	1 st year	2 nd year

