

# DIVISION OF RESEARCH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS CALENDAR 2026

The SAMRC's Division of Research Capacity Development (RCD) supports the growth and transformation of health research capacity in South Africa through strategic grants and streamlined funding programmes aligned with national research priorities. In support of SAMRC Strategic Goal 4 — building sustainable health research human capacity — the division manages two portfolios: the Research Grants Portfolio and the Scholarship Portfolio.

The Request For Application Calendar includes all current and upcoming calls, for postgraduate funding.

### RCD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES

*Programme caters for: PhD and Masters students (in scarce skills and emerging areas).  
Scholarships include stipend and tuition; and in some programmes tuition fee, protected time and/or research project funds.*

| Funding Programmes                                            | Funding Start Year | Call Opening Date     | Call Closing Date       | Awarding               | Application Process                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SAMRC Researcher Development Award</b>                     | 2026/2027          | 18 June 2026          | 18 August 2026 23:59    | November-December 2026 | Apply <a href="#">here</a>                           |
| <b>SAMRC Postgraduate Research Associate Programme</b>        | 2026/2027          | 22 July 2026          | 22 September 2026 23:59 | November-December 2026 | Apply <a href="#">here</a>                           |
| <b>National Health Research Enterprise Doctoral Programme</b> | 2026/2027          | 28 July 2026          | 22 September 2026 23:59 | November-December 2026 | Apply <a href="#">here</a>                           |
| <b>SAMRC Clinician Researcher Development Programme</b>       | 2027/2028          | August/September 2026 | September/October 2026  | April 2027             | Read more about the programme <a href="#">here</a> . |
| <b>Biostatistics Capacity Development Initiative</b>          | 2027/2028          | October 2026          | January 2027            | April 2027             | Read more about the programme <a href="#">here</a> . |
| <b>Bongani Mayosi National Health Scholars Programme</b>      | 2026/2027          | Call Closed           |                         |                        |                                                      |

**\*Disclaimer:** Dates are subject to change, updated versions will be posted on the Research Capacity Development website. **Read more** about the Division for Research Capacity Development **by scanning the QR code OR click [here](#) to access the calendar & RCD's website**



**\*For calls opening soon: Scan the QR code**  
**OR** click [here](#) to join our mailing list and receive future Calls for Applications



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### RCD GRANT PROGRAMMES

*Programme caters for: Postdoctoral Fellows; Early Career Scientists; Mid-Career Researchers; and MSc and PhD students in the RCDI programme*

| Funding Programmes                                                                                                                                                                                    | Funding Start Year | Call Opening Date     | Call Closing Date               | Awarding        | Application Process                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI): Nested Postdoctoral fellowships and Postgraduate Scholarships:</b> (At Selected Universities: UNIVEN, UNIZULU, UL, UFH, SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT) | 2026/2027          | 27 July 2026          | 25 August 2026                  | October 2026    | Apply <a href="#">here</a>                           |
| <b>SAMRC Early Investigators Programme (EIP)</b>                                                                                                                                                      | 2027/2028          | August/September 2026 | September/October 2026          | 30 April 2027   | Read more about the programme <a href="#">here</a> . |
| <b>SAMRC Mid-Career Scientist Programme (Closed)</b>                                                                                                                                                  | 2026/2027          | 18 November 2025      | 20 January 2026                 | 15 October 2026 | Read more about the programme <a href="#">here</a> . |
| <b>SAMRC Research Capacity Development Initiative (RCDI) Programme at Selected Universities (closed call – SMU, WSU, UWC, MUT) (Closed)</b>                                                           | 2026/2027          | 20 March 2026         | 30 April-Extended to 8 May 2026 | 15 October 2026 | Read more about the programme <a href="#">here</a> . |

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