

SAMRC EARLY INVESTIGATORS PROGRAMME

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

Issue date:
13 August 2026

Closing date:
09 October 2026

DETAILED EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSAL

SCORE AND PROPOSAL REVIEW CATEGORY	ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES
1. APPLICANT TRACK RECORD (20%)	Did the candidate produce high quality and impact research outputs aligned with the proposed research or have great potential or proven experience in training and mentoring of postgraduate students (for the last four years)?
2. SCIENTIFIC MERIT OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH (25%)	Is the proposed research innovative with novel design and methodologies? (Clear objectives to address a well-defined problem statement aligned with indicated research area)
3. IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH (20%)	Does the proposed research address a crucial knowledge gap? Will the proposal be a unique resource in the discipline? Do research outputs have a high potential for scientific innovations or social or economic benefits? (Any benefit for the South African population?)
4. RESEARCH ACTIVITY PLAN/FEASIBILITY (20%)	Is the proposed activity plan clear or with recognized standards? Is the proposed methodology realistic and achievable within the proposed timeframe?
5. COLLABORATION (5%)	Are the proposed collaborations (partnerships and networks to be formed clear and multidisciplinary)? Were collaborators and partners well identified to develop and maintain excellence in this research area?
6. SKILLS TRANSITION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (MENTORING ACTIVITY) (10%)	Is the proposed mentorship and training plan allowing developing and mentoring the next wave of researchers (interns, masters and doctoral, and other postgraduate training) and transformation (gender and race)?
7. BUDGET	Is the resource allocation reasonable? Are there other sources of research funding available?
TOTAL =100%	