

Postgraduate Bursaries Administration

College of
Graduate Studies



Define tomorrow.

UNISA | 
college of
graduate studies

The College of Graduate Studies is in a strategic partnership with the Division of Student Funding to jointly manage the postgraduate bursary processes through the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration.

The core purpose of the office is to provide financial support to postgraduate students through a student-centred platform and assist the university in attracting and supporting postgraduate students in delivering quality research outputs.

Click here to learn more about the Unisa postgraduate diploma and honours bursary.



Click here to learn more about the Unisa Master's and doctoral bursary.



About the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration

- The Postgraduate Bursaries Administration is divided into 3 sections:
- Section 1: DSF PG bursaries support section - Responsible for i) the annual advertisement of the call for applications for Postgraduate Bursaries, (ii) processing of the applications received for UNISA Postgraduate Bursaries & the contracting of awarded bursary.
- Section 2: DSF PG Bursaries award section - Responsible for the allocation of all PG bursaries, claims or refunds and Intellimali processes.
- Section 3: Inter-college postgraduate studies committee (ICPGSC): Responsible for the approval of the applications that meet the PG Bursaries criteria and the appeal processes of unsuccessful applications.

Purpose of the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration

- To provide financial support to postgraduate diploma, honours, master's, and doctoral students through bursary administration, dependent on eligibility, academic performance, and availability of funds
- To coordinate, manage and enhance the postgraduate student funding support systems
- To assist the university in attracting, supporting, and delivering quality postgraduate students by ensuring that bursaries are granted based on academic performance within the available budget
- To provide information about other available funding options, including scholarships, loans, and bursaries for postgraduate students
- To provide a student-centred platform for dealing with all postgraduate bursary-related issues.



Postgraduate diploma and Honours bursary

The next application period for this bursary will open on **1 November 2021** and close on **31 January 2022**.

Downloads:

- **PGD & Honours Bursary Application Roadmap guide**
- **PG Diploma & Honours Bursary guidelines, terms and conditions**
- **PG Diploma & Honours Bursary Application form**

[Click here to apply](#)

*(Only online applications submitted via myUnisa link will be considered.
No hard copy or e-mail applications will be considered)*



About the bursary

The postgraduate diploma and honours bursary aim to assist South African Unisa alumni students with their Unisa tuition fees, thus enabling them to register and complete their qualifications.

Financial support is offered to both postgraduate diploma and honours students subject to eligibility, academic performance, and availability of funds.



Bursary guidelines, terms and conditions

- The bursary covers tuition fees only.
- UNISA permanent staff members are not eligible for the bursary.
- Only South African UNISA undergraduates are eligible to apply.
- If student did complete their UNISA undergraduate qualification (by 31 January 2022) student's application will not be considered for the bursary.
- ONLY applicants who are temporarily registered with UNISA by 28 February 2022 will be considered.
- The student must have obtained a minimum average of 60% on their entire undergraduate degree.
 - Note that awarding will be provided from the highest to the lowest performing student subject to the availability of funds.
- The bursary will not cover any failed modules from your Postgraduate Diploma/ Honours degree.
- Awarded students are ONLY funded for the first TWO consecutive years of study.
- Students registering for special study programmes, including certificates and non-degree purpose studies in 2022, are not eligible for this bursary.
- Students who already hold a postgraduate degree at the same or a higher level are not eligible for this bursary.
- Unisa gives no guarantee that the bursary will be awarded to all eligible students, as the bursary is subject to the availability of funds.
- If you have been a beneficiary for the full bursary years you will NOT be funded for an additional year whatsoever.
- An appeal may be submitted after receiving your bursary outcome to the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration at cgs-pgb@unisa.ac.za accompanied by a motivation from the student.
 - Appeals period is from **1 April to 15 April 2022**. NO appeals received outside this period will be considered.
 - Note that if student's rejection is due to insufficient funds and or student has been a beneficiary for the full years of the bursary, the student's appeal will NOT be considered.

- Re-application for a second year of funding is required for the second year of study and will **ONLY** be considered if the student maintained an average of 60% for their previous year of study.

If a student:

- **fails to comply with any of the conditions of the award,**
- **and/or terminates their studies,**

their Unisa postgraduate bursary will be cancelled, and the current year's Unisa postgraduate bursary amount awarded will be **charged to the student's account, which will be handed over to the Unisa legal department to effect the collection process.**

Please note:

- If you need assistance in applying for a bursary, please go through the PGD & Honours Bursary Application Roadmap Guide before you **contact** the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration.
- Awards are dependent on available funding.
- Prioritisation will be given to outstanding students with a higher average of their entire Unisa undergraduate qualification.
- No late and/or incomplete applications will be considered.
- If you need assistance in applying for a bursary, please go through the PGD & Honours Bursary Application Roadmap Guide before you **contact** the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration.
- Application outcomes will only be communicated to you via your **myLife email account.**



Master's and Doctoral bursary

The next application period for this bursary will open on **1 November 2021** and close on **31 January 2022**.

Downloads:

- **M&D Bursary Application Roadmap guide**
- **Supervisor Digital Signature guide**
- **Master's & Doctoral Bursaries guidelines, terms and conditions**
- **M&D Bursary Application form**

[Click here to apply](#)

*(Only online applications submitted via myUnisa link will be considered.
No hard copy or e-mail applications will be considered.)*



About the bursary

The Masters and doctoral bursaries aim to assist students with their research activities and tuition fees, enabling them to register for and complete their degrees.

The bursary is intended to provide financial support to South African and international Master's and doctoral students subject to eligibility, academic performance and availability of funds.



Bursary guidelines, terms and conditions

- **The value of bursaries awarded in 2022 are as follows:**
 - **Master's degree by research and experimental research:** The bursary covers tuition fees and research essentials limited to **R55 000** over the **first three** consecutive years of study towards the qualification,
 - **Master's degree by coursework:** The bursary covers tuition fees and research essentials limited to **R25 000** over the **first two** consecutive years of study towards the qualification,
 - **Doctoral degree by research:** The bursary covers tuition fees and research essentials limited to **R80 000** over the **first four** consecutive years of study towards the qualification and
 - **Doctoral degree by experimental research:** The bursary covers tuition fees and research essentials limited to **R120 000** over the **first four** consecutive years of study towards the qualification.
- The bursary only covers tuition fees & research activities as stipulated above.
- UNISA permanent staff members are not eligible for the bursary.
- The bursary is offered to both South African and international students, with preference given to South African students according to an 80/20 per cent ratio.
- **M&D research students:** If student did complete their Research Proposal Module (by 31 January 2022) student's application will not be considered for the bursary.
- **Master's by Coursework students:** If student did complete their Honours/ Postgraduate Diploma qualification (by 31 January 2022) student's application will not be considered for the bursary.
- ONLY applicants who are temporarily registered with UNISA by 28 February 2022 will be considered.
- Bursary award is subject to satisfactory academic progress report from the supervisor(s) (*found in Section C of the application form*) that recommends financial support based on the student's progress measured against the set plans/research activities as scheduled in the supervision contract from the previous academic year.
- Awarded students are ONLY funded for the first TWO, THREE or FOUR consecutive years of study.

- Students registering for special study programmes, including certificates and non-degree purpose studies in 2022, are not eligible for this bursary.
- Students who already hold a postgraduate degree at the same or a higher level are not eligible for this bursary.
- Unisa gives no guarantee that the bursary will be awarded to all eligible students, as the bursary is subject to the **availability of funds**.
- If you have been a beneficiary for the full bursary years you will NOT be funded for an additional year whatsoever.
- An appeal may be submitted after receiving your bursary outcome to the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration at CGS-pgb@unisa.ac.za accompanied by a motivation from the student and supported/signed by the supervisor.
 - Appeals period is from **1 April to 15 April 2022**, NO appeals received outside this period will be considered.
 - Note that if student's rejection is due to insufficient funds and or student has been a beneficiary for the full years of the bursary, the student's appeal will NOT be considered.
- Re-application for a 2nd/3rd or 4th year of funding is required for the 2nd/3rd or 4th year of study and will ONLY be considered if the student maintained satisfactory academic progress in their previous year of study as per **Section C report of the application form**.

If a student:

- **fails to comply with any of the conditions of the award, and/or**
- **terminates their studies,**

their Unisa postgraduate bursary will be cancelled, and the current year's Unisa postgraduate bursary amount awarded will be **charged to the student's account, which will be handed over to the Unisa legal department to effect the collection process.**

Please note:

- Awards are dependent on available funding.
- **M&D by research:**
 - Only students who have completed their research proposal are eligible for the bursary
 - Prioritisation will be given to students with positive outstanding supervisor's report.
- **Master's by coursework:**
 - Only students who have completed their research proposal are eligible for the bursary (for Master's by coursework students doing research).
 - Prioritisation will be given to outstanding students with a higher average of their entire Postgraduate Diploma/ Honours qualification and/or Master's by Coursework modules (for Master's by coursework students still doing modules).
- No late and/or incomplete applications will be considered.
- If you need assistance in applying for a bursary, please go through the M&D Bursary Application Roadmap Guide before you **contact** the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration.
- Application outcomes will only be communicated to you via your **myLife email account**.



Contact Us

If you have bursary application and or contract enquiries, please e-mail the Postgraduate Bursaries Administration

cgs-pgb@unisa.ac.za

If you have claim/ refund payout and or intellimali enquiries, please e-mail the Division of Student Funding

dfs-postgrd@unisa.ac.za

