**Poliomyelitis Research Foundation (PRF) funding opportunity guidelines for 2014**

*Internal closing date: 10 October 2014*

***Process:***

*Please request the application forms by e-mail from:* [*irmal@nicd.ac.za*](mailto:irmal@nicd.ac.za) *or* [*prf@nicd.ac.za*](mailto:prf@nicd.ac.za)

*The application forms on the PRF website are not the latest available forms.*

*Researchers can visit the website for other information:* [*http://www.prf.ac.za/*](http://www.prf.ac.za/)

*The PRF will only accept typed official application forms. Please complete and attach all relevant information as requested. Incomplete and written applications will not be accepted.*

*Please submit a completed hard copy application together with your ethics approval letter to Lamees Emjedi at Research, Grants & Finance, Old Main Building, E52 Room 24, GSH by no later than the internal closing date: 10 October 2014.*

***The admin office will send the electronic copy to the PRF including the signed verification form.***

*Please bear in mind that we are unable to accept late applications submitted after the 10 October 2014 as these applications have to go through an internal signing off process before being submitted to the PRF.*

*Enquiries: lamees.emjedi@uct.ac.za or (021) 406 6338.*

**GENERAL RULES:**

* Applications for research grants from the PRF will only be considered from South African citizens or individuals with permanent resident status in South Africa
* Only typed, official application forms will be accepted. Please request forms by E Mail: [prf@nicd.ac.za](mailto:prf@nicd.ac.za). The website forms are outdated.
* It is very important to complete and attach all relevant information as requested. Incomplete applications will not be accepted
* Applications are submitted to the PRF through the tertiary institution’s administrative office

1. ***BURSARIES:***

Bursary Rules:

The PRF awards bursaries towards obtaining the following types of qualifications:

* BSc (Hons) – Applicants that have obtained a minimum pass of 60%
* Masters – Applicants that have obtained a minimum pass of 60%
* PhD
* Bursaries are ordinarily awarded only to South African citizens or persons with permanent residency permits for South Africa. A limited number of bursaries may be awarded to other non-South African applicants
* The PRF does not support applications from full-time employees (salary receiving employees)
* Once the award has been made the scholarship holder cannot change the research project without the approval of the PRF
* All new applications as well as renewal applications must be completed in full and all required documents attached (this includes Supervisor’s written support)
* **Please note:** Other than exceptional circumstances the maximum duration of support will be 2 years for Masters and 3 years for PhD bursaries.

All new bursary applications must contain all the details for the following sections:

* General information including degree applied for
* Relevant experience to date
* Project details
* Ethics Committee Certificate
* Curriculum Vitae

All applications for renewal of bursaries must contain all the details for the following sections:

* General information including year of the degree applied for
* Relevant experience to date
* Project details
* Ethics Committee Certificate
* Animal ethics committee (where applicable)
* Progress Report
* Publication and meetings list
* Supervisor’s written support for new application or written report for renewals.

1. ***TRAVEL GRANTS***

* Travel Grants are granted for attendance at local or international conferences.
* **International conference** - This grant will only be awarded to applicants in possession of at least a PhD or equivalent degree
* Applications for conferences will only be considered if an applicant is actively contributing and participating in the conference and copies of acceptance letters must accompany the application form
* Applications for visits to laboratories must be supported by appropriate letters of invitation from hosting laboratories
* Travel Grants will not be given to the same individual in successive years

**Travel Grants will be made up of:**

* One single economy class return air fair to destination
* Registration fee, accommodation and subsistence
* A maximum of R 25 000 will be granted based on the above

1. ***JAMES GEAR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP***

* The award which is at present R 200 000 + flight (one year only), is for outstanding candidates to enable them to develop their research careers in overseas academic institutions.
* The fellowship is a prestige award made only to those eminently well qualified to receive it.
* Those eligible for the award are postgraduates with at least a medical degree or degree in veterinary sciences or a doctorate degree in the sciences or equivalents
* Detailed motivation including the candidates curriculum vitae and motivating letter from the supervisor or head of the department, detailed research proposal approved by the head of department and by the overseas host institution are required
* This Fellowship will be awarded to outstanding candidates to enable them to develop their research careers internationally in academic institutions
* Potential applicants may need to be interviewed by members of the Scientific Advisory Panel
* Fellows will be required to give an undertaking to return to South Africa for at least 3 years upon completion of their research projects internationally.

1. ***PRF POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP***

* Applications are invited for this newly instituted Fellowship awarded for post-doctoral medical studies in virology to be conducted in South Africa. The Fellowship will be awarded for a one-year period, on a competitive basis, to South Africans or individuals with permanent resident status, as salary for high-level research work in a suitable department, unit or institute of an already identified South African host institution
* Applications may be submitted as nominations by institutions or directly by individuals, and must provide full details of preceding doctoral work and publications; a description of the rationale and methodology of the proposed project (including certified evidence of operational funding, facilities and equipment that will be available outside of the Fellowship award); and the names of at least three contactable referees.
* The emphasis in the selection is on the excellence of the academic track record; evidence of unusual creativity and ingenuity in addressing scientific problems; both the novelty AND the feasibility of the proposed approach; and the quality, adequacy and appropriateness of the host environment,
* Applicants must be in possession of either a PhD or MBBCh or BVSc or equivalent doctoral level degree (or written proof from the University that all conditions have been satisfied for the award of the degree at the next graduation ceremony)
* The value of the Fellowship will be R140 000 if conditions are met, no income tax is payable
* Please direct enquiries and applications for the Fellowship to [prf@nicd.ac.za](mailto:prf@nicd.ac.za)