



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**DOCTORAL RESEARCH SUPPORT 2026-
SENIOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

REF: RFC02/2026



HOW TO APPLY

*Applicants are required to
click on the link in caption to apply.*



BACKGROUND

The Moses Kotane Research Institute (MKRI) is a leading research institute dedicated to promoting economic growth and development in KwaZulu-Natal through research and innovation. The Institute develops practical, evidence-based solutions that respond to the needs of the provincial economy and uses research findings to inform policy development and improve service delivery interventions.

As part of its commitment to strengthening research capacity and supporting knowledge generation in the province, MKRI invites applications from eligible KwaZulu-Natal citizens who have been accepted for postgraduate studies at public universities within KwaZulu-Natal. Through this programme, the Institute seeks to support research that addresses provincial development challenges and contributes towards sustainable socio-economic development.

For the 2026 funding cycle, applications are invited for doctoral research in the following fields: Information and Communication Technology, Manufacturing, Maritime, Transport and Logistics, Energy, Tourism, Business Administration, Public Administration, Economics, Trade

REQUIREMENTS

You can apply if:

- You are employed as a senior public servant with 10 years' experience in the public sector.
- You have been accepted for admission to, or are currently registered for, a doctoral qualification at a public university in KwaZulu-Natal.
- Your research addresses challenges facing KwaZulu-Natal and/or contributes to the province's socio-economic development.
- You are a South African citizen residing in the KZN province.
- You should not be receiving financial assistance from another sponsor for the same academic period.

WHAT THE FUND COVERS

- Financial: Tuition and research related expenses.
- Non-financial: Mentorship, developmental support, eligibility for research experiential learning should there be opportunities, and should you qualify

FUNDING VALUE

- MKRI Postgraduate Funding provides financial support up to the maximum amount of R40 000.00.
- The funding awarded will be based on the approved budget submitted by the applicant, the nature and scope of the research, and the availability of funds. The Postgraduate Support Committee reserves the right to award full or partial funding.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: (Submission of the following documents is mandatory)

- Fee statement/ Proforma issued by the institution.
- Certified copies of South African Identity Document.
- Copies of academic qualifications and / or letter of completion of your recent qualification.
- Academic record/transcript.
- Proof of registration from the University.
- Research Proposal
- Letter of employment, signed by your employer.
- Proof of at least 10 years public service work experience
- Proof of residence (original residence and the current residence).

DISQUALIFICATION

Applicants who do not meet the eligibility criteria., Applicants who do not meet the requirements, Applications received after the closing date, Non submission of the required documents, False or misleading information is provided.

PLEASE NOTE

- For enquiries, please email researchfund@moseskotane.com.
- Students who fail to complete their studies within the designated period will be required to reimburse the allocated funds.
- MKRI reserves the right to disqualify submissions from applicants who have not provided all necessary required documentation.
- Applicants must declare all current sponsorships or other forms of financial assistance received for the current academic year. MKRI will not fund expenses that are already covered by another sponsor (double funding of the same cost item).
- MKRI reserves the right not to award the fund should the research be deemed non- beneficial or superficial.
- Research fund is subject to availability of funds.
- MKRI reserves the right not to award funding.
- Please note that only successful applicants will receive a response within one month of the closing date.
- Regrettably, due to the anticipated high volume of applications, we are unable to respond to all applicants.



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