



FYNBOS FORUM INNOVATION SCHOLARSHIPS 2015

Post-graduate students at Masters or PhD level who are studying at South African Universities and Universities of Technology are invited to apply for a **Fynbos Forum Innovation Scholarship**. Scholarships are to be awarded for 2 x Masters (R30,000 each) and 1 x PhD (R50,000) commencing January 2015. These scholarships will be granted for one year, and depending on funding availability could be renewable upon the submission of satisfactory progress reports annually, up to the maximum term permitted being two years for an MSc and 3 years for a PHD and subject to the approval of the committee / scientific selection panel and TMF. Candidates must be working on a research project that is at the interface between science and application, and which is aligned with the Fynbos Forum Research Strategy. The Scholarships are wholly merit-based, and are a means to attract, retain and incentivise the best young researchers to work in the Fynbos Biome.

Interested students are to complete an **application form**, which is to be signed by potential supervisors and heads of department of the Faculty the student wishes to register at / is currently registered at. The student is also required to furnish a letter of recommendation provided by the supervisor, as well as his/her academic record. **Note: apart from details furnished in the application form, no separate project proposals should be submitted.** Projects must be endorsed by the supervisor of the planned project. Proposals are evaluated by a scientific panel, convened by the Fynbos Forum. Upon final approval by the funders, the successful candidate(s) will be required to register at his/her institution of choice for the following academic year.

An independent selection panel will be appointed to adjudicate the candidates, with representatives from any of the three higher education institutions of the Western Cape, namely Stellenbosch University, University of Cape Town and University of the Western Cape. Further panel members could be representatives of CapeNature, SANParks or SANBI.

Shortlisted candidates may be required to present their project proposals as an oral power point presentation to the adjudication panel.

Successful candidates will be required to sign a contract with the supervisor / university and the Fynbos Forum. Progress will be evaluated annually, and renewal for the contract holder considered at that time.

TMF and the Fynbos Forum reserve their rights to not renew an award should progress be deemed unsatisfactory and approval from both parties is required for renewal.

For more information on the scholarship programme or the Fynbos Forum Research Strategy, contact Tessa Oliver, Fynbos Forum Chairperson coord@fynbosfire.org.za or Mrs Carla Wood; Project Co-ordinator: Table Mountain Fund; Centre for Biodiversity Conservation; Kirstenbosch; (t) 021 762 8525; cwood@wwf.org.za.

Application Forms:

An application form should be attached, but if it isn't, please email Tessa (contact details above).

Deadline for 2015 Scholarships Submissions: 3 November 2014:

Submission to include: completed application form, complete academic record, 1000 word research proposal (part of application form) and letter of endorsement / recommendation from supervisor(s).