



**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
Grahamstown • 6140 • South Africa

# Financial Aid Policy Guidelines: Postgraduate Loan Programme Criteria

<b>Responsible Committee/Unit/Division/Faculty</b>	Registrar's Division
<b>Responsible Chairperson/Director/Manager</b>	Registrar
<b>Date</b>	April 2023
<b>Review Cycle (e.g. every 2/5/7 years etc)</b>	3 years
<b>Last Reviewed</b>	April 2023

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**RHODES UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL AID POLICY GUIDELINES**  
**POSTGRADUATE LOAN PROGRAMME CRITERIA**

**1. DEFINITIONS:**

1.1 Postgraduate students:

Students who are registered for a full-time (in attendance) Postgraduate degree (Honours, Masters or PHD) at Rhodes University may apply

1.2 Loan:

A legal binding contract which has to be signed between the student and the donor/sponsor, in this instance, Rhodes University. Money awarded must be repaid with interest. Sureties for the loan will be required.

**2. GENERAL CRITERIA:**

2.1 All students wishing to be considered for a Rhodes University Council Loan, must submit a completed Application form by the closing date to Postgraduate Funding: Research Office. Proof of financial need is required.

2.2 The Loan shall be for one year only. Annual application for the duration of the degree will be considered, but not automatically awarded. Funding for a second Honours, Masters or Doctoral degree will not be considered.

2.3 Loans are offered for the following postgraduate degrees:  
Honours  
Masters  
Doctoral

2.4 Only postgraduate students with ***RSA citizenship*** may apply.

2.5 Financial need is prioritized.

2.6 Loans approved will require one surety who is also a South African Citizen and is employed full-time within South Africa. Loan values will be dependent on need index.

2.7 Where loans form part of a mixed group of funding, costs are to be calculated as the sum of the tuition fee for the particular postgraduate degree being taken by the applicant, plus living expenses which should not exceed the costs of a postgraduate residence.

2.8 When considering an application, all other funding received by the applicant is to be taken into account. Should those funds exceed the budgeted costs, no award is to be made from this programme. Any subsequent awards, will result in the Loan being reduced at that point so as to reflect an early repayment of the Loan.

- 2.9 The loan is to assist with tuition in the first instance, and secondly with living allowances. Any living allowances payable will be made in *monthly instalments* (normally eleven equal instalments of 1 February to 1 December), subject to the student providing a satisfactory progress report from the supervisor or Head of Department.
- 2.10 All other conditions pertaining to these Loans regarding interest, repayment, default, student warranties and legal proceedings are contained in the standard **Agreement of Loan** signed by the student once the loan is approved.

PG Funding August21