

THE RISK & VULNERABILITY SCIENCE CENTRE – UFS-QQ



DOCTORAL BURSARY OPPORTUNITY

Entrepreneurship Resilience & Capability in an African Mountain City University of the Free State – QwaQwa Campus (ARU/RVSC)

The Risk & Vulnerability Science Centre (RVSC) of the Afromontane Research Unit (ARU), at the University of the Free State (UFS)'s QwaQwa Campus (QQ), in collaboration with the Community Development Program (Faculty of Humanities, UFS), is calling for a **PhD candidate** for full-time study at UFS-QQ, starting in early **2021**. The bursary value is **R120,000** per annum for three years, and forms part of the Department of Science & Innovation- National Research Foundation's (DSI-NRF) Global Grand Challenges research agenda.

The doctorate effectively analyses the nexus between vulnerability, entrepreneurship resilience and the connections to social mobilization and social capital among emerging entrepreneurs in the African mountain city of Phuthaditjhaba (Maloti-a-Phofung Local Municipality, Free State, South Africa). Using a participatory multi-method and multi-disciplinary approach, the study will be rooted in engaged scholarship and capability frameworks to explore local knowledge stocks and interfaces in Phuthaditjhaba.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- An independent thinker that is able to draw from interdisciplinary concepts across the social sciences, entrepreneurship sciences, and humanities scholarship is an important requirement.
- A strong academic record, analytical skills and a keen interest in grassroots transformative research.
- A commitment to conducting rigorous research that makes contributions to emerging entrepreneurs and communities surrounding them.
- The bursary is open to South African and non-South African students for full-time research at the University of the Free State, QwaQwa Campus.
- The minimum requirement is a Master's degree in a relevant discipline.
- Successful applicants will demonstrate excellent academic performance and potential to contribute to the creation of knowledge in their future academic career.
- Ideally, the candidates will have demonstrable experience with participatory research methods, literature searches, data analysis and community engagement.
- Applicants may not hold full-time salaried employment during the tenure of the award.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Potential students need to apply through the current NRF Post Graduate Call by the 30th June 2020 (UFS internal closing date) <https://www.nrf.ac.za/division/funding/call-nrf-postgraduate-scholarships-2021>, referencing the Risk & Vulnerability Science Centre – University of Free State-QwaQwa.
- **Applicants should advise Dr Grey Magaiza magaizag@ufs.ac.za AND Dr Ralph Clark ClarkVR@ufs.ac.za of their intentions to submit, by the 25th June 2020, with a copy of their CVs and a motivation letter.**

The appointment will reflect the RVSC and UFS's equity and diversity imperatives, including those for gender, racial/cultural and intellectual diversity. A bursary is currently available for this position through the NRF, and will be awarded on a competitive basis, taking into account the applicants' academic achievements and research potential. Application through the NRF does not automatically assume acceptance by the RVSC.

For further details, please contact:

- Dr Grey Magaiza, Community Development, University of the Free State, QwaQwa Campus: magaizag@ufs.ac.za; Landline 058 718 5419 and Cell number 062 418 6445.