



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
Postgraduate Studies Funding Committee
POLICIES ON FUNDING FOR HONOURS, MASTERS AND DOCTORAL STUDENTS AT UCT

This Policy Document was approved by UCT Council on 05 November 2003, and was effective immediately.

Postgraduate Studies Funding Committee - First Review 2004

Postgraduate Studies Funding Committee – Second Review 2006

Postgraduate Studies Funding Committee - Third Review 2007

Postgraduate Studies Funding Committee – Fourth Review – October 2008

Policies	Rules and Narrative
<p>1. <u>Time-frames for support</u> for different kinds of degrees</p> <p>1.1 The Honour's degree. Full-time study – 1 year</p>	<p>1.1 Strictly One year.</p>
<p>1.2 The Master's degree. Full-time study – 2 years</p>	<p>Normally two years, the second year of funding being renewable only on proof of satisfactory progress. <u>Exception:</u> Up to 50% of the previous year's funding will be allocated to students who require an extra (maximum) 6 months for purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections and re-submission of their theses. • Late completion of the degree due to supervision problems, laboratory /equipment failure/other. In such cases full motivation endorsed by the Dean of Faculty is required.
<p>1.3 The Doctorate degree. Full-time study – 3 years</p>	<p>Normally three years, the second and third years of funding being renewable only on proof of satisfactory progress. <u>Exception:</u> Up to 50% of the previous year's funding will be allocated to students who require an extra (maximum) 6 months for purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections and re-submission of their theses. <p>Late completion of the degree due to supervision problems, laboratory /equipment failure/other. In such cases</p>

	full motivation endorsed by the Dean of Faculty is required.
1.4 Upgrade from Master's to Doctoral	<p>Normally 4 years in all.</p> <p><u>Exception:</u> Up to 50% of the previous year's funding will be allocated to students who require an extra 6 months for purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrections and re-submission of their theses. <p>Late completion of the degree due to supervision problems, laboratory /equipment failure/other. In such cases full motivation endorsed by the Dean of Faculty is required.</p>
<p>2. <u>Overall limitations on income</u> from all sources.</p> <p>New limitations approved by PSFC for 2008 +</p> <p>Honours – R90,000 Masters – R120,000 Doctoral – R150,000</p>	<p>Applying a limit to total income from all sources (in respect of students receiving support via the University) ensures equitable distribution of available funding.</p> <p>In <u>2003</u> the overall limits were set at Honour's – R45 000 Master's – R65 000, and Doctoral – R85 000</p> <p>In <u>2004</u>, the overall limits were set: at: Honours – R65 000 Master's R85 000 and Doctoral – R100 000</p> <p>In <u>2006</u> , the overall limits were set at: Honours – R85 000 Masters – R100 000 Doctoral – R135 000</p> <p>In <u>2008</u> the overall limits were set at: Honours – R90 000 Master's – R120 000 Doctoral – R150 000</p> <p>In 2009 it is recommended that the overall limits be increased and set at: Honours – R130,000 Master's – R170,000 Doctoral – R220,000</p>
3. <u>Funding support for a second degree at the same level</u> , will not be available from UCT.	A student who already has a Master's degree for example, and who wishes to study for a second Master's degree, will be ineligible for funding.
4. The University reserves the right to cancel late	This ensures that selection processes are fair, and that those students who have complied with the deadlines and application conditions are not compromised.

<p><u>and incomplete applications</u> for funding.</p>	
<p>5. After establishing that they are in line with the laws of the country, the University will ensure that the <u>conditions of awards and grants</u> as laid down in bequests or by donors, sponsors or the University, are adhered to. The University reserves the right to cancel or withdraw any award made if the recipient of such an award does not comply with the stated conditions of the award.</p>	<p>All awards made are governed by conditions that are approved by the DVC for Research & Innovation. Such conditions ensure that the University remains compliant with tax regulations and also that applications for such awards are assessed using the stated criteria and are made consistently. The University is legally bound to abide by the conditions of award, which are often based on bequests or on the instructions of external donors, such as the NRF.</p>
<p>6. The University reserves <u>the right to recover any monies</u> disbursed to any student (including monies disbursed on behalf of the NRF and MRC), if that individual does not comply with the conditions of award; make satisfactory progress or if he/she deregisters without prior notice <u>or reasonable cause</u>. The recovery process is routed through the University's Finance Department, via the Fees Office and the Debtors'</p>	<p>Satisfactory progress and registration for the degree for which the student is being funded, are conditions of award. All awards made via the PFO are done so by means of a claim form, which requires an undertaking from the student that she/he agrees to comply with the conditions of award.</p> <p>The NRF and MRC have their own conditions and agreement with similar repayment clauses, which students must sign.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> The Postgraduate Funding Officer ascertains satisfactory progress through direct communication with the Programme Convenors and individual student's supervisors.</p>

section.	
<p>7. <u>Guarantee of funding and outstanding fee debts</u></p> <p>The University does not guarantee funding to any student/applicant. The University does not at any time undertake to provide full-cost support to any student/applicant. The University will not be responsible for the outstanding fee debt of any student.</p>	<p>The University is unable to provide a guarantee that every applicant for financial aid and funding will receive support.</p> <p>Similarly, the University is unable to undertake to offset any debt incurred by the student and which is reflected on that student's fee-account.</p>
<p>8. <u>Cash Advances</u> (called Allowances)</p> <p>Only students registered for full-time study at the University of Cape Town, and who comply with the rules, are eligible to draw Allowances from the University.</p>	<p><u>Rules:</u></p> <p><i>Allowances will only be available to students under the following conditions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Where an application has been submitted by a student and an award offered, but not yet processed. In such cases any allowance must not exceed the amount owed to the university in terms of fees or other charges. Normally 50% of such fees or charges are repaid to the university in the first and then in the second semester.</i> <i>2. (i) Where a nomination has been made to the NRF by a Grant-holder for a renewal of an award in respect of a student who has made satisfactory progress. (ii) Where a nomination has been made to the NRF by a Grant-holder for a new award for a student in good Academic standing and who is a South African citizen.</i> <i>3. Where applications have been made to the MRC and the NRF for renewal by students who are eligible and who have made satisfactory progress, and where results of such applications have not yet been released by the NRF. (This recommendation is based on the NRF's undertaking to support students for the prescribed tenures of degree).</i> <i>4. Where a student requires an advance of part or the whole of a second instalment of an existing award for good reason (to be supported by the Course Convenor/Supervisor and/or the Head of Department and approved by the Director of the Postgraduate Centre & Funding Office) and where she/he has made satisfactory academic progress in the first semester</i>