



Bursaries for Masters and PhD Students Labour Market Intelligence research programme

The Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) research programme is seeking applications from Masters and Doctoral Students who wish to grow their research expertise in the area of labour market intelligence

Call for Applications

The [Labour Market Intelligence \(LMI\) research programme](#) is a 5-year multi-stakeholder programme being implemented by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), in partnership with the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU)¹ at the University of Cape Town (UCT). The LMI is funded through the National Skills Fund (NSF). The aim of this programme is to establish a credible institutional mechanism for skills planning.

The LMI research programme comprises several research projects related to the identification of current and future skills needs and shortages, the identification of interventions required to address skills needs and shortages, and the exploration of ideological, philosophical and empirical approaches to understanding the relationship between education and the economy.

Broadly speaking, the overarching work of the researchers undertaking this project will, over a 5-year period, essentially involve identifying and measuring the extent of skills imbalances in the labour market. The research team conducts research, collects information, tracks vacancies, analyses findings and informs labour market information users of 'bottlenecks' in skills demand and supply in the labour market.

The LMI is seeking to fund **2 Masters** and **2 PhD students** working in areas related to the above research themes of the LMI. Additional work opportunities in the areas above may also be made available for successful candidates.

Background

In 2012, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation initiated the first phase of the labour market intelligence research programme, the Labour Market Intelligence Partnership (LMIP) led by the Human Sciences Research Council. In 2019, the second phase of the Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) research programme commenced, in partnership with the DPRU. The programme aims to integrate skills planning within government strategies and plans in order to produce a capable workforce to achieve an inclusive growth path. LMI ensures that skills are not a constraint on economic growth, and promotes the use of labour market intelligence for skills provisioning.

General Conditions

- Bursary applicants must be South African Citizens.
- Applicants may not previously have completed a degree to the level at which they are currently enrolled.
- The bursary is only available to students who register for full time MASTER'S or DOCTORAL DEGREES at the following South African Higher Education Institutions: University of Cape Town (UCT), University of Kwazulu-Natal, Rhodes University, the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), Stellenbosch University, University of the Western Cape, University of Fort Hare, University Limpopo, University of Venda, Walter Sisulu University, University of Zululand, Mangosuthu University of Technology and Sefako Makgatho Health Science University.
- Applicants will need to be graduating by the end of the period of funding, and by no later than 31 December 2024. Note: The bursary is only available for the 2022/2023/2024 academic years, where applicable.

¹ The [DPRU](#) is a university-accredited research unit within the School of Economics at the University of Cape Town, and engages in research covering a wide variety of issues within the broad areas of labour markets, poverty and inequality.

- Students receiving NSFAS/NRF or any other bursary/scholarship from another governmental organization are NOT eligible for a bursary.²

Specific Conditions

- Candidates must be accepted for a full time Masters or PhD programme with the aim to undertake qualitative or quantitative research broadly in the area of the labour market and skills development. The degree should be based in economics, post-schooling education, sociology or a similar discipline.
- Completed dissertations may be fed into the system and published as LMI programme outputs³: The student must therefore agree to have their work made openly available on platform/s including <https://lmi-research.org.za/publications/>.
- Preference will be given to applicants who are able to demonstrate:
 - A track record of accomplishment in their research;
 - Appropriate analytical and empirical skills;
 - Ability for independent study, research design and implementation; and
 - Good communication and writing skills in English.

Desirable Conditions

For this bursary, we seek particularly to attract African, women, and disabled candidates. Preference will be given to these applicants.

Value and Tenure of Award

- The value of the scholarship is ZAR 80 000 per annum over two (Masters) or three (PhD) years.
- The years of funding available are 2022/2023/2024 where applicable.
- The bursary does not include any travel allowances, accommodation, or other additional benefits, but is tax free. (The application for tax exemption should be made by your respective university.)

Deadline

The deadline for application submissions is: **Sunday 31 July 2022.**

Selection Process

- Only eligible and complete applications will be considered.
- We will communicate with short-listed applicants: If you have not heard from us within two months of the deadline, please assume your application has been unsuccessful.
- Eligible and complete applications received before 31 July 2022 are guaranteed to be considered. Applications received thereafter may be considered only if the bursaries have not been awarded.

Queries

Requests for further information about the LMI Bursary should please be sent to:
lmischolarship2022@vula.uct.ac.za.

Application Process

Please consult the application cover sheet and checklist below/on page 3 to prepare your submission.

DISCLAIMER: The LMI research programme and the DPRU reserve the right to:

- Disqualify ineligible, incomplete and/or inappropriate applications;
- Change the conditions of the bursary award or to make no awards at all.

² Students are encouraged to consult their respective university's postgraduate funding office if they are unsure of the rules surrounding their awards.

³ Students need to disclose any Intellectual Property for protection to their university's Intellectual Property office before publications are placed in the public domain.

To apply, please send an email to Ms Mira Blumberg Pahad at lmisolarship2022@vula.uct.ac.za with the subject line: "LMI Scholarship Application: <<insert MASTERS or PhD>> - <<NAME & SURNAME>>" by **Sunday 31 July 2022**.

Attach to the email, a single PDF file including this completed cover sheet and all the application documents listed in the checklist.

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

NAME: _____ Masters ☐

SURNAME: _____

DATE: _____ PhD ☐

Checklist

- ☐ 1. The application cover sheet with completed checklist.
- ☐ 2. A letter of application (max. 2 pages) summarising the applicant's research interests, experience and proposed research plan. In your letter, please outline what topic you will commit to, detail how you plan to undertake the research, and explain how it is relevant and motivate for why you feel it would be useful to this sector.
- ☐ 3. Curriculum Vitae.
- ☐ 4. Certified copies of academic transcripts/certificates or result sheet (per semester).
- ☐ 5. An example of written work (max. 5 pages).
- ☐ 6. Supply two (2x) names and contact details (email addresses) for referees who have been directly involved in the applicant's current or previous academic research.
- ☐ 7. Employment equity⁴ details:

Gender

☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Race / ethnic origin

☐ African ☐ Coloured ☐ Indian ☐ White ☐ Other ☐ Not declared

Disability declaration:

Employment Equity legislation defines people with disabilities as people who have a long-term or recurring physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment which, in the interaction with various barriers, may substantially limit their prospects of entry into, or advancement in, employment and 'persons with disabilities' has a corresponding meaning.

Do you have an impairment as defined above?

☐ Yes

☐ No

⁴ Request for race, gender and disability categories used for statutory and internal reporting purposes.