OPEN INTERNATIONAL FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Internationalisation Office coordinates various events, exchange programmes, funding, and study opportunities in collaboration with international partner institutions. Currently, the following opportunities are available:

Scholarships and Exchange Programs

1. SWITZERLAND: Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

The Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships invite applications from talented South African researchers for the 2027–2028 academic year. The scholarships are offered by the Swiss Confederation to promote international exchange and research cooperation between Switzerland and countries around the world. The programme is administered by the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS/ESKAS). For detailed information on eligibility requirements, scholarship types, application procedures and the applicable deadline for South Africa, visit the official Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships webpage.

Application Deadline: 30 November 2026 at 11:59 PM

2. SOUTH AFRICA: Sustainable Entrepreneurship for the Just Energy Transition (DAAD)

This call invites highly qualified and motivated candidates who are German citizens or permanent German residents to apply for the doctoral scholarship in “Sustainable Entrepreneurship for the Just Energy Transition”. The doctoral research will focus on the emergence, development and scaling of new energy enterprises within South Africa’s Just Energy Transition, examining how technological innovation, changing energy markets and institutional conditions create entrepreneurial opportunities and shape the development of sustainable ventures.

The selected doctoral scholar will be registered for full-time doctoral study at Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) and hosted within the TUT ENERGISE Centre. **Link to apply:** https://forms.gle/guAtFCTMz1Zdxfgb7

Application Deadline: 30 November 2026

3. HONG KONG: The Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong

The Research Grants Council (RGC) of Hong Kong is inviting applications for the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship Scheme (HKPFS) for the 2027/28 academic year. Established in 2009, the merit-based HKPFS aims to attract outstanding students from around the world to pursue full-time, research-based PhD studies at participating universities in Hong Kong. Applicants are encouraged to research the available PhD programmes, research areas and admission requirements of the participating universities before applying.

For detailed information, eligibility requirements, and application guidelines, applicants are encouraged to visit the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Application Deadline:1 December 2026 at 12:00

4. JAPAN: DHET Japan Scholarship programme Tokyo Metropolitan University 2027

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is offering scholarships to South African students to pursue Master's and PhD studies in selected fields at Tokyo Metropolitan University (TMU), Japan, commencing in the October 2027 academic year.

This scholarship programme covers travel, tuition, accommodation, a monthly stipend and student support services. DHET is responsible for the nomination and awarding of scholarships under this programme. For more information visit Department of Higher Education and Training

Application Deadline Closing date: 08 January 2027

5. MAURITIUS: Mauritius-Africa Scholarship Scheme 2027

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius is offering scholarships to deserving students who are resident citizens of active Member States of the African Union (AU) or African Commonwealth countries. The scholarships are available for full-time, on-campus undergraduate (Diploma and Degree) and postgraduate (MPhil, MPhil/PhD and PhD) programmes at public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Mauritius for the 2027 academic year. For more information please visit Department of Higher Education and Training

Deadline for submission of applications to the DHET is 1 February 2027.

Exchange and Mobility Calls

1. EUROPEAN COMMISION: ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters are prestigious international masters, jointly designed and delivered by a group of higher education institutions. They involve at least 3 institutions from at least 3 different countries, and multiple associated partners from the academic and non-academic world. Typically, they include periods of study, research, traineeship, thesis preparation and defence. Applicants should submit your application between **October** and **January** for courses starting the following academic year. Each master's website has all the details about the course of study, the list of the participating universities, the entry requirements and all the steps of the application process (with and without scholarship). Read more

2. NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand Government Geothermal Energy Project Management Short Course Scholarship 2027

The New Zealand Government is offering a fully funded Geothermal Energy Project Management short course for eligible African professionals through the Manaaki New Zealand Short Term Training Scholarships (TSTTS) Programme.

The five-week residential programme is designed for mid-level and senior professionals with at least five years of relevant work experience in the geothermal energy sector, particularly those involved in geothermal energy development projects.

The course will be held in Auckland, New Zealand, and will provide participants with practical knowledge of geothermal energy project development and management. The programme incorporates real-world case studies, field trips and workplace visits and is designed to be relevant to the African context. For more information visit Department of Higher Education and Training

Application Deadline: Sunday, 6 December 2026

Competitions

1. **SADC: The 2027 Southern African Development Community Tertiary Institution Essay Competition**

The Secretariat of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is inviting eligible South African tertiary institution students to participate in the 2027 SADC Tertiary Institution Essay Competition.
The competition aims to raise awareness among tertiary students about the history of SADC, regional cooperation, integration and socio-economic development. It also seeks to preserve the legacy of the Founders of SADC and promote a deeper understanding of their contributions to the liberation and development of Southern Africa. For more information visit Department of Higher Education and Training

The deadline for submission of applications to the DHET is 31 January 2027.

For more information about Internationalisation Initiatives, please contact: internationalisation@tut.ac.za.

Internationalisation Office

November 2026

Important: Please note that various agencies offer study opportunities, not directly through TUT. However, the Internationalisation Office at TUT has verified the legitimacy of these opportunities and confirmed the institutions.