



SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2021

APPLICATION GUIDE

**READ THIS GUIDE CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING AN
APPLICATION FORM**

1 CLOSING DATE FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2021

Individual universities will set their own internal closing dates for applications. Please find out from the university where you intend registering for your undergraduate degree, what their internal closing date is, and ensure you submit your application by that date.

2 ELIGIBILITY FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

SARAO will consider applications from South African citizens and permanent residents who have achieved a minimum of 70% in Mathematics and Physical Science in Grade 12, or a minimum grade-point average of 60% at undergraduate level, and who are studying/plan to study, any of the following degrees:

- 2.1 Bachelor of Electronic Engineering
- 2.2 Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- 2.3 Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering
- 2.4 Bachelor of Mechatronic Engineering
- 2.5 Bachelor of Computer Engineering
- 2.6 Bachelor of Science in Mathematics / Applied Mathematics and Physics
- 2.7 Bachelor of Science in Physics and Electronics
- 2.8 Bachelor of Science in Astronomy / Astrophysics and Physics
- 2.9 Bachelor of Computer Science, with co-major in Mathematics / Applied Mathematics

3 Funding Levels and Period of Support for SARAO UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- 3.1 The duration of a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship is one year for fourth year engineering students, two years for third year students, three years for second year students and four years for first year students.
- 3.2 The current level for SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship is R148,000 per annum. (Note: the scholarship level may be adjusted to take into account changes in university fees and inflation.)

4 CONDITIONS OF AWARD OF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- 4.1 Students are required to submit proof of registration at their university, to SARAQ. No funds for a scholarship will be released until SARAQ has received the proof of registration.
- 4.2 A scholarship from SARAQ is renewable each year, for the duration of the scholarship, at the sole discretion of SARAQ, subject to satisfactory academic performance. Students must achieve a minimum of 60% average, in their mid-year and year-end results. Students are required to submit their mid-year and year-end university transcripts for evaluation to SARAQ. Students who do not obtain a minimum of 60% average may not receive further funding from SARAQ.
- 4.3 Students who do not obtain the degree for which the scholarship was awarded, relinquish their studies, or leave the tertiary institution during the period for which the scholarship was awarded, will have to refund all payments of the scholarship already paid to them.
- 4.4 Students are allowed to hold supplementary grants with this scholarship, to a maximum of 50% of SARAQ scholarship, but the student must inform SARAQ, via his/her university, of such awards.
- 4.5 If a student wishes to change his/her field of study, or the university, for which the scholarship was offered, he/she must provide a motivation to SARAQ for approval, prior to any changes. SARAQ is under no obligation to continue support if the changes do not align with the original criteria on which the scholarship offer was made.
- 4.6 On completion of the studies supported by means of the scholarship, students are required to submit a copy of their degree to SARAQ.
- 4.7 Fourth year students who achieve two or more distinctions in their mid-year exams, may be invited to the postgraduate scholarship conference. Attendance at the conference will provide students with the opportunity to get to know the general radio astronomy community, meet potential postgraduate supervisors, and understand the postgraduate research environment.
- 4.8 All new undergraduate students who have been awarded the SARAQ Scholarship for the first time are required to attend an induction workshop.

5 IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

- 5.1 Applications must be submitted electronically on the NRF Online Submission System:
<https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/nrfmkii/>
- 5.2 In completing an application form for a scholarship from SARAQ, you accept the conditions listed above.
- 5.3 No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.
- 5.4 Successful applicants will be notified by 20 November 2020. If you have not heard from SARAQ by 20 November 2020, please assume that your application was NOT successful.
- 5.5 SARAQ reserves the right not to accept any application in part or in whole. The decision of SARAQ will be final and no correspondence will be entered into after the decision.

6 SARAQ CONTACT INFORMATION

Queries with regards to the application requirements or the application procedure, may be directed to:

Ms Annah Mashemola

Email: amashemola@ska.ac.za

Telephone: +27 11 442 2434