



SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2022

APPLICATION GUIDE

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

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 31 AUGUST 2021

**APPLY ONLINE AT [HTTPS://NRFSUBMIS-
SION.NRF.AC.ZA/NRFMKII/](https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za/nrfmkii/)**

1 CALL INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2022

Date of issue	01 June 2021 via the NRF's Online Submission System
Closing date for applications	Individual universities will set their own internal closing dates, however, the cut-off date for universities to submit applications to NRF (SARAO) is 31 August 2021 (as per the NRF's General Application Guide for 2022)

2 ELIGIBILITY FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

SARAO will consider applications from South African citizens and permanent residents who are studying/plan to study any of the following degrees:

- 2.1.1 Bachelor of Electronic Engineering
- 2.1.2 Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- 2.1.3 Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering
- 2.1.4 Bachelor of Mechatronic Engineering
- 2.1.5 Bachelor of Computer Engineering
- 2.1.6 Bachelor of Science in Mathematics / Applied Mathematics and Physics
- 2.1.7 Bachelor of Science in Physics and Electronics
- 2.1.8 Bachelor of Science in Astronomy / Astrophysics and Physics
- 2.1.9 Bachelor of Computer Science, with co-major in Mathematics / Applied Mathematics

3 REVIEW CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

- 3.1.1 Academic performance, determined through the evaluation of the student's school or university results.
- 3.1.2 Leadership qualities, and award of prizes and academic honours, determined from letters of reference and student's biography.

4 TARGETS FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2022

- 4.1.1 SARAO HCD has budget to award up to ten (10) undergraduate scholarships for 2022.
- 4.1.2 SARAO's HCD transformation policy provides the following targets for the award of undergraduate scholarships: 100% to South African Students, of which 90% must be awarded to Black South Africans (African, Coloured and Indian), and 50% to South African Women.

5 FUNDING LEVELS AND PERIOD OF SUPPORT FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- 5.1.1 Universities are unable to provide the 2022 fees at this stage.
- 5.1.2 The 2022 undergraduate scholarship level is R148,714 and the 2022 student laptop grant level is R8,500. These figures may be adjusted in 2022 to take into account changes in university fees and inflation.
- 5.1.3 The duration of the SARAO Undergraduate Freestanding Scholarship is for a maximum of four years for Engineering degrees (2022, up to and including 2025), to cover the full duration required by any student entering first year in 2022, to complete a BEng degree by the end of 2025, and three years for Science degrees (2022 to 2024) a BSc degree, to cover the full duration required by any student entering first year in 2022, to complete a BSc by the end of 2024

6 CONDITIONS OF AWARD OF UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

- 6.1.1 Students are required to submit proof of registration at their university, to SARAO. No funds for a scholarship will be released until SARAO has received the proof of registration.
- 6.1.2 A scholarship from SARAO is renewable each year, for the duration of the scholarship, at the sole discretion of SARAO, 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 SARAO. Students who do not obtain a minimum of 60% average may not receive further funding from SARAO.
- 6.1.3 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.
- 6.1.4 Students are allowed to hold supplementary grants with this scholarship, to a maximum of 50% of SARAO scholarship, but the student must inform SARAO, via his/her university, of such awards.
- 6.1.5 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 SARAO for approval, prior to any changes. SARAO is under no

obligation to continue support if the changes do not align with the original criteria on which the scholarship offer was made.

- 6.1.6 On completion of the studies supported by means of the scholarship, students are required to submit a copy of their degree to SARAO.
- 6.1.7 Fourth and third 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.
- 6.1.8 All new undergraduate students who have been awarded the SARAO Scholarship for the first time are required to attend an induction workshop.

7 IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

- 7.1 Only one application per student may be submitted.
- 7.2 In completing an application form for a scholarship from SARAO, you accept the conditions listed above.
- 7.3 No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.
- 7.4 Successful applicants will be notified by 20 November 2021. If you have not heard from SARAO by 20 November 2021, please assume that your application was NOT successful.
- 7.5 SARAO reserves the right not to accept any application in part or in whole. The decision of SARAO will be final and no correspondence will be entered into after the decision.

8 SARAO CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Mr. Mkhululi Jodwana

Email: mjodwana@ska.ac.za

Telephone: +27 11 268-3412

**Applications must be submitted electronically on the NRF Online Submission System at
<https://nrfs submission.nrf.ac.za/nrfmkii/>**

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