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#### GENERAL CRITERIA

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The Foundation is committed to Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (BEE). At least 75% of individual award beneficiaries must be from historically disadvantaged groups.

We especially encourage applications from:

- Women
- People with disabilities
- Doctors registered at, or working for, historically disadvantaged institutions

However, these awards are open to everyone. The process is highly competitive, and all submissions are judged against the same criteria.

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#### DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA

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We will not consider your application if:

- You do not send us a detailed budget (for award categories where this is required).
- You leave out a copy of your ID or any other documents requested on the application form.
- You are not currently registered on the HPCSA website as a medical specialist (for Academic and Sub-specialist Awards) or as a registrar (for the Rural Individual Award).
- You already earn a salary and have a post for your sub-specialist training. This award cannot be used as a top-up (you must sign a statement confirming this).
- You are living outside South Africa when you apply.
- Your application is for sub-specialist training outside South Africa.
- You work full-time in the private sector when you apply.
- You are not a South African citizen or permanent resident with a South African ID.

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#### SPECIFIC CRITERIA

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##### RURAL INDIVIDUAL AWARD

We will judge your application based on:

- Medical discipline: We give priority to family medicine and the District Clinical Specialist Team (DCST) specialties – obstetrics, paediatrics and anaesthetics. Proposals from other specialties are welcome, but they must have a clear rural focus.
- Commitment to rural work: If you currently work in rural areas, have worked there before, or can show your commitment to rural communities, make sure you highlight this – preference is given to applicants with this background.
- Impact on rural populations: Explain how your research will benefit people in rural communities.
- Clarity of the proposal: Make sure your research proposal has a clear aim and a well-structured plan.
- Strength of motivation: Provide context that explains why this research is valuable – both for you as a registrar and for the patients who will benefit.
- Budget quality: Include a detailed and reasonable budget that makes sense for your project.
- Supervisor support: Your application must include a letter of support from your research supervisor.

**(CLOSING DATE: 15 JANUARY 2026)**

**Full name of applicant:**

Title:	
Surname:	First names:
Current position:	
Gender: Male    Female	
Race: African    Coloured    Indian    White	
ID number:	
Institution:	Unit/Department:
Contact details:	
Email:	Fax:
Telephone:	Cellphone:
Physical address:	Postal address:

**If research is proposed, provide full name of supervisor:**

Title:	
Surname:	First name:
Contact details of supervisor:	
Email:	Fax:
Telephone:	Cellphone:
Physical address:	Postal address:

**Award applying for:**

Family Medicine Registrars	Senior Rural Doctors	Family Medicine Specialists
If research is proposed, provide title of research topic:		
Institution of supervisor:		
Institution:		

**Budget template for rural registrar category:**

**Important notice:** Please complete the application form in full. An incomplete application form may result in disqualification. Failure to adhere to the page and word-count limit may also result in disqualification. Anything other than the requested documents will not be considered.

Category	Cost per unit	No. of units	Total cost	Motivation	Additional funding amounts	Source of funding	Comments
<b>1. Personel for research support</b>							
Research assistant							
Biostatistician**							
Transcription/translation							
Editing							
<b>2. Travel and accommodation</b>							
Flights							
Car hire							
Accommodation							
<b>4. Administrative equipment and consumables**</b>							
Software							
Hardware							
Printing							
Stationery							
Data/airtime							
<b>5. Clinical/laboratory/Pharmaceutical equipment and consumables</b>							
Clinical equipment							
Lab equipment							
<b>6. Dissemination of research</b>							
Printing of research*							
Conference attendance**							
<b>7. Other specify</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>							

\*\*Conference attendance to be directly related to research, a motivation is required, together with the details of the conference to be attended

\*Any publishing should be motivated

**What is not covered**

MMED fees

**Budget template for senior rural doctors award**

Category	Cost per unit	No. of units	Total cost	Motivation	Additional funding amounts	Source of funding	Comments
<b>1. Salary compensation</b>							
Salary compensation							
<b>2. Travel and accommodation</b>							
Flights							
Car hire							
Accommodation							
<b>3. Conference fees*</b>							
<b>4. Other specify</b>							
<b>TOTAL</b>							

**Limitations of budget**

\*Conference attendance to be directly related to your area of work, a motivation is required, together with the details of the conference to be attended

**What is not covered**

- 1. Tuition fees
- 2. Duplication of salary expenses
- 3. Overtime salary

**Supporting documents required:**

- 1. Sabbatical – evidence of approval of sabbatical time by employer
- 2. Locums – supporting document to enable locum appointment
- 3. Invitation or agreement from the sabbatical host

Expected date of completion:

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**Attach the following documents:**

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A copy of the applicant's ID

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A 2 – 3 page CV

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Registrars applying for an award should provide a letter of support from their academic institution

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A letter of support from the associated academic institution (for sabbatical leave applications)

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Complete budget template

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Two reference letters from recent or current seniors familiar with the applicant's work

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Research outline (introduction; objectives; method – max 300 words)

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Short motivation for application (max 300 words)

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Details on any planned study overseas (max 300 words)

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Letter of acceptance from the overseas institution (if the award includes overseas study)

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Ethics approval for research involving human subjects

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Proof of co-funding if the budget is more than the amount available for the award

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For MMed applications: Letter from the Dean of the Academic Institution detailing the 5 – 8 applications submitted.

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Email completed application forms and supporting documents to [discoveryfoundation@tshikululu.org.za](mailto:discoveryfoundation@tshikululu.org.za)