



science & innovation

Department:  
Science and Innovation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Southern African Institute for  
Nuclear Technology & Sciences



National Research  
Foundation

iThemba  
LABS

Laboratory for Accelerator  
Based Sciences

## Invitation to apply for the

### 2024 SAINTS Prestigious Masters and Doctoral Scholarships

*iThemba LABS ([www.tlabs.ac.za](http://www.tlabs.ac.za)) is a national facility of the National Research Foundation (NRF) with its main campus close to Somerset West, Western Cape and its satellite campus close to the University of the Witwatersrand.*

*The Southern African Institute for Nuclear Technology and Sciences (SAINTS) is a division of iThemba LABS focusing on the provision of education, training and professional development for students and staff linked in the first instance to iThemba LABS.*

*iThemba LABS uses a variety of particle accelerators to provide accelerated ions and associated detectors systems for use by researchers and students to conduct research in the fields of basic and applied nuclear physics; materials science/nanoscience; radiobiology (radiation effects on biological materials); and radiochemistry.*

*iThemba LABS has over the years significantly advanced through major upgrade to its accelerators. In particular, a comprehensive infrastructural development flagship project has advanced under the pillar of SAIF (South African Isotope Facility) which is based on a newly procured 70 MeV cyclotron which has recently been installed and is soon to come into operation during the current 2023-24 financial year. Because of this development there are also research opportunities for post-graduate students in Electrical/Electronic/Mechatronic Engineering and Computer science.*

***With this call, the SAINTS is inviting academically outstanding students to apply for Masters and Doctoral scholarships (in fields of Science and Engineering) to do their research full-time in one of the following fields:***

- *basic nuclear physics (study of nuclear reactions, shapes and more),*
- *applied nuclear physics (study of radiation effects on matter, environmental radiation, accelerator mass spectrometry and more),*
- *materials science (materials characterization),*
- *nanoscience (new materials development),*
- *radiobiology (studying effects of radiation on the body),*
- *radiochemistry (development of novel radioisotopes for use in nuclear medicine and more), and*
- *advanced control systems for accelerator components and detector instrumentation (Engineering, Computer science).*

*A list of available projects and associated research supervisors at iThemba LABS for 2024 is available at the following link:*

<https://bit.ly/SAINTSProjects2024>

*The scholarships will be on “Full Cost of Study” (FCS) covering the annual tuition fees, accommodation allowance (i.e., university owned accommodation or private rental accommodation), living, transport and food allowance. The electronic study and assistive technology device (for students living with a disability) allowances will be provided as a once off basis during the tenure postgraduate studies. Successful students will also be sponsored to attend at least one international conference and/or participate in an international research visit during their studies.*

Requirements:

- an above-average academic record, achieved with a minimum average of 65% for the previous degree/qualification,
  - must be a South African citizen,
  - must register at a South African public university for full-time studies from 2024,
  - must be supervised/co-supervised by a staff member at iThemba LABS for studies commencing in 2024,
  - must be 30 (thirty) years old or younger in the year of application with the NRF (Masters funding); and
- must be 32 (thirty-two) years old or younger in the year of application with the NRF (PhD funding); To apply:

E-mail the following documents *in one PDF file*

- your up-to-date CV;
- copy of your full academic record;
- copies of all your degree/diploma certificates to date;
- letter in which you indicate your selected research project, your motivation for selecting this project, your choice of institution to register for your studies, and your career goals;
- copy of your ID document;
- two letters of support (one from your current or most recent lecturer/supervisor);

and the following as *separate PDF file attachments:*

- copies of any research publications/reports you have authored or co-authored, and
- copies of your dissertation (MSc) or mini-dissertation (BSc (Hons) / BSc Eng)).

to [saintsadmin@tlabs.ac.za](mailto:saintsadmin@tlabs.ac.za) by no later than **30 October 2023**

Successful applicants will later be invited to submit on online application on the NRF Connect system.

For further information contact:  
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E-mail: [saintsadmin@tlabs.ac.za](mailto:saintsadmin@tlabs.ac.za)*