



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO STUDY PhD BY RESEARCH OF SOCIAL SCIENCE IN
SOCIAL WORK & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022**

I. Background

The University of Rwanda, College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) – Department of Social Sciences (SS), with funding by the Norwegian Development Agency through the Norwegian Program for Capacity Development in Higher Education and Research for Development (NORHED) is calling for applications from suitable candidates for a fully funded PhD scholarship.

II. Call for Application

The Scholarship is part of a 6-year project on **'Building Resilient Communities through Inclusive Education in Eastern Africa'**, implemented by the Department of Social Sciences (Social Work program), College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) in partnership with University of Agder in Norway, Makerere University and Institute of Social Work in Tanzania.

III. Role and description

The objective of the scholarship is to enable academically qualified individuals from vulnerable and marginalized groups and communities that would not afford postgraduate education without support, to attain such an education. It is expected that upon graduation the students can proactively contribute towards socio-economic transformation of their communities.

IV. Application requirements

- (1) The applicant must hold a bachelor's degree in Social Work
- (2) A Master's Degree in the Social Sciences or related social science discipline (Social Work, clinical psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Development studies, Political Sciences, Governance, Public Administration, Economics or related discipline).
- (3) Preferences will be given to persons from marginalized background or disadvantaged group due to gender, and socio-economic status. Women are particularly encouraged to apply.
- (4) The quality of the PhD-proposal (see application procedure) will be foremost in determination of selection.
- (5) Special attention will be given to brilliant candidates from marginal communities and women.
- (6) Those with teaching and or research background working with academic institutions or affiliated programs will have added advantage.
- (7) Applicants for the fellowship must show commitment to pursuing the programs within the stipulated time frame on fulltime basis.



- (8) Applicants must be citizens of Rwanda and ready to work for the University of Rwanda upon completion of their studies.
- (9) Should have at least three years' work experience in the social development sector or public service.
- (10) Should be below 45 years of age at the time of applying.
- (11) Must be ready to take on fulltime studentship at the University of Rwanda and also be willing to spend one semester (5 months) at the University of Agder, Norway.
- (12) Should not hold any other scholarship for an academic program at this or any other university and has not received a scholarship for an equivalent program in the past.
- (13) Should demonstrate specific interest in pursuing a career in social work/social development/community development.
- (14) The selection criteria will aim at gender balance and give priority to the gender category that is considered underrepresented in post graduate program in Rwanda.
- (15) Persons with Disabilities, and individuals from ethnic minority and marginalized communities are encouraged to apply.
- (16) Eligible candidates will be evaluated by an international committee, comprising of representatives from the four participating Universities.

V. Funding

The scholarship will be limited to tuition, functional fees, an allowance for field-based research, and a modest stipend for the stipulated period of study (3 years).

VI. Scholarship conditions

- (1) Three (3) PhD scholarships are available in this call.
- (2) The award covers only 3 years specified for the PhD program by research.
- (3) Progress report will be required occasionally to justify further funds disbursements and/or tuition payments. Poor progress may automatically lead to cancellation of the scholarship.
- (4) Failure to complete studies and graduate within the stipulated program period without sound reason (unrelated to illness or other such compassionate conditions) will lead to automatic cancellation of the scholarship and under certain circumstances, a refund may be demanded.
- (5) The student should be willing to take part in field excursions and other activities organized by the project.
- (6) Payments of tuition and functional fees will be made directly to the University of Rwanda and stipend to the student's bank account.
- (7) Every beneficiary is expected to exhibit exemplary conduct both in and outside the University. Indiscipline and gross misconduct may result into summary termination of the scholarship.



VII. Application file

- (1) The application shall include a fully completed application form as specified in the University Call for Applications (specified on the application portal);
- (2) A curriculum vitae showing academic qualifications, work experience and any other relevant information;
- (3) Letter of motivation and justification why the scholarship should be awarded based on the specified criteria (Max. 1000 words);
- (4) Two letters of recommendation from 1. an academic referee and 2. Professional (e.g. current employer) referee;
- (5) Notarized academic documents including Undergraduate and Master level certificates (Applicants with academic documents from abroad must submit equivalent certificate from HEC);
- (6) A copy of the applicant's national Identity card or Passport.
- (7) A 6-page (in single space) research proposal covering the: Title of the Study; Research concept note (Study Background, Problem Statement; key research question, study objectives, Significance/rationale for the study; theoretical perspective, methodology and a literature review (not more than three pages).

Key Priority Research Area: Applicants should be able to articulate a research issue within the area of “*Youth and their engagement with social development processes (Rwanda)*”.

VIII. How to apply and Key dates

A soft copy of the application shall be sent to Mrs. Gloriose Gashayija Umulisa, Scholarships Officer at UR-CPGS (email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw) and a copy to Dr. Hahirwa Gumira Joseph, Postgraduate Coordinator at jhahirwa@gmail.com. Tel: (+250) 788 503090 and/or visit the College Website: <http://www.cass.ur.ac.rw>

- Deadline for application: November 24, 2021
- List of shortlisted candidates will be published on UR-Website: November 29, 2021
- Interview organized no later than: December 13, 2021

IX. Further Information

For any additional information, clarifications or inquiry, please do not hesitate to contact:

- (1) Dr. Hahirwa Gumira Joseph, Postgraduate Coordinator at UR-CASS, on Tel: (+250) 788 503090 and/or visit the College (e-mail: jhahirwa@gmail.com)



UNIVERSITY of
RWANDA

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH

(2) Mrs. Gloriose Gashayija Umulisa, Scholarships Officer at UR-CPGS (email: ur-cpgscholarship@ur.ac.rw, or on Tel: +250788532939)

Done at Kigali, November 03, 2021.



Prof. Nosa O. EGIEBOR
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research
University of Rwanda