

NEW FRONTIERS RESEARCH AWARD

The OMT New Frontiers Research Award recognises the efforts of visionary early-to-mid-career researchers determined to build high-performance research teams and the South African academy.

The award is intended to provide researchers with the freedom and flexibility to pursue their research, without bureaucratic constraints, helping them produce significant work and gain international recognition.

It is a five-year award, with a monetary value of **R1.5 million per annum**.

Who we award

We are looking to back forward-thinking innovative individuals with a clearly defined research vision, who want to build a team around them to perform cutting-edge research. You need to be committed to collaboration and have a proven research track record combined with leadership experience. The research must have relevance not only to South Africa, but also regionally or globally.

We encourage applications from all disciplines. The award is open to anyone who wants to pursue research at a recognised research institution based in South Africa.

How to apply

Your concept note must be submitted on our [applications portal](#), and **no** emailed documents will be accepted by the Trust.

If your concept note is accepted, you will be invited to submit a full application. Shortlisted applications will be interviewed by our panel in person in Johannesburg in early 2024.

Please be mindful of the timeframes indicated below.

Please contact newfrontiers@omt.org.za if you have any queries.

Deadlines and guidelines

Concept note submissions open:	15 August 2023
Deadline for concept note submissions:	30 September 2023
Full applications open:	30 September 2023
Full applications close:	30 November 2023

Concept note

Years of relevant post-training work experience

Please indicate the length of your relevant post-training work experience. Candidates must hold a PhD or equivalent qualification.

Current Institution and position

Applicants must provide the primary institution with which they are currently affiliated and their position. Applicants must specify if this is a research / teaching / administrative (or a combination) position.

Host Institution

Applicants must nominate the institution that will host their research project, and indicate if this is different to their current institution. Applicants must provide reasons to motivate their answer, and should the applicant be shortlisted for an interview, letters of support from the host institution will need to be provided.

Academic History

Applicants must provide a timeline of:

- a) academic education (qualifications);
- b) highest qualification held (including where and when this was obtained);
- c) research and/or work history (job title);
- d) academic positions held; and
- e) publication history

NRF Rating

Applicants must provide their NRF rating, or provide other bibliometric indicators of publishing activity if not currently rated by the NRF.

Research Programme Vision

Applicants must provide a short overview of the main questions and goals of their proposed research programme. The content should be easily understood by an academic who is not necessarily an expert in their particular discipline.

Leadership Experience, research culture and mentoring

Applicants must describe their leadership style and research culture, and give examples of their experience in leading research teams.