



## Call for SACEMA External Bursaries for 2017: Deadline 17 October 2016

SACEMA invites applications for bursaries to study towards MSc or PhD degrees, based at and supervised from any institution in South Africa, in fields relating to epidemiological modelling and biostatistics. A background in quantitative methods is required, and interdisciplinary experience is welcome. Previous exposure to SACEMA's core research areas will be an advantage, and priority will be given to applicants demonstrating high motivation and affinities for the following areas in which SACEMA's current projects lie:

- HIV surveillance; in particular, incidence estimation methods and their application.
- Transmission and spread of sexually transmitted infections; in particular, the role of age-disparate relationships and inference of sexual networks from multiple data sources.
- Antiretroviral treatment outcomes; in particular, treatment resistance and immunology.
- Evaluating options for the control and prevention of infectious diseases; in particular, strategies to eliminate HIV and TB transmission.
- Zoonotic and vector borne diseases; in particular, the impact of climate change on tsetse-borne trypanosomiasis.
- Interactions between infectious diseases and chronic conditions, at the scale of individuals or populations.
- Demographic and health system implications of changing patterns of mortality and disease.
- Disease processes at the individual level; in particular, development of cancer and mechanisms of TB reactivation.

The DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (SACEMA) is a national research centre based at the University of Stellenbosch. The centre is dedicated to the modelling of disease transmission and progression, focusing on South Africa's major health challenges. SACEMA provides research facilities and a stimulating environment in which scientists can interact to transcend disciplinary and institutional boundaries. Our goal is to engage innovatively with fundamental issues in epidemiology and produce quantitative evidence to guide important decisions in national and international health policy.

It is part of SACEMA's mission to foster links and generate inter-disciplinary collaborations with researchers at other institutions. Therefore SACEMA bursaries are available for a broad range of applicants in a variety of fields, and bursary holders and their supervisor(s) may be based at any institution in South Africa. **(If you intend to be based in Stellenbosch and supervised from SACEMA, there is another call and associated application process for Internal Bursaries <http://sacema.org/node/call-for-sacema-internal-bursaries-for-2017>.)**

External bursary holders may be registered at any university in South Africa. Applicants are expected to submit a detailed research proposal, prepared in collaboration with a proposed supervisor, as part of the bursary application process. This proposal should include a justification for your methodology as an appropriate way to approach the problem and a statement on the relevance of the study to public health and SACEMA priorities. You should complete the online External Postgraduate Bursary application form <http://sacema.org/applications/add/bursaries>. Your proposed supervisor is requested to supply, with your application, a letter of support for your intentions and research objectives, indicating willingness to supervise you and openness to possible collaboration with SACEMA on your project, as well as a CV outlining their major research activities and accomplishments. Preference will be given to candidates who submit a research proposal related to SACEMA's research objectives and on-going projects as listed above.

If you are working on a currently funded project that relates to SACEMA's research interests and might lead to fruitful collaboration, then you are still welcome to apply for a bursary. The additional funding provided by SACEMA may then be used for travel or conference/course attendance.

The application form is available online at <http://sacema.org/applications/add/bursaries>

### Closing date for applications: Monday 17 October 2016

Further enquiries may be directed to:  
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