

GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

PAST invites applications for grants, bursaries, conferences and publications from researchers, educators and post-graduate students at African institutions in support of projects involving palaeo-anthropology, palaeontology, prehistoric archaeology and cognate disciplines. Five categories of funding are available:

- 1) Post-graduate degree support
- 2) Technical training and capacity support
- 3) Young African scientist development
- 4) Research project support
- 5) Conference and publication support. Deadlines for all applications are quarterly and it is up to the applicant to apply in good time.

Deadlines are; 01 February; and 01 August.

Processing time for grants is a minimum of three months from each quarterly deadline.

Grants are made to the institution with whom the applicant is affiliated. Applicants from countries outside of Africa will be considered only for projects within Africa and with significant long-term association with a relevant African institution, including collaboration with Africa-based scientists. In addition, such applicants must provide reasons why their research is not supported by their own institutions. Applications from organisations with interests in the above-mentioned fields of origin sciences may also be considered. We also support scientific conferences, workshops and academic publications in these areas. Non-African applicants for degree support will be considered but are not a high priority. Each application is considered individually and PAST does not enforce strict directives as each case has its own merit. Therefore, if you are unsure whether your application qualifies for consideration, please contact the CEO.

- Progress reports are due BEFORE renewal applications, and at the end of your project.
- Applicants must complete the application form after reading the application guidelines (available on website). Incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will automatically be rejected. Applications with unnecessary additions (photos or sketches) will also be rejected.
- In the application form the project details should state the research problem explicitly, justify its importance, and describe how the problem will be addressed. For students, please also provide a brief statement on the manner in which the work covered by this proposal will contribute to the development or completion of your thesis research. Provide a research schedule, and a brief statement on the logistical and administrative (e.g., permits) feasibility of the work. Do not include photos or sketches unless crucial.
- Applications must be accompanied by a supporting letter from the African institution involved. For students, a supporting letter from the academic supervisor and/or the head of department is required.

- The applicant's curriculum vitae and publication list are also required, limited to three pages.
- Please provide a total project budget, itemised, justified and limited to two pages, listing the status, source and amount requested/available from all other funding proposals (confirmed, pending, planned) for this work. Explain whether the project will be able to proceed if some or all of the additional pending and planned grants are not awarded. List in separate columns those budget items requested from PAST and all other confirmed, pending and planned sources. Provide a clear motivation of the necessity of each budget item to your research. Do not request items that are not related directly to the completion of your project. Note that PAST will not pay institutional overhead, support, or cost recovery fees. PAST will consider equipment purchases, but only under exceptional circumstances and where the equipment will become the property of the applicant's department/institution at project's completion. PAST will not pay salary for staff employed at the applicant's institution. You may be required to produce a full accounting of expenses, including original receipts, at any time. PAST will consider favourably applicants who have applied for and/or received support from sources in addition to PAST.
- Provide a description of the education, technical training and/or public understanding and engagement component of the project, limited to one page. Applications incorporating such components will be prioritised. Volunteering assistance for PASTs Walking Tall Schools Project will be considered as an educational component, however, it is up to the applicants to explore how they might benefit the project and to propose this to PAST before the application is submitted.
- All correspondence relating to funding proposals should be sent via e-mail (in Microsoft Word or PDF format only) to hq@pastafrica.co.za
- E-mailed applications must include only the one application form and no other files with the exception of the support letter/s which may be e-mailed separately.