

MASTERS AND PHD DEGREE PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

1. BACKGROUND

Rongo University, the lead institution, partnered with University of Eldoret/Moi University and KALRO-Katumani in a successful bid for funding from **The McKnight Foundation** to undertake a research project titled “*Enhancing livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Western and Eastern Kenya through Agro-ecological intensification with sorghum based interventions*”. The overall goal of this project is to integrate sorghum, legume and poultry production to improve food and household nutrition security through sustainable production systems on smallholdings in the semi-arid regions of western and eastern Kenya. In addition, the Project will sponsor students who have demonstrated aspiration and enthusiasm to develop into outstanding scientists, to undertake postgraduate training on **sorghum breeding, agronomy, value addition/nutrition and social science aspects of the sorghum value chain**. The students will contribute to the implementation of the project by assisting the researchers to conduct specific research activities and share key findings and recommendations through publications.

2. THE SCHOLARSHIP CALL

The sorghum project therefore invites applications for partial scholarship from suitably qualified Masters and PhD students to undertake research on the aspects of the sorghum value chain highlighted above. The student must be enrolled in a Public University in Kenya and has successfully completed course work. The scholarship will cover the cost of Research and a nominal monthly stipend only. The interested student will be required to pay all tuition and administration fees due to the university he/she is enrolled in. The duration of the scholarship will be 12 and 24 months for Masters and PhD programs respectively.

The scholarship is competitive and short listing will be on merit and only the qualified applicants will be considered as per the criteria provided below:

Masters and PhD Scholarships

Requirement

1. Must have successfully completed course work for the Masters/PhD program (Attach first year transcripts)
2. Must be willing to undertake both field and laboratory based research activities
3. Demonstration of previous involvement in scientific research will be an added advantage

3.0 APPLICANT DETAILS (**Registered PhD and Masters Students only**)

Surname: Given name (s) Gender:



THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Nationality..... County.....

ID Number:.....(Attach a copy)

University

Faculty/School:

Department:

University registration No.Year of registration

Highest qualification (e.g. M.Sc, MA, B.Sc, BA, etc) (*Attach a copy of the certificate*).

Current contacts:

Email:..... **Cell Phone No**

P.O. Box

SIGNATURE

Student's Signature:..... Date:.....

4.0 PROPOSED RESEARCH AREAS

(a) PhD applicants

Please provide the Title and Abstract of your proposed research under one of the following subject areas:

1. **Plant Breeding:** Sorghum breeding for pest or disease resistance
2. **Social Sciences:** Adoption of new sorghum technologies
3. **Value Addition/Nutrition:** Sorghum value addition for improved nutrition of vulnerable groups.

(b) Masters applicants

Please provide the Title and Abstract of your proposed research under one of the following subject areas:

1. **Agronomy/Agroecology:** Soil fertility management
2. **Agronomy/Agroecology:** Soil water use management and low moisture stress physiology
3. **Value Addition/Nutrition:** Sorghum value addition for poultry feeding

Title of your Research:

Abstract: (*Maximum of 300 words for PhD and 250 words for Masters student*)

5.0 MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

The following documents must be attached to your application:

- *Masters/PhD first year Transcripts **
- *Letter of admission from your University*
- *Copy of ID*
- *Brief CV (Max 2pg)*

** Applicants enrolled for PhD by research will be required to provide a supporting letter from the host university as evidence of continuing study.*

6.0 DEADLINE

The deadline for submission of application has been extended from **2nd March 2018** to **9th March 2018**.

Duly filled application forms to be submitted to:

Prof. Samuel Gudu
Principal Investigator & Vice-Chancellor
Rongo University
P.O. Box 103
RONGO - 40404

Email: vc@rongovarsity.ac.ke or samgudu2002@yahoo.com

This Application Form can be downloaded from Rongo University website, www.rongovarsity.ac.ke

Successful candidates will be notified via email on or before 19th March, 2018.