# Call Announcement
# NRF EVALUATION AND RATING – 2025

## UCT Internal closing dates:

- Applications received by 18 November 2024 will receive feedback early in December.
- Applications received between 19 November 2024 and 6 January 2025 will receive feedback by end of January 2025.
- Applications received between 7 January – 2 February 2025 will receive feedback in the second week of February.
- Late applications received between 3 February and 14 February will receive feedback by 25 February 2025.

## NRF system closing date: 14 February 2025, 16h30

**Applications are invited for the next cycle of NRF evaluation and rating. This call applies both to researchers who are applying for re-evaluation and first-time applicants.** The NRF does not accept applications submitted directly by applicants; therefore, UCT can only endorse applications which are submitted via the internal review process.

The rating of individuals is based primarily on the *quality and impact* of their research outputs over the past eight years (1 Janaury 2017 – 31 December 2024), taking into consideration the evaluation made by local and international peers who are requested to critically scrutinize the research completed during the assessment period. Applications are submitted by "established" researchers with a solid track record (categories C, B and A), or by "younger" researchers who show potential of becoming established within a five-year period (Y) or becoming future leaders in their field (P).

### How to start a rating application
- Applications are submitted online via NRF Connect at https://nrfconnect.nrf.ac.za.
- Register or login in with your ORCID.
    - Sign in with your institutional email address or ORCID and login
    - Access through your institution "University of Cape Town"
    - Click on SYNC NOW to Migrate your NRF Online Submission CV data to NRF Connect.
    - Update "MY CV"
- Create an application
    - On the menu, click on Applications under "MY APPLICATIONS"
    - Under the list of categories, click the + sign next to Rating
    - Click on Create to start the application.
- Complete all the sections.
- Click on the SUBMIT button.

The UCT Application Guide and Template may be used to prepare the key narratives required for the application. The final text should be transferred to the online system, to complete the submission.

**Prospective applicants are required to familiarise themselves with the NRF Rating Call documents which include application requirements.**

### UCT internal review of rating applications

- Applications are reviewed internally prior to submission to the NRF in order to assist with strengthening submissions, advising on rating readiness where required, and to provide an institutional recommended rating which is a requirement of the NRF.
- Applicants have the option of choosing any <u>one</u> of the above stated internal submission dates for their applications.

### Advantages of being rated

- The rating is used as a national indicator of excellence and is to the advantage of your faculty and the University in terms of benchmarking.
- It is a measurement of your academic profile and may be considered when applying for promotion and/or career advancement opportunities in academia.
- A successful rating allows one the option of applying for **incentive funding for rated researchers** from the NRF, the amount of which is directly proportional to the researcher's rating, and to apply to NRF funding programmes which are ringfenced for rated researchers. This is however conditional on the NRF having enough funds for this purpose.

### General Comments

- Eligibility: In general, all researchers who are employed and remunerated on a full-time, long- term or part-time contract basis at UCT may apply to be rated (refer to eligibility criteria at https://uct.ac.za/research-support-hub/accreditation-evaluation-nrf-ratings/nrf-rating-application-process.
- Postdoctoral fellows must please first check their eligibility before completing an application.
- Applicants are welcome to contact the Research Office to establish their rating-readiness.
- If you are a young researcher and completed your PhD in 2018, you will need to apply now in order to be considered for rating in the Y category (40 years and younger) or P category (normally 35 years and younger) as eligibility is established by applying no more than five years after your PhD graduation.
- Bibliometrics support for applications is provided by UCT Libraries. Request for support must be made to the relevant **Faculty Principal Librarians.**

### Presentations on Rating applications

| Date | Time | Venue | RSVP |
|---|---|---|---|
| Thursday, 14 November | 12h00 – 14h00 | Seminar Room, Research Office, Level 2, Allan Cormack House, 2 Rhodes Avenue, Mowbray | Amanda.Raman@uct.ac.za **by 11 November** |
| Tuesday, 3 December | 12h00 – 14h00 | | Amanda.Raman@uct.ac.za **by 29 November** |

Recordings of previous rating seminars and workshops can also be accessed here.

### Contact persons

- **UCT Research Office**
  Mrs Amanda Raman
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  Mr Mbasa Mguye
  Mbasa.Mguye@uct.ac.za or 021 650 7925

  Visit our Research Office website: https://uct.ac.za/research-support-hub/accreditation-evaluation/nrf-ratings

- **NRF Support Desk**
  Tel: 012 481 4202 | | supportdesk@nrf.ac.za