

Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme (FBIP)

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS TO ATTEND THE 39TH ZSSA CONGRESS: 2019

Closing date: 08 March 2019

Link to the online application: <https://goo.gl/forms/fyrH09tTPN0PjSOJ3>

The Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme (FBIP) is offering travel assistance for Masters and Doctoral students to attend the **39th ZSSA Congress** at Skukuza, Kruger National Park, South Africa from **7-10 July 2019**. For more information about the conference, please visit their website at (<https://zssa.co.za/zssa-2019>).

The FBIP is funded by the Department of Science & Technology, and managed by the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI).

Criteria and eligibility:

To be eligible, applicants must be registered at a South African University for Masters or Doctoral study in 2019 and must either work on FBIP projects that received funding between 2016 and 2019 or must be a recipient of a FBIP bursary administered through the NRF.

Applicants are encouraged to submit an abstract for either a paper, speed or poster presentation before the deadline of **28 February 2019**. Abstracts must be submitted electronically to the ZSSA Congress organisers to 2019zssa@gmail.com. For more information please visit <https://zssa.co.za/zssa-2019>.

What the conference assistance covers:

The conference assistance will cover:

- Conference registration fee.
- Accommodation, within National Treasury's prescribed rates, during the conference. Students may be expected to share accommodation.
- Meals, not included in the registration fees, during the conference period.
- Travel assistance includes:
 - Return economy class flight tickets to Johannesburg (where applicable) and a shared shuttle/bus service (from Johannesburg – Skukuza, Kruger National Park – return). Transport between home and nearest airport will only be covered where the distance from home to the airport is greater than 100km; or
 - Ground transportation if it is a shorter distance to the venue than to the nearest airport or in cases where it is more time and cost effective.

Notes:

- Recipients are expected to make alternative funding arrangements for all other costs associated with attending the congress that are not covered by the grant.
- Supervisors will be expected to approve the application.
- Preference will be given to South African citizens and students with permanent residency.
- Applications of current recipients of FBIP/NRF scholarships and students that are presenting at the conference will be favourably considered by the evaluation panel.

SANBI reserves the right not to award these postgraduate student conference grants. If no response has been received within 21 days of the closing date, candidates may assume that their applications were unsuccessful.

- Applications from students registered for Honours degrees will not be accepted.
- Successful candidates will be expected to complete and submit a brief /detailed report of the conference within 1 month of attending the conference.

Application process:

Student applicants must complete the Application Form (<https://goo.gl/forms/fyrH09tTPN0PjSOJ3>) and submit it with the required documents listed below. Please name each document clearly. Files must be <10MB.

- Certified copy of your ID.
- Proof of registration for your current Master or Doctoral studies.
- Motivation for attendance (student) and recommendation and approval (supervisor). Please use the template provided. In the motivation (max 250 words) please explain why you would like to attend the conference and why the grant would be important.
- Abstract of presentation (clearly specify the presentation type, i.e. poster, speed, paper, extended presentation).
- Proof of submission of abstract.

Closing date: 08 March 2019
Successful applicants will be notified by 05 April 2019

Incomplete and/or late applications or applications from ineligible students will not be considered.

Enquiries:

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