



National Science Foundation

Application for

NSF Research Scholarships 2026 – First Call

Mandatory criteria to be fulfilled when applying for NSF Research Scholarships

1. Applicants should be citizens of Sri Lanka and be registered with the STMIS database of NSF.
2. Be graduates with a class in a Bachelors degree from a recognized University OR without a class in the Bachelors but with a MSc. or MPhil Degree.
3. Scholarships can be applied by graduates requesting financial support to conduct **full time** research (only and completely within Sri Lanka) leading up to a maximum of 2 years for a MPhil and up to a maximum of 3 years for a PhD/ MD.
4. Be registered and be accepted by a Faculty of Graduate Studies/ Postgraduate Institute/ Faculty of a recognized University, in Sri Lanka, with the acceptance letter in hand. The research project should be only from any area of Science and Technology including Social Sciences and Humanities.
5. Priority will be given to research proposals addressing issues identified as national research priorities and/ or Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Priority will also be given to proposals addressing industry needs/solving problems in collaboration with industry.
6. Having strong recommendations from all Supervisors is compulsory.
7. If the applicant is employed, evidence should be provided by the employer, on releasing the applicant for full-time research, if the scholarship is awarded.
8. Having research experience and/ or research publications in refereed journals, will be an added qualification.
9. Funding will be provided only for the monthly Stipend, Post Graduate Registration Fees, Travel & Subsistence and a limited amount for Consumables.
10. Proposals rejected from the NSF Competitive Research Grant Scheme will not be considered for NSF Research Scholarships.

CHECK LIST

<i>Completed application form (including all signatures)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Curriculum vitae of all Supervisors</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Curriculum vitae of Proponent</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Gantt Chart</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Electronic copies of two most recent publications, if any</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Certification of the Institution which facilitates the research (by signatures under point 16)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Proof of registration of postgraduate degree</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

APPLICATIONS THAT ARE LATE, INCOMPLETE, INACCURATE AND/OR DEVIATED/ CHANGED FROM THE GIVEN FORMAT WILL NOT BE PROCESSED FURTHER

Application for
NSF Research Scholarships – 2026 – First Call

1. Proponent's Information (Please attach updated CV to the Application)

Title Mr/Miss/Mrs **Gender** (Male/Female)

Surname

Given Names

Date of Birth (Format DD/MM/YYYY)

STMIS Reg. No

1.1 Contact Details

Official

Address

Telephone

Fax

E-mail

Personal

Home Address

Telephone/ Mobile

E-mail

2. Research Areas (Please tick the relevant category/categories)

Agriculture and Food Sciences

Information Communication Technology
(Artificial Intelligence, Robotics etc.)

Basic Sciences
(Physical/ Chemical/ Biological Sciences)

Library & Information Science

Biotechnology

Nanotechnology

Engineering Sciences & Architecture

Science Education

Environment & Biodiversity

Science & Technology Policy Studies

Health Sciences

Social Sciences & Humanities

Indigenous Knowledge

Any other significant area
(please specify):

**3. Supervisor/s (Please attach updated CVs with publications done during last 05 years, to the Application).
If there are more than 3 Co-Supervisors please add another set of rows as 3.5, 3.6 etc.**

3.1 Principal Supervisor

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Institution	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
E-mail	<input type="text"/>		
Tel. / Mobile	<input type="text"/>	Fax	<input type="text"/>
STMIS Reg. No	<input type="text"/>		

3.2 Co- Supervisor - I

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Institution	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
E-mail	<input type="text"/>		
Tel. / Mobile	<input type="text"/>	Fax	<input type="text"/>
STMIS Reg. No	<input type="text"/>		

3.3 Co- Supervisor - II

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Institution	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
E-mail	<input type="text"/>		
Tel. / Mobile	<input type="text"/>	Fax	<input type="text"/>
STMIS Reg. No	<input type="text"/>		

3.4 Co- Supervisor - III

Name

Institution

Address

E-mail

Tel. / Mobile Fax

STMIS Reg. No

4. Higher Degree for which the Scholarship is applied for:

PhD MD MPhil.

i) Requested period for the scholarship (in number of years)

ii) Are you currently enrolled for the above higher degree? Enter Yes or No

iii) Date of Enrollment for the higher degree (format DD/MM/YYYY)

iv) Status of Enrollment Full-time Part-time

v) Is this an upgrade from MPhil. to PhD? Enter Yes or No

vi) Institution of Enrollment

5. Summarize academic performance (for each sub-section please start with the most recent first. Include honors/class or equivalent).

5.1 Undergraduate academic record

Year	Degree	Institution	Class Obtained	Full/ Part time

5.2 Postgraduate degree/s completed or currently engaged in, if any

Year	Degree	Institution	Class Obtained	Full/ Part time

6. Awards obtained for undergraduate study and research career, if any	
Description of Prize	Year of Award

7. Career after 1st degree, including any current employment (starting with most recent)			
Place of Work	Post Held	From - To (DD/MM/YYYY)	Employment Status (permanent/ probationary/ temporary) and if salaried

8. Research experience to date (Where the applicant has completed a research-oriented/ basic degree, they should indicate the duration, percentage of research compared with coursework and whether it was full-time, part-time and/or concurrent with another degree). (Max. 250 words)

9. Publications: The Applicant's publications should be listed as

- i) Refereed journal articles (give details of 5 most recent publications. Include title, authors, journal and page numbers. Details of papers in press may be included. Attach electronic copies of two most recent publications)
- ii) Other articles, reviews, book chapters, etc.
- iii) Published abstracts
- iv) Patents

10. Career Intentions: Short and long-term research career intentions. (Max. 250 words)

11. Proposed Project**Title****Location**

11.1 Summary of the Project (Explain briefly the research problem, methodology and expected outputs). *Not exceeding one A4 page, font type: Times New Roman, size 11, single space*

11.2 Give 3-5 keywords for the proposed project:

11.3.1 The Research Project accepted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies/Postgraduate Institute/Faculty of recognized University and the evaluation reports received by the higher degrees committee (HDC) **should be certified by the Supervisor/s and attached to this application.**

(Research project should include aims and objectives, significance, background, research plan, methodology and references)

11.3.2 Attach the following information to the Application

i) If this application is submitted in conjunction with an application for a NSF research grant/ongoing grant please give details of same

ii) List the milestones and indicators (Key Performance Indicators-KPIs) to be used to monitor the progress of the study

11.4 Please provide a Gantt Chart of the proposed work with time bound milestones for the duration of the study (format is given below with an example)

Specific Activity	Year 1												Year 2												Year 3											
	Q 1			Q 2			Q 3			Q 4			Q 1			Q 2			Q 3			Q 4			Q 1			Q 2			Q 3			Q 4		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	_____												_____												_____											
	_____												_____												_____											
	_____												_____												_____											
	_____												_____												_____											

11.5 Budget

11.5.1 Please specify whether this proposal has been submitted to NSF/any other organization for consideration for funding or any other purpose

Yes No

If Yes, please specify

.....

11.5.2 Detailed Budget Breakdown

Breakdown of Budget	1 st Year (Rs.)	2 nd Year (Rs.)	3 rd Year (Rs.)	TOTAL (Rs.)
Stipend*				
Postgraduate registration fees (Excluding refundable deposits)				
Travel & Subsistence** (only for field visits relevant to this project)				
Consumables ***				
GRAND TOTAL				

* Monthly stipend of Research Scholar will be provided only if unemployed or if proof is submitted of no-pay leave during the project period. Amount of stipend will be as follows:

If with a MPhil. Degree - Rs. 100,000/- per month
 If with a MSc. Degree - Rs. 80,000/- per month
 If with a BSc. Degree - Rs. 60,000/- per month

** Travel-Rs. 25/- per km (NSF rate)

Subsistence rates – Have to be paid according to Government Circulars-Management Service Circular No. 34. Scholar-Maximum-Rs. 500/- (according to the stipend)

Funds can be requested only for field visits related to this project. As far as possible the Scholar should combine field work under the project with his/her work in the Institution. What should be requested for is additional travelling that cannot be carried out in the course of the Scholar's other duties.

Give a detailed breakdown for each year with strong justifications of the cost figures given in Summary budget. Indicate no. of field visits, places to be visited and any other relevant details.

*** Consumables are limited to a maximum of Rs. 100,000/- per year.

Give a detailed breakdown for each year with strong justifications of the cost figures given in Summary budget. Indicate type of consumable, quantity, unit price and total price and any other relevant details.

12. Ethical considerations/ necessary permits

Ethical considerations/permits	Relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------------	----------	--------------------------	--------------	--------------------------

If relevant, Ethical clearance/permits obtained?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
--	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

If no, applied for Ethical clearance/permits?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
---	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

13. Indicate the human and environmental safety issues related to the project and how they are being addressed**14. Indicate the impact on national development (scientific, societal and economic) and possible industry partnerships to be initiated**

a) Scientific Impact

b) Societal Impact

c) Economic Impact

d) Possible Industry Partnerships

15. Reports in Confidence

Each Applicant for a Scholarship should arrange for the Principal and Co Supervisor's Statement/s (Format-Annex 1) to be completed and emailed directly to schol@nsf.gov.lk with the Scholarship Applicant's name in the subject line under Confidential Cover (without which the application will not be considered for a grant).

16. Declaration: If this Application is successful, I certify that I will supervise the Scholar closely and ensure that he/she is working according to the intended work and time plan.

16.1

Signature of Principal Supervisor	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>
Signature of Co-Supervisor I	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>
Signature of Co-Supervisor II	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>

16.2

Signature of Applicant	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>
-------------------------------	----------------------	----------------------------------

16.3 Declaration of Head of Department in which the applicant intends to work
 I certify that this Department has the facilities and additional funding to support this proposal and that I believe this person is a suitable Applicant for this scholarship

Name	<input type="text"/>	
Department	<input type="text"/>	
Signature & Seal	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>

16.4 Declaration of Dean of the Faculty in which the applicant intends to work
 I certify that should be awarded an NSF Research Scholarship, this Faculty will permit the Scholar to undertake the research work at this Faculty.

Name	<input type="text"/>	
Faculty	<input type="text"/>	
Signature & Seal	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>

16.5 Certification by Head of Institution (Vice Chancellor or Director)

I certify that should be awarded an NSF Research Scholarship, this Institution will permit the Scholar to undertake the research work in this Institution.

Title	<input type="text"/>	
Name	<input type="text"/>	
Institution	<input type="text"/>	
Signature & Seal	<input type="text"/>	Date <input type="text"/>



IN CONFIDENCE

Application for NSF Research Scholarships-2026

Supervisor's Statement

1. Name of Candidate

Title	Initials	Surname

2. Name of Principal/ Co- Supervisor

Title	Initials	Surname

3. About the Candidate

In what capacity have you known the candidate?	How long have you known the candidate?

4. Reference

Please state your views on the applicant's aptitude and suitability for (further) research training **using one side of A4 only (overleaf)**. This statement carries a good deal of weight in the assessment. When preparing your statement, you should consider the following;

- a. Your views on the candidate's knowledge and suitability for postgraduate training in general and for the particular course/project**
- b. Provide information on how, and to what extent, the candidate has shown academic ability in terms of:**
 - Ability to grasp concepts and reason analytically,
 - Motivation and perseverance in achieving objectives,
 - Capacity for original thought
- c. An assessment of the candidate's particular strengths and weaknesses**

Please sign and date your statement