



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA



SASAE
SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
Empowering Agriculture For Generations



UFS-SASAE DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP 2027

RESEARCH | EXTENSION | KNOWLEDGE | IMPACT

 Are you an agricultural extension professional ready to make a lasting contribution to the profession?

The University of the Free State (UFS), in partnership with the South African Society for Agricultural Extension (SASAE), invites applications for **ONE Doctoral Scholarship**. The scholarship forms part of the SASAE 60th celebration and aims to support doctoral research that documents, analyses and strengthens the future of SASAE and the agricultural extension profession in South Africa.



RESEARCH THEME

Sustaining a Voluntary Professional Society:
The institutional evolution, contribution, branch dynamics and future strengthening of the South African Society for Agricultural Extension (SASAE).

The final research title and design will be refined through the UFS doctoral admissions and proposal development process.



WHO CAN APPLY?

- ✔ Meet UFS doctoral admission requirements
- ✔ Hold an appropriate Master's degree or equivalent
- ✔ Be a practising agricultural extension/advisory services professional, or have a closely related professional role
- ✔ Be a SASAE member
- ✔ Demonstrate a strong interest in agricultural extension and institutional learning
- ✔ Have appropriate access to SASAE members, branches, leaders and records
- ✔ Have the time, commitment and employer support to complete a PhD
- ✔ Be willing to participate in the UFS doctoral cohort and research-development activities



IMPORTANT DATES

 Applications open	15 October 2026
 Applications close	15 November 2026
 Branch-level screening	16 November - 2 December 2026
 Winner announced	15 January 2027
 UFS registration	Ahead of April 2027 registration



POTENTIAL RESEARCH AREAS

-  History and institutional evolution of SASAE
-  Contribution to the extension profession and members
-  Role of branches, networks and professional relationships
-  Member of participation, professional identity and leadership
-  Conferences, mentorship, publications and professional learning
-  Inclusion of young and early-career practitioners
-  Institutional memory, archives and practitioner knowledge
-  Governance, succession and future sustainability
-  Lessons for other professionals organisations in Africa



WHAT TO SUBMIT?

1	Motivation Letter
2	3-5 page concept note
3	Curriculum vitae
4	Certified academic records
5	Professional support letter
6	Two academic/professional references
7	Required declarations

The concept note should outline:

- Proposed title
- Background and research problem
- Purpose
- Research questions/objectives
- Conceptual orientation
- Methodology
- Expected contribution
- Feasibility

ONE SCHOLARSHIP. ONE DOCTORAL OPPORTUNITY. A LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO SASAE AND THE EXTENSION PROFESSION



TURN
EXTENSION
EXPERIENCE
INTO EVIDENCE



TURN
KNOWLEDGE
INTO IMPACT



BUILD THE
FUTURE OF
AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION

For more information and to apply for the scholarship

SCAN THE CODE

