



**DHET Future Professors
Programme (Phase 01)**

Fellowship in Academic
Excellence and Leadership

**Deadline:
28 February 2025**

CALL

This is the fourth Call for the Future Professors Programme (FPP) Phase 01. This competitive and selective programme of the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) prepares promising early and mid-career academics as South African professors across the disciplines. **Prof Jonathan Jansen** is the Project Leader and Phase 01 is administratively hosted at Stellenbosch. The Call seeks to identify the country's most talented young academics to benefit from a structured and intense programme aimed at accelerating their readiness for the professoriate. It aims to produce a critical mass of academic excellence and leadership within South African Higher Education. The programme is intended to complement initiatives hosted by both the DHET and individual universities aimed at developing a pipeline of early-to-mid-career academics **with an emphasis on black and woman scholars**. Academics preferably - but not exclusively - in the **lecturer and senior lecturer categories in South African public universities**, may be nominated by their universities. Applicants should hold a **doctorate** and already boast a **track-record of some academic achievement** that would signal advancement to the senior ranks of the academy. From these nominations a cohort will be selected for the programme, to commence in January 2026.

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Eligibility

DHET FPP Phase 01 is designed for academics who are on a clear pathway towards the professoriate.

Applicants should be permanently employed as lecturers, senior lecturers or an equivalent academic appointment.

A PhD is a minimum requirement. An NRF rating will count strongly in your favour. We do not set age limits, but applicants must demonstrate that they have already made progress on a career trajectory towards the professoriate.



Candidate attributes

- A deep commitment to the pursuit of advanced scholarship.
- Evidence of productive and imaginative scholarly work.
- Early signs of purpose and direction in academic work.
- Novelty, richness and a willingness to take risks in the pursuit of large ideas.
- Personal qualities of self-awareness, teachability and the need to grow.
- Evidence of resilience and persistence in the face of setbacks.
- A willingness to benefit from and contribute to a community of scholars.



Components of the Programme

1. Baseline Evaluation



This initial assessment helps each scholar gauge their current standing within their discipline and provides personalised recommendations for future growth and development.

2. Residential Series



Fellows will engage in a series of seminars, retreats and coaching sessions. These immersive and scholarly community-enhancing experiences are complemented by individual opportunities tailored to each participant's unique needs and aspirations.

3. International Engagement



Scholars will have the chance to participate in international activities that align with their specific intellectual project.

HOW TO APPLY

Documentation required for submission:

1. A curriculum vitae including the following information:

- Full name and date of birth (including year of birth).
- Contact details (work and cell phone) as well as preferred email address.
- Educational history (including the title of PhD thesis, the year received [use date of graduation ceremony not submission of thesis], the university that awarded the degree and the name/s of supervisor/s).
- Employment history (including current position [e.g. Senior lecturer], faculty and the department where you currently serve and the name of your head of department).
- Publication record (including papers submitted/accepted and where).
- Research projects and funding generated.
- Current teaching and supervisory responsibilities (distinguish undergraduate and postgraduate).
- NRF rating, if applicable (year obtained and rating received).
- Google Scholar H-Index and Scopus H-Index, if disciplinarily applicable.

2. A two-page evidence-based submission

An essay explaining how you meet the attributes listed above. Use this narrative to tell us about yourself, how these attributes inform your personal career choices and your research trajectory, including your planned future research. This submission should include a commitment from the scholar to participate fully in the programme, if selected.

3. Contact details of three referees (including a note on how and in which capacity they know you).

Submission process:

Applications should be submitted electronically no later than 28 February 2025 to the office of the designated authority of your University. Each university may nominate only five candidates and these nominations will be accompanied by an institutional support letter. If you do not know who your designated authority is, contact us at fpp@sun.ac.za. Each document should be saved in the following format: SurnameInitialCV; SurnameInitialEssay E.g MoyoSCV and MoyoSEssay.

The FPP cannot respond to individual applicants on matters of selection and outcome but will direct inquiries in this regard to your University's designated authority. Outcomes will be communicated to successful candidates, the Vice Chancellor of your university, and the designated authority, by the DHET.

Further Information:

For further information on the Programme or the application process, you are most welcome to contact the programme at e-mail: fpp@sun.ac.za.