



THE MANDELA RHODES
FOUNDATION

5 March 2019

Dear Tertiary Institution Liaison

NOMINATIONS PACK: ROUND ONE OF APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2020

That time of the year has once again arrived where applications for the Mandela Rhodes Scholarships will soon be underway.

The opening date for the 2020 applications is **8 March 2019**.

The closing date is **15 April 2019**.

All Mandela Rhodes Scholarship applicants are to apply online via the Embark application system. The application form will be accessible via a link on the Mandela Rhodes Foundation website which can be accessed on <http://mandelarhodes.org/the-scholarship/apply/>. In this webpage, potential applicants will be provided with full details of the Application and Selection process with the relevant rounds and deadlines. For your ease of reference, we have included the process for you below:

MRF Applications and Selections Process 2020

All applicants apply online via the Embark application system on the MRF website.



Round one: Applications reviewed by South African tertiary institutions and The Mandela Rhodes Foundation. By **end of June 2019**, all applicants to be informed by *universities and/or the MRF* whether or not their application is through to the next stage.



Round two: Reviews by designated Mandela Rhodes Foundation staff. By **end of July 2019**, remaining applicants to be informed by the *MRF* whether or not their application is through to the next stage.



Round three: Reviews by designated Mandela Rhodes Foundation staff. By **end of August 2019**, remaining applicants to be informed by the *MRF* whether or not their application is through to the next stage.



Final round: Panel interviews with selection committees in October. By **end of October 2019**, panel interviewed applicants to be informed by the *MRF* whether or not they have been selected as Mandela Rhodes Scholars.

How does the MRF online application system affect the tertiary institutions' nominations process?

1. Tertiary institutions will not accept any paper-based applications from candidates. All potential applicants are to go onto The Mandela Rhodes Foundation's website <http://mandelarhodes.org> to find out all the information they need to know about the Scholarship and online application process.
2. After the **15 April 2019** application deadline, The Mandela Rhodes Foundation will send each tertiary institution liaison a link that contains applications received for their institution.
3. Detailed information is provided in **Appendix A** on how the Embark application system works in order to access the online applications for your institution. We have tried to make the process as simple as possible so that you can access the entire applicant's information from one PDF. This includes the application form, their personal statement, essay, reference letters, and all other required supporting documentation.
4. Once you have downloaded all the application forms received, then each tertiary institution must follow its internal nominations process. This means looking at your application pool and selecting the best candidates to nominate through to The Mandela Rhodes Foundation round two.
5. In **Appendix B**, you will find nominations guidelines that we advise your institution uses when assessing candidates for their suitability for a Mandela Rhodes Scholarship.
6. Once your institution has selected its best candidates, you can log back onto the Embark System and electronically 'move' the successfully nominated candidates through to the MRF round as noted in **Appendix A**.

The deadline for tertiary institutions to electronically submit their nominated candidates is **3 June 2019**. No late applications will be accepted. Once you have forwarded your nominated candidates, please send our Operations Director, Ernst Gerber (ernst@mrf.org.za) a list of your ranking of candidates from number one to xyz for our records and use if necessary in our decision making process.

As a tertiary institution involved in the round one process, it is your responsibility to inform **both the successful and unsuccessful applicants from your institution**. The deadline to notify applicants is **28 June 2019**. From round two until the final decision is made, The Mandela Rhodes Foundation will be informing successful and unsuccessful candidates, and will keep institutions informed of the progress of their candidates along the way.

Thank you once again for your institution's involvement in continuing to advance the purpose of the Mandela Rhodes Foundation – building exceptional leadership in Africa.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ernst should you have any further questions regarding the process.

Yours sincerely

Ernst Gerber
Operations Director

Coralie Valentyn
Programme Manager

Appendix A: Embark System Information Sheet



EMBARK

The Embark Campus Admissions Portal

Introduction

Dear Tertiary Institution Liaison,

Welcome to the Embark Admissions Portal.

Here, you will access application PDFs of candidates who are currently attending your institution, who have applied for a Mandela Rhodes Scholarship for 2020. After making an assessment of each application, you will 'move' applications that your tertiary institution is nominating to the MRF Round, where it will be reviewed by the Mandela Rhodes Foundation Staff.

If you have any questions about the process, you can contact Ernst Gerber at ernst@mrf.org.za. If you believe you are encountering a technical issue, feel free to contact Embark Client Support at clientsupport@embark.com and we'll be happy to assist you.

We wish you well as you nominate your Mandela Rhodes candidates!

The Embark Team and The Mandela Rhodes Foundation

Accessing the Application PDFs

First, log on to the Embark Admissions Portal, using the credentials that were emailed to you

URL: <https://mandela-rhodes.embark.com/admin>

Once you've successfully logged in, you will find yourself at the Dashboard.

1. Click the **Applications Tab** near the top of the page to access the applications.
2. Under the **View** drop-down menu, you should see the various **'Submitted'** views. You will need to choose the submitted view that is relevant for your Institution. For example, choosing **'Submitted – NWU'** would retrieve all applications where the Current and Preferred Institution chosen is North West University.
3. Click on the checkbox near the top left corner, to select all the applicants on the page.

Mandela Rhodes Scholarships 2020



Dashboard Applications Recommenders Settings

Submitted - AFDA Cpt SAVE [edit] [filter] [mail] [share] [download] [trash]

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A...	Please select your current tertiary institution:	Which South African tertiary institution do you...	First Name:	Last Name:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.			Stellenbosch University	Ernst	Gerber
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.			Stellenbosch University	Ernst	Gerber

4. Then, click the **Download** icon that appears towards the top of the page, just to the left of the Search box, and choose 'Export PDFs' to download all the Applicant Data for the selected applicants in the page, INCLUDING all uploaded documents and recommender forms.

Mandela Rhodes Scholarships 2020

Dashboard Applications Recommenders Settings

View: Submitted - AFDA Cpt SAVE [edit] [filter] [mail] [share] [download] [trash]

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A...	Please select your current tertiary institution:	Which South African tertiary institution do you...	First Name:	Last Name:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1.			Stellenbosch University	Ernst	Gerber
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2.			Stellenbosch University	Ernst	Gerber

5. Once you click "Export PDFs", a zip file should begin downloading.
6. Open the ZIP file, and each application PDF will be clearly labeled with the applicant's First and Last Name as its filename.
7. Click on a PDF to view an application.

Moving Applications to MRF Round

Once you have decided on the candidates you wish to move onto the MRF Round, you will log back on to 'move' the applicant to the MRF Round.

1. After you have logged on, go to the **Applications Tab** as before.
- 2.
3. Enter a value of 'Yes' under the **Admin: MRF Round** column for the application you want to move.

Ap...	Please select your current ...	Which South African tercia...	First Name:	Last Name:	Complete %	PD...	Start Date	Admin: MRF Round
	Stellenbosch University	Stellenbosch University	Ernst	Gerber	100%		Jan 28, 2017	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">Admin: MRF Round</div> <div style="background-color: #0070c0; color: white; padding: 2px;">Yes</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;">No</div> </div>

Appendix B: Nominations Guidelines

Please note the following:

By using the MRF rating form below, you will be using a congruent form as the Foundation. The form assists the MRF in assessing candidates for their suitability for a Mandela Rhodes Scholarship, which is why it is advisable that you use the same form.

We have provided you with information pertaining to the purpose of The Mandela Rhodes Foundation, and the Characteristics Sought in a Mandela Rhodes Scholar, which should also be useful in assessing candidates for their suitability.

The Foundation will not require tertiary institutions to submit their rating forms. The forms are for your benefit during your decision making process.

In case the applicants do not type in the personal statement and essay questions in the document they upload, here are the two questions we asked for this year's application:

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Tell us about your life journey thus far that has brought you to the point of applying for this Scholarship. Also include what your vision for the future is and how you see the Mandela Rhodes Scholarship contributing to that.

ESSAY

As an aspiring young African leader in the 21st century, what do you understand to be the impact of colonialism and liberation movements in your country today?

Finally, please note that all applicants were requested to sign a declaration of originality statement. Through their signature, applicants acknowledge that they have not received any assistance when completing the application. If found guilty of breaking the declaration, they are aware that they could disqualify themselves for consideration and potentially compromise their institution's future involvement in our process. We receive hundreds of "direct applications" from people not studying in South Africa or working, who do not have the benefit of being on campus where they could get assistance. The MRF wants to see the candidate as they are, in their fullness, and we would appreciate your assistance by informing applicants that you are unable to assist should they request. The continued fairness and integrity of the process depends on your kind cooperation on this matter.

Kind regards,
The Mandela Rhodes Foundation

PURPOSE OF THE MANDELA RHODES FOUNDATION

The central purpose of The Mandela Rhodes Foundation is to build exceptional leadership capacity in Africa. The Foundation does this by offering fully funded Scholarships for postgraduate studies (Honours and Masters) in South Africa, as well as a yearlong leadership development programme that comprises of residential workshops, regional group gatherings, and a voluntary mentoring programme where Scholars in residence are paired up with alumni Mandela Rhodes Scholars.

CHARACTERISTICS SOUGHT IN A MANDELA RHODES SCHOLAR

Young African,

Aspire to be a Mandela Rhodes Scholar if you dream of being a leader; a leader in whose *blend of character and intellect* Africa will take pride.

Aspire to this if you believe you have within you the moral force of character and instinct to lead; and understand that leadership is more than personal ambition, it is also service, requiring the will and capacity to inspire and develop fellow human beings to their own excellence;

Aspire to this if you believe that the advancement of individual and social fulfillment, human rights, dignity, the achievement of fundamental freedoms, is among the highest of callings;

Aspire to this if you believe that hard work is essential, and you esteem the performance of public duties to be among the noblest of aims.

Aspire to be a Mandela Rhodes Scholar if you understand education to be both a *gift and a tool for the advancement of human development*, to the benefit of all.

Aspire to this if you value and pursue scholastic attainment, but understand that intellectual excellence is not to be seen in isolation from other qualities of character; that leaders require a roundedness of personality;

Aspire to this if you believe that in receiving an exceptional education, an individual embraces a responsibility to foster such opportunities for others;

Aspire to this if you believe that your own success might also make a difference to others.

Aspire to be a Mandela Rhodes Scholar if you believe in an *entrepreneurial spirit* to allow Africa to take with dignity its rightful place as an equal and competitive presence in the global world.

Aspire to this if you have the vigour to pursue this aim with integrity; and the energy to use your talents to the full, as exemplified by a fondness for and success in team pursuits beyond the confines of your professional career;

Aspire to this if you believe that individual human effort, innovation and creativity will lead to the betterment of society and an effective contribution to the world;

Aspire to this if you love Africa and all of its peoples.

Aspire to be a Mandela Rhodes Scholar if you believe in *reconciliation, freedom, peace and prosperity among all human beings*, who should share equal citizenship and opportunities in this world.

Aspire to this if you believe in being part of creating a humane world in which all individuals and cultures enjoy equal respect; a world whose emergence will say a new order is born in which we are all each other's keepers;

Aspire to this if you value truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship;

Aspire to be a Mandela Rhodes Scholar if you believe that the past, in all its imperfection, should be harnessed to benefit the present and the future.

MANDELA RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS RATING FORM



THE MANDELA RHODES
FOUNDATION

Application for the Class of 2020

APPLICANT NAME: _____

Criteria	Definition	Score
EDUCATION (Intellectual capacity and academic results in high school and tertiary education)	By Education we mean the pursuit of a high minimum standard of scholastic attainment, certainly sufficient to meet the requirements of the course envisaged by the Scholar. In tandem with this we seek understanding that academic achievement on its own is not sufficient to justify selection – this is what is meant by a blend of character and intellect. Further, we seek a thoughtful understanding of how education writ large – not just the education of the individual Scholar – can be a tool for the advancement of human development.	/20
LEADERSHIP (Leadership potential / Sense of community)	By Leadership we mean the will and capacity to use one’s own personality and abilities to guide, inspire, and develop fellow human beings to achieve excellence in any area of endeavour. This leadership should be principled, strategic, and effective; it should carry moral authority and be visionary in pursuit of the advancement of individual and social fulfilment, human rights, human dignity, the achievement of equality and other fundamental freedoms. Personal success by a Scholar which does not translate into wider benefits for society does not in itself meet the goal of the Scholarship programme. Leadership could include, but does not necessarily presuppose, a career in the public sector.	/10
ENTREPRENEURSHIP (Entrepreneurial traits)	By Entrepreneurship we mean a belief in the critical role played by individual human effort, hard work, innovation and creativity in leading to the betterment of society and Africa’s place in the world. Scholars are required to exhibit vigour and integrity, and the energy to use their talents to the full, in pursuit of their own career and beyond its confines. Entrepreneurship in this conception could include, but does not necessarily presuppose, a career in the private sector.	/10
RECONCILIATION (Nation building)	By Reconciliation we mean an embracing of human diversity, and a belief in a world in which all individuals and cultures enjoy equal rights and respect. This commitment to human reconciliation means seeking to make a contribution to freedom, peace and prosperity for all human beings, never to the exclusion of any category of humanity. It implies a generosity of spirit, and a willingness to harness an imperfect past to help develop a more just world.	/10
JOURNEY (Difficulty of journey)	The extent to which the candidate has had to overcome challenges along their journey. The personal statement often serves as a window to this criterion, while other elements in the application form may also give useful data. The more difficult the journey has been, the higher the score.	/10
Dynamism/passion/“spark”	Candidate has clear capacity to both think creatively and inspire others. Impatient with the way things are. Makes you want to meet them to hear/learn/see more.	/5
REFERENCES (Evidence of MRF aspirational attributes)	How have the referees reflected on the candidate’s suitability for the Scholarship according to our four guiding principles of reconciliation, education, entrepreneurship, and leadership?	/20

ESSAY	Rate the candidate's essay considering factors such as the extent of reflection and grappling with the topic, originality, level of insight, and presentation.	/15
APPLICATION SCORE OUT OF 100		
NOTES/OBSERVATIONS:		
FINAL DECISION REGARDING SENDING THROUGH TO MRF ROUND TWO?		