CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

PhD CREDIT-SEEKING SCHOLARSHIPS (*6-MONTH RESEARCH MOBILITY)*

⇒ **RAMDDA Project** – Drug Design and Discovery

The RAMDDA Project (Research and Academic Mobility for Drug Design and Discovery in Africa) invites applications for **FOUR (4) PhD Degree-seeking research scholarships** to support a six-month research mobility in advanced areas of drug design and discovery.

These scholarships aim to strengthen postgraduate research capacity, promote inter-institutional collaboration, and enhance advanced training in experimental and computational chemistry across Africa.

Host Institutions	Available scholarships
1) Botswana International University of Science and Technology – Botswana	**1**
2) Addis Ababa University - Ethiopia	**1**
3) University of Ghana – Ghana	**1**
4) Adama Science and Technology University - Ethiopia	**1**
Total	**4**

⇒ **Scholarship Duration:**

- Six (6) months per scholarship
- Credit-seeking (research stay contributing to the applicant's PhD degree at their home institution)

⇒ **Eligible Research Areas**

Applicants must propose research strictly aligned with drug design and discovery within one of the following disciplines:

1) Organic Chemistry
    - Natural Product Chemistry
    - Synthesis
    - Materials Chemistry
2) Physical Chemistry
3) Computational Chemistry
4) Materials Science or related fields in drug design and discovery
5) Bioinorganic Chemistry

⊗ Interdisciplinary proposals are welcome only if they are clearly focused on drug discovery applications.

⇒ **Eligibility Criteria**

Applicants must:

1. Be African nationals and residents of an African country,
2. Be currently registered PhD students in Chemistry or a closely related field at their home university in Africa,
3. Be conducting research relevant to drug design and discovery, and drug delivery,
4. Demonstrate that the proposed research will contribute to their PhD thesis,
5. Be able to undertake a full-time, six-month research stay at the host institution,
6. Obtain formal endorsement from your PhD supervisor (s) at the home institution.

⇒ **Required Application Documents**

A complete application must include:

☐ Completed RAMDDA Scholarship Application Form (see the Downloads page)
☐ Copy of Passport (only biodata pages)
☐ Research Proposal prepared strictly using the RAMDDA Proposal Template
☐ Curriculum Vitae (max. 4 pages)
☐ Academic transcripts
☐ A letter from your home institution's registrar/academic services office showing that you are a registered and active PhD student.
☐ Motivation letter (max. 1 page)
☐ Proof of Residence (National ID)
☐ Language Test Results (if available)
☐ Certificate of Work Experience (if available)
☐ List of Publications and conference presentations (If there are any)
☐ Proof of belonging to disadvantaged group (if applicable)
☐ All other documents you consider useful to evaluate your profile

⇒ **Selection Criteria**

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Scientific quality and feasibility of the proposed research
- Relevance to drug design and discovery
- Alignment with RAMDDA research objectives
- Applicant's academic background, preparedness, and research potential
- Expected contribution to capacity building and collaboration
- Full selection criteria can be found from www.ramdda.org
- Be African nationals and residents of an African country

- Fulfilling the rules and regulations of admission of postgraduate students at each host university. Some host universities may request applicants to submit language test result (eg. GRE, ILTES or TOFEL)

As per the funder's requirements, applicants are not eligible for the scholarships from the country of their origin (*e.g*. Ethiopian nationals are not eligible to apply for AAU and ASTU scholarships). Applications from female candidates and under-represented groups are strongly encouraged.

⊗ Due to the current number of RAMDDA scholarship holders, priority will be given to applicants from South Africa and Ghana.

⇒ **Financial Support**

Each scholarship will provide financial support in accordance with RAMDDA and EACEA mobility rules, covering eligible costs related to the 6-month research stay (details will be communicated to successful candidates).

⇒ **Application Submission**

Submission method: use the RAMDDA application portal https://apply.ramdda.org/
Application opens on: **November 13, 2026**
Application closes on: **December 31, 2026**
Notification of results: on or before **January 30, 2027**

⊗ Incomplete applications will not be considered.

⇒ **Additional Information**

For inquiries and additional information, visit www.ramdda.org or email to ramddaorg@gmail.com or admin@ramdda.org

⇒ **About RAMDDA**

RAMDDA is a collaborative academic mobility and research capacity-building project funded by the European Commission under the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility program, involving the University of Botswana, University of the Free State, Addis Ababa University, University of Ghana, Adama Science and Technology University, Botswana International University of Science and Technology, and University College Cork, aimed at advancing drug discovery, postgraduate training, and sustainable research partnerships in Africa.