



Phaphama is delighted to announce the launch of a Phaphama Research Team in 2021. The team will consist of two-researchers who will be tasked with the challenge of researching South Africa's greatest asset, its ever evolving informal economy. This opportunity will be offered in partnership with the Chair of the Poverty and Inequality branch of the National Research Foundation and as such shall offer partial scholarships to successful our researchers.

The mandate of the Phaphama research team will be to spark academic interest in the informal sector. The informal economy is a vital source of employment for many South Africans. However, it is under-researched and misunderstood, leading to ineffective policies and support to this part of our economy. The research team will aim to contribute to literature around the informal economy and to spark interest in young academics into this vital sector.

Phaphama SEDI has recently shown the important role that academic research can have in creating awareness on the struggles and triumphs of the informal sector. Our COVID-19 report titled "The Impact of COVID on small and micro businesses" was covered by 15 national media outlets and was used in the creation of a R30 million fund for youth micro-businesses. This shows the impact a research-branch of Phaphama can achieve.

If you are interested in applying for this role, we ask that you please refer to the eligibility criteria set out below and following the application procedure set out below:

Eligibility criteria:

- Must be a student who has been provisionally accepted or submitted an application to pursue a postgraduate qualification in Economics at the University of Cape Town in 2021. Please note that should you be accepted, this opportunity cannot be held for a future year.
- Above-average academic results in your previous qualification.
- Can show commitment to the betterment of South Africa or your home country.
- Must be passionate about the informal economy.
- While it is not a requirement to have been past-Phaphama consultant, consultants are particularly encouraged to apply.

Application procedure:

Please submit the following documents using the link attached:

<https://airtable.com/shreOIKt28kv5C3dg>

- Completed Phaphama application form (in PDF version)
- University academic transcripts from your previous and current degree
- A two-page CV