

TAGDev 2.0

Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's Growth and Development



In partnership with



Call for Scholarship Applications under the TAGDev 2.0 Programme for the 2026/2027 Academic Year at Malawi University of Science and Technology

Call ID: RU/2026 MUST/TAGDEV2.0



1.0 Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) in partnership with Mastercard Foundation, Gulu University (Uganda), Egerton University (Kenya), Africa University (Zimbabwe), University of Free State (South Africa), Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi), University of Eldoret (Kenya), Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda), University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria), University of Cape Coast (Ghana), University of Bamenda (Cameroon), National University of Agriculture (Benin), and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (Morocco) are implementing a 10 year programme (2023-2033) called Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev 2.0). The programme seeks to strengthen universities and TVET institutions to better serve communities by skilling and empowering Africa's young people and their institutions to drive inclusive, equitable and climate resilient transformation of agriculture and agrifood systems. The TAGDev 2.0 programme will support young African students that are economically disadvantaged but academically competent to access university education. The scholarship is open to both female and male applicants. However, females, refugees, internally displaced persons, and persons with disabilities are highly encouraged to apply.

2.0 Eligible Programmes

This call for Scholarships for the 2026/2027 academic year is open to applicants interested in and eligible to study Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology, Master of Science in Entrepreneurship, Master of Engineering in Applied Chemical Engineering at Malawi University of Science and Technology, Malawi.

2.1. Admission requirements to Malawi University of Science and Technology and the specific academic programmes

Undergraduate Programmes	Admission minimum Requirements
Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology	Applicants shall be considered for entry in Year 1. Applicants must possess MSCE, "O" Level, IGCSE, GCE at least six credits including; Biology, Physics, Chemistry (or Physical Science), Mathematics and English. In addition, the candidate should have a grade of no more than 4 in each of the following subjects: Physical Science (or Physics and Chemistry), Biology and Mathematics for MSCE or B for IGSCSE in all the above subjects.
Master's Programme	Admission minimum Requirements
Master of Engineering in Applied Chemical Engineering	Applicants should have any of the following entry qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor of engineering (Hons) in Chemical Engineering with at least second upper class. • Bachelor of engineering (Hons) in Chemical Engineering with at least one year's experience working in the chemical industry. • Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Chemistry with at least a credit PLUS a postgraduate diploma in engineering or at least 3 years' experience in the chemical industry.
Master of Science in Entrepreneurship	A good and accredited Bachelor's degree from a recognized and accredited institution of higher education with at least two years' work experience in a related field.

2.2 Appeal to potential applicants

Interested applicants are requested to visit the university website to familiarize with admission requirements for each degree programme of their interest.

2.3 Contact Information

Malawi University of Science and Technology

Dr. Petros Chigwechokha

TAGDev 2.0 Programme Coordinator, MUST

Email: pchigwechokha@must.ac.mw

Telephone: +265 999 27 71 87

3.0 Who is eligible to apply?

Scholarships are open to candidates in Malawi from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Candidates from conflict and post-conflict areas of Africa residing in Malawi are also encouraged to apply. The applicant has to be in position to qualify for admission into undergraduate and/or postgraduate programmes at Malawi University of Science and Technology. All applicants should read and thoroughly understand the admission criteria for the relevant programs at Malawi University of Science and Technology. Students already having a scholarship of any kind are not eligible to benefit from this scholarship opportunity. Anyone with a double scholarship if found will automatically be discontinued. Beneficiaries of TAGDev scholarships are not eligible to apply.

3.1. Selection criteria

- i. Be a national of Malawi or a refugee resident in Malawi to benefit from the national respective scholarship quota.
- ii. Be economically disadvantaged, from marginalized communities, and/or coming from conflict and post conflict areas in Malawi.
- iii. Be less than 30 years for undergraduate and less than 35 years for masters studies at the time of application.
- iv. Should have completed secondary school and/or diploma for a Bachelors degree application not more than four years (2021-2024) from the time of this call.
- v. The applicant should meet admission criteria to be eligible programmes in Malawi University of Science and Technology.
- vi. For admission into Malawi University of Science and Technology for an undergraduate degree programme one must have attained the Malawi School Certificate of Education (MSCE) with at least six credits or its equivalent. For a postgraduate programme, one must have a bachelor degree with a credit from an accredited institution of higher learning.
- vii. Demonstrate interest in agriculture, agribusiness

and entrepreneurship.

- viii. Demonstrate leadership qualities.
- ix. Have commitment to working in agriculture and agricultural value chains.
- x. Have a strong commitment to community transformation.
- xi. Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

3.2. What the scholarship covers

This is a full board comprehensive scholarship that covers: tuition fees, research costs, workshop and conference costs, living expenses including stipend and hostel, laptop, internship attachment, community engagement and field attachment, and entrepreneurship training. Consequently, considering the level of investment, successful applicants will be required to become high achievers, highly engaging and focused students/ graduates and change makers contributing to outreach services in the communities, capable of creating enterprises that create jobs for themselves and others and have personal satisfaction and dynamism.

3.3. Support to Refugees, Displaced Persons (RDPs) and Persons With Disabilities (PWDs).

In addition to other scholars benefits, RDPs and PWDs will receive the following support:

1. RDPs will be supported with travel documents
2. PWDs will receive assistive devices to support learning and movement during the course of studies.

3.4 Nature of the scholarship

This is a comprehensive scholarship with direct and indirect costs that will be covered by the programme through the implementing university where the student will be studying. Indirect costs such as participation in the international conference will be directly covered by the RUFORUM Secretariat. The following further apply:

- i. Direct costs for student training will be transferred to the university as a grant payable to the university. The students will receive their respective services and entitlements from the university as the implementer and where necessary from RUFORUM.
- ii. All scholarships will be on a rolling basis implying that, the scholarship will be renewed on annual basis subject to satisfactory academic performance at grade B level of Malawi university of Science and Technology.
- iii. Retaking more than four courses will lead to the withdrawal of the scholarship awarded to the candidate.
- iv. Applicants who may be discovered to have

- falsified information in order to gain advantage of the scholarship shall be disqualified on confirmation of the falsification and/or forgery.
- v. Any misconduct (breaching university rules especially examination malpractice, violence towards others) on the part of the successful applicant shall lead to automatic disqualification and loss of the scholarship.
 - vi. Successful applicants will be expected to become champions and transformative leaders, entrepreneurs and change makers at various levels and shall remain communicating with RUFORUM and the Universities as part of the Programme Alumni.

4.1. Application process and procedure

The application process will be in two stages. The first stage is application for admission to the programme of choice at Malawi University of Science and Technology submitted to Malawi University of Science and Technology. The second stage is application for the TAGDev scholarship submitted to RUFORUM.

Application forms for admission can be downloaded from website: www.must.ac.mw or the social media platforms (facebook, X (former Twitter) and LinkedIn)

OR

Picked in hard copy from the University Campus or the District Education Offices.

Filled in hard copy applications for admission must be submitted to the university address below:

University Registrar,
Malawi University of Science
and Technology.
P.O Box 5196,
Limbe, Malawi.

Alternatively, electronic / soft copy submission can be made to: registrar@must.ac.mw

For additional information about the scholarship

at Malawi University of Science and Technology. Please contact:

Dr. Petros Chigwechokha

TAGDev 2.0 Programme Coordinator, MUST

Email: pchigwechokha@must.ac.mw

Telephone: +265 999 27 71 87

OR

Dr. Duncane Batizani

Assistant Registrar, Academics

Email: dbatizani@must.ac.mw

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The procedure for submitting the TAGDev 2.0 scholarship application through the RUFORUM Information Management System (RIMS) is as follows:

- i. Access the RIMS Web Portal through; <https://rims2.ruforum.org/>
- ii. Create your account by clicking on Register Here
- iii. An email will be sent to your valid email address to activate your account. Please check in the Spam or Junk for message incase activation mail is not reflected in your inbox.
- iv. Login using your email and password you used for creating.
- v. After successful login, the Applicant Dashboard will appear with different options.
- vi. Go to Calls – > Scholarship Calls
- vii. Select the Call ID: RU/2026 MUST/TAGDEV2.0
- viii. Click Apply to start filling the Application Form.
- ix. Remember to save while filling the form by “Clicking Save Draft”
- x. Download, print and submit it with your application form for admission to the University.
- xi. Submit the document in hard copy or simply attach it on the university online portal.

For any assistance, kindly contact the administrator at mcf@ruforum.org

Submission Deadline: 1st May, 2026

Key Virtual Information Session Days shall be communicated in due course.