

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DIGITAL BUSINESS (PDDB)

Partial and Fully Funded Bursaries Available for Students Specialising in AI, Business and Digital Transformation

WITS MIND INVESTEC CHAIR IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION

WITS BUSINESS SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND

JOIN A GROWING INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM ADVANCING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DIGITAL BUSINESS, AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA.

The Wits MIND Investec Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Business Transformation invites applications from outstanding candidates applying to, or currently enrolled in, the Postgraduate Diploma in Digital Business (PDDB) at Wits Business School. Partial bursaries and a limited number of full bursaries are available for high-potential students whose academic and professional interests align with artificial intelligence (AI), digital transformation, business innovation, and sustainable development. The bursary programme seeks to develop the next generation of digitally enabled professionals capable of leading responsible AI adoption, digital innovation, and business transformation across organisations in Africa and emerging markets.

ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY

The Postgraduate Diploma provides a foundation in digital business, artificial intelligence, and digital transformation, while introducing students to the Chair's broader learning, research, industry, and innovation ecosystem.

Successful bursary recipients will have opportunities to engage in:

- AI applications in business and organisations.
- Digital transformation in African and emerging-market contexts.
- Data, digital platforms, and emerging technologies.
- Responsible AI and AI governance.
- Industry engagement, innovation, and executive education.

Recipients will also be integrated into the Chair's interdisciplinary learning, research, and innovation ecosystem through seminars, workshops, networking opportunities, and selected AI Chair activities.

WHAT THE BURSARY COVERS

- Full or partial tuition support (depending on the bursary awarded).
- Academic mentoring, professional development, and networking opportunities.
- Participation in the Chair's seminars, workshops, and AI Dialogue Series.
- Opportunities to engage with industry leaders and practitioners.
- Access to selected Chair events and engagement activities.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Strong academic performance.
- Demonstrated interest in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, or digital business.
- Demonstrated potential for leadership and professional growth.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree (NQF Level 7) or equivalent qualification in Business, Digital Business, Information Systems, Information Technology, Computer Science, Management, Economics, Finance, Public Policy, Development Studies, or a related discipline, and must satisfy the admission requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma in Digital Business at Wits Business School.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Successful bursary recipients will be expected to:

- Successfully complete the PDDB programme.
- Participate actively in the Chair's seminars and professional development activities.
- Demonstrate leadership in responsible AI and digital transformation.
- Contribute to the Chair's learning, industry engagement, and public engagement activities where appropriate.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

In line with the University's transformation objectives, applications from suitably qualified candidates from underrepresented designated groups are particularly encouraged. Applicants with a demonstrated interest in AI and sustainable development in African contexts are especially welcome. International applicants who meet the University's admission requirements are also encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Curriculum vitae.
- Certified copies of academic qualifications and official academic transcripts.
- Motivation letter (maximum two pages).
- Certified copy of South African ID or passport.
- Contact details of two academic or professional referees.

Successful bursary recipients will become part of the Wits MIND Investec Chair's growing network of students, researchers, industry partners, and thought leaders shaping the future of artificial intelligence and digital business in Africa.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Please submit your application electronically to:

Prof Rennie Naidoo

Email: rennie.naidoo@wits.ac.za

CLOSING DATE: 31 DECEMBER 2026

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The University reserves the right not to award all advertised bursaries.