



AFRICA RANGE-WIDE CHEETAH CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

FUNDED BY THE HOWARD G. BUFFETT FOUNDATION

WITH SUPPORT FROM THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

Become a Future Leader in Cheetah Conservation

MSc and PhD Scholarship Opportunities for African Students

African Range-Wide Cheetah Conservation Initiative (CCI)

--- Southern Africa ---

Why This Scholarship?

A limited number of fully supported postgraduate scholarships are available for exceptional southern African students to undertake MSc or PhD studies focused on cheetah and large carnivore conservation. Successful candidates will receive academic and professional support from leading conservation scientists and practitioners, including researchers from the Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London (ZSL).

About CCI

The African Range-Wide Cheetah Conservation Initiative works across Africa to reverse cheetah population declines and strengthen the conservation of large carnivores through Corridors, Communities and Capacity. The scholarship program forms part of CCI's commitment to developing African conservation leaders.

Scholarship Opportunities

- MSc Scholarships (1–2 years); may be taught masters or masters by research
- PhD Scholarships (3–4 years)
- Study at selected Southern African universities
- Potential support for Honours/conversion year where required
- Programs commencing from February 2027 onwards
- Projects must have relevance to cheetah conservation

Funding Available

- Registration and tuition fees
- Stipend towards living expenses
- Travel support
- Potential additional fieldwork funding
- Opportunities for research visits with ZSL

Eligibility

Applicants must be citizens of any of the following Southern African countries: Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia or Zimbabwe. Must be available for full-time study from early 2027, and have relevant academic qualifications in conservation, ecology, zoology, wildlife management, biology, natural resources, or related disciplines. Applicants should demonstrate leadership potential, enthusiasm for fieldwork, and commitment to conservation in Africa.

How to Apply

Submit:

1. Cover Letter / Statement of Purpose (max 2 pages)
This should demonstrate your motivation and ability to complete your chosen studies and offer a clear and well-argued understanding of the benefits of this MSc or PhD to your future prospects.
2. CV (max 3 pages)
This must include contact details for 3 referees, at least two of whom are able to comment on your academic potential
3. Academic transcripts or certificates

Applications should be sent to:

Mr Gordon Madamombe; Gordon.Madamombe@ioz.ac.uk

Application deadline: 16th August 2026