Western Cape Education Department
Financial aid to prospective students

Further and higher education and training hold the key to personal and social development. Unfortunately, many students, mainly in our poorest communities, cannot afford the costs involved.

FET colleges, tertiary institutions, government and the private sector offer financial aid in a variety of forms to assist academically deserving and financially needy students. This leaflet provides information on where to go to apply for financial aid.

Every Higher Education Institution has a Financial Aid office that deals with students' questions and issues regarding loans and bursaries. The Officer at the Financial Aid Office will:

- Advise you about loans/bursaries and assist you with loan/bursary application;
- Explain how you will be able to access the money and how to repay the money if it is a loan.

What is the difference between a loan and a bursary?

- A **LOAN** is money borrowed to the student to complete his/her studies. This money must be repaid once the student takes up employment.

- A **BURSARY** is an award given to students in need of financial support who are performing well academically. A bursary does not have to be repaid.

Bursary/Loan
Up to 40% of the amount awarded as a loan can be converted to a bursary if the student passes all his/her modules in a given year. The bursary component is reduced proportionately, if not all the modules are passed and in the case of a student not passing any modules, the full amount is repayable as a loan.

Repayments

Loan repayments are usually based on individuals` earnings, and interest is usually charged at a subsidized rate and therefore considerably less than the commercial rate, which is charged by banks.

Only once you start earning a salary, will you be eligible to pay back your loan. **All tertiary institutions have financial offices that are able to assist prospective students with assistance in applying for either a bursary or a loan**

1. Bursaries available from the Western Cape and national education departments to prospective teachers:

a) Western Cape Education Department

The requirements to be considered for a bursary are Mathematics and Physical Science. Interested learners can contact Mr Alfred Shasha 021 467 2550 or e-mail amshasha@pgwc.gov.za.

b) National Department of Education: Fundza Lushaka bursaries

The requirements to be considered for a bursary are African Languages, English Language, Mathematics, Technology, Mathematical Literacy, Life Science and Physical Science. Interested learners can inquire from the institution of choice or Mr Alfred Shasha 021 467 2550 or e-mail amshasha@pgwc.gov.za for more information.

2. Further Education and Training (FET) Colleges

FET Colleges offer various bursaries to prospective students. One of the most popular bursaries is the iKapa Elihlumayo bursary. This fund previously provided the iKapa Elihlumayo Loans, but in order to assist really needy students, the colleges have discontinued the allocation of the iKapa Elihlumayo loans. The Colleges now only provide bursaries that are non-repayable.

Prospective students who wish to enroll for the new National Certificate Vocational programmes, have access to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) bursary. Prospective students can also inquire about the TECSAT bursaries that are available to students across a wider range of courses. In order to secure a bursary, visit your nearest FET College, select a preferred course of study and then ask for financial assistance. College personnel will happily provide you with the appropriate guidance.

3. University of the Western Cape

There are several categories of financial aid available to students who are unable to meet the full costs of studying at UWC. Prospective students are advised to apply for financial aid from as many sources as possible. These include:

a) Work-study programmes

The Work-Study Programme has its offices on the 3rd floor of the Student Centre, and can be contacted on: Tel: 021 959 2119, Fax: 021 959 1338
E-mail: lteegler@uwc.ac.za

b) University-administered bursaries and loans

The kind of bursaries and loans available are:

- UWC Financial Aid
- National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS): For more information about NSFAS, please visit their website at www.nsfas.org.za
- New First Year Merit Awards: Students can also contact the Financial Aid Office for further details. Tel: 021 959 3114; Fax: 021 959 1267; Email: finad@uwc.ac.za

c) Financial Assistance from State Departments and Provincial Governments
Contact the Financial Aid Office on: Tel: 021 959 3157
E-mail: sriffel@uwc.ac.za

d) Bursaries from Private Companies / Organizations
Students can also contact the Financial Aid Office for further information:
Tel: 021 959 2310; E-mail: lcanthony@uwc.ac.za

4. University of Cape Town (UCT)

UCT endeavours to assist as many financially needy students as possible to enable them to pursue their academic ambitions. The university has committed significant funds for financial assistance to support financially needy students that meet the eligibility criteria.

Applicants who wish to apply for financial aid should complete Section J of the Application for Admission to Study at UCT form in full. Alternatively prospective students can contact:

The UCT Fees Office
Finance Department
Level 3
Kramer Law Building
Rondebosch
7701
Tel: 021 650 1704
Fax: 021 650 4768
E-mail: fnd-fees@uct.ac.za / sfa-finaid@uct.ac.za

a) The university offers a set-value bursary for tuition and accommodation. Only once you have registered in your faculty, and a fee account is generated, will they be able to calculate the bursary component of your financial assistance package. This bursary will then, by the end of May, be credited to your fee account.

b) Most students are offered a NSFAS loan as part of the financial assistance package. Loan forms are available from the Undergraduate Funding Office in May and have to be completed before the end of June. The loan is then paid directly into the student's fee account.

5. University of Stellenbosch

If an applicant has the academic potential to study successfully, the University will consider his/her financial neediness.

The applicant must first apply for admission as a student to the University and receive a student number before applying for bursaries.

Inquiries**:**
For further particulars about bursaries and bursary loans, please contact the following staff members of the Bursaries and Loans Office:
a) General bursaries and bursary loans Ms S Lyners, tel. 021 808 2067,
E-mail slyners@sun.ac.za
b) NSFAS bursary loans Ms LR Williams, tel. 021 808 3715, E-mail lrw@sun.ac.za

6. Cape Peninsula University of Technology

Contact the STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE for further information on financial aid.
Bellville Campus Cape Town Campus
Telephone: 021 959 6223 Telephone: 021 460 3149
OR
GENERAL INQUIRIES
Bellville Campus Cape Town Campus
Symphony Road Keizersgracht Street
Bellville Cape Town
Telephone: 021 959 6911 Telephone: 021 460 3911