



FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

2025 FULLTIME BURSARY APPLICATIONS

Awarding of the Full-Time Bursaries for the 2025 Academic Year:

The Office of the Premier has a limited number of bursaries available, and is calling on the interested and deserving youth in the Free State Province looking to pursue a qualification at a Higher Education Institution (HEI) for the 2025 academic year.

The Free State Provincial Government is committed to improving the capacity of the workforce in order to meet the need for scarce and critical skills that will contribute to the economy both provincially and nationally.

1. SELECTION CRITERIA

The bursaries will be awarded as per the following criteria and description:

Category A - Top Achievers:

1. Must be a South African Citizen;
2. Must be a Free State Resident;
3. Must be identified by the Free State Department of Education as a Top Performing Learner;
4. Household income should be below R600 000 per annum;
5. Must not be in possession of another sponsorship (No Double Dipping);
6. You must be accepted to study in the following fields that are especially skill shortage/ critical and or scarce
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics);
 - Commercial related (BAcc, B Com Accounting / Economics, Actuarial Science, etc...);
 - Psychological studies (Clinical, forensic, developmental – focus on ECD);
 - Scarce and Critical skills as contained in the Provincial Work Skills plan; and
 - Skills for the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan.

Category B – Missing Middle:

1. Must be a South African Citizen and residing in the Free State Province;
2. Must have matriculated in the Free State;
3. Annual earning per household will be considered when awarding the fulltime bursary to the missing middle, and this will also be in terms of the recently approved DHET bursary scheme;
4. Must not be in possession of another sponsorship (No Double Dipping);
5. You must be accepted to study in the following fields that are especially skill shortage/ critical and or scarce
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics);
 - Commercial related (BAcc, B Com Accounting / Economics, Actuarial Science, etc...);
 - Psychological studies (Clinical, forensic, developmental – focus on ECD);
 - Scarce and Critical skills as contained in the Provincial Work Skills plan; and
 - Skills for the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan.



Category C - Marginalised students:

(These are the students that come from low income backgrounds with no breadwinner or household income or are SASSA dependent and not approved by the NSFAS. Annual household income is less than R50 000- R70 000. Their matric results can be average 50% Maths & Science or any other major subjects)

1. Must be a South African Citizen and residing in the Free State Province;
2. Must have matriculated in the Free State;
3. Must not be in possession of another sponsorship (No Double Dipping);
4. You must be accepted to study in the following fields that are especially skill shortage/ critical and or scarce
 - STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics);
 - Commercial related (BAcc, B Com Accounting / Economics, Actuarial Science, etc...);
 - Psychological studies (Clinical, forensic, developmental – focus on ECD);
 - Scarce and Critical skills as contained in the Provincial Work Skills plan; and
 - Skills for the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan.

2. Applicants are advised to ensure that they have the following documents when making an application:

- Motivational Letter;
- Application form;
- Certified copy of ID of applicant, parents/guardian;
- Certified copy of matric results;
- Proof of Residence;
- Acceptance letter from HEI;
- Proof of household earnings
- *In cases where the student has been funded by various funders, proof why they are no longer funded will be required.

NB: All applications must adhere to the minimum qualifying criteria as attached to the application form to be considered for a bursary

3. Objective:

The bursary programme is aimed at assisting deserving young people of the Free State Province aged between 18-35 years.

4. Submission:

The listed required documents may be hand delivered at 124 Nelson Mandela Drive, Westdene, Bloemfontein, 9301, FSTDI Brahman Building, Bursary unit at the Reception area.

5. Closing Date and Time: 31 January 2025 @ 16:00

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the premier

Office of the Premier
FREE STATE PROVINCE

NB: Applicants are cautioned against providing false information as due diligence will be conducted per application.