

10 February 2025

Dear UFS Student

UPDATE: FINANCIAL CONCESSIONS MADE BY THE UFS – 10 February 2025

The University of the Free State's (UFS) Financial Working Group (FWG), which includes representatives from the Institutional Student Representative Council (ISRC), meets regularly to determine how it can best assist students, taking into consideration the financial constraints of the university.

It is important that our students take note of the following funding-related matters, including the concessions made by the UFS since January 2025:

1. NSFAS MATTERS:

The UFS is in continuous engagement with the National Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) to resolve outstanding matters.

Please note the following:

- NSFAS funding has been confirmed and allocated to **25 551** students.
- **22 246** of these students have already been successfully registered for the academic year.
- NSFAS allowances were paid to **14 303** registered students on **3 February 2025**.
- On **17 February 2025**, interim allowances will be paid to **7 943** students who were not registered at the time of the first round of payments.

2. FINANCIAL CONCESSIONS

The UFS wishes to confirm that financial concessions have been made to enable students to register for the 2025 academic year.

These financial concessions were communicated to students via the university's communication platforms on 27 and 31 January 2025. This notice serves as an update of the financial concessions made to students.

2.1 NSFAS-FUNDED STUDENTS:

2.1.1 Criteria:

- NSFAS funding for 2025 must be confirmed and reflected on the acknowledgement of debt (A O D) or registration verification document.
- Historic debt may not exceed R35 000.

Concessions:

- No payment is required.
- Students will be eligible for full registration.

2.1.2 Criteria:

- NSFAS funding for 2025 must be confirmed and reflected on the acknowledgement of debt (A O D) or registration verification document.
- Historic debt exceeding R35 000 but not exceeding R50 000.

Concessions:

- No payment is required.

- Students will be eligible for provisional registration. Provisional registration applications must be submitted, and all other terms and conditions will apply.

2.2 RETURNING SELF-PAYING SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS:

Criteria:

- Historic debt must not exceed R35 000.
- Must sign an acknowledgment of debt (AOD).

Concessions:

- No payment is required.
- Students will be eligible for provisional registration. Provisional registration applications must be submitted, and all other terms and conditions will apply.

2.3 FINAL-YEAR STUDENTS:

- Students with an average mark of above 60% were assisted with Monitoring bursaries.
- 2025 final-year students with an average mark of between 50% and 60% will be assisted with the following concessions.

Criteria:

- Final-year students with a pass rate of between 50 and 60% and with outstanding fees up to a maximum of R60 000 to register provisionally.

Concessions:

- No payment is required.
- Students must complete a provisional registration application and attach an AOD,

covering historic debt plus the first payment required for 2025 registration.

2.4 POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

- The Department of Finance is in contact with the Centre for Postgraduate Support to fast-track funding confirmations.
- Postgraduate students who have studied at other institutions and wish to register at the UFS must contact Student Finance for possible assistance with registration.

-END-