

Feenix - FREF 2026 - Bursary Email

Subject: Your postgraduate dreams deserve support. Feenix and the FirstRand Empowerment Foundation can help!

A promotional banner for the FirstRand Empowerment Foundation Postgraduate Bursary. The banner features the FirstRand Empowerment Foundation logo on the left, which includes a lion crest and the text 'FirstRand EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION'. To the right of the logo is a large, stylized graphic of the word 'FREENIX' in blue and white. Below the logo, the text 'FirstRand Empowerment Foundation Postgraduate Bursary' is written in white. Underneath this, a smaller line of text reads: 'Empowering driven South African students to take the next step in their academic journey, turning potential into progress through accessible financial support.' On the right side of the banner is a photograph of a smiling Black woman wearing a black graduation cap and gown, holding a rolled-up diploma tied with a red ribbon. At the bottom left of the banner, it says 'Applications Close: 1 December 2025'. At the bottom right, it says 'BURSARY ADMINISTERED BY' followed by the Feenix logo and the word 'FEENIX'.

Email Body:

Dear [Student Name]

The FirstRand Empowerment Foundation (FREF) is offering a life-changing opportunity for students just like you, who will be studying a one-year, full-time honours in STEM or BA Honours in Psychology in 2026.

Through a strategic partnership with Feenix, the First Rand Empowerment Foundation Postgraduate Bursary is an opportunity for talented postgraduate students from under-resourced communities to pursue their postgraduate qualifications in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) fields.

Not only will you receive financial support, but you will also have access to wrap-around services from Feenix, which include:

- ✓ Financial support to cover your postgraduate studies

- ✓ Access to Feenix's wrap-around services, including stipends, study resources, and mental health support.
- ✓ Professional development opportunities to help you prepare for the world beyond university.
- ✓ A chance to "Pay it Forward", contributing to the success of other young South Africans.

FREF Bursary Application Criteria:

- Must be a South African citizen
- Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time one-year honours degree program.
- The combined household income of the applicant must not exceed R700,000 per annum.
- Applicants must be studying at one of South Africa's 26 public universities. Students from Historically Disadvantaged Institutions (HDIs) will be given first preference
- A minimum of 60% in matric mathematics is required. Please note, Mathematical Literacy does not qualify.
- Applicants must be between the ages of 21 and 35. Students turning 36 or older in 2026 are not eligible.
- Applicants must have completed their undergraduate degree between 2023 and 2025.
- Only students pursuing their first postgraduate qualification are eligible.
- An overall average of 60% or higher in the undergraduate degree is required for consideration.

 **Your postgraduate dreams are within reach!**

[Apply now](#) for the FREF Postgraduate Bursary and get the support you need to unlock your future!