

## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: merSETA Honours Bursaries 2026**

Please make sure that you read the guidelines and instructions before you complete the application form.

You must complete the entire application form. An incomplete application form will be disqualified.

### ***General eligibility:***

- Must be a South African citizen.
- Applicants must apply for a full-time Honours program.
- Applicants must have obtained an aggregate of at least 65% for their final year undergraduate studies.
- Bursary recipients must attend five of the Centre for Graduate Support Research Capacity Development workshops.
- The award cannot be used to pay off outstanding fees from previous years.
- Complying with minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee a successful application.

### ***Field of study:***

- Natural Sciences: Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science, and Engineering.
- Economics and Management Sciences.

### ***Preference will be given to the following:***

- Students from previously disadvantaged backgrounds.

### ***Who is not eligible?***

- Students who already hold an honours degree.
- Students registered for their second year of an honours degree.
- Students pursuing an undergraduate degree, irrespective of the degree for which they are enrolled.

### ***Bursary Value***

- Maximum R140 000 (Full-Cost of Study)

**Closing date for applications: 30 November 2025**

Enquiries can be directed to David MacHeu at [MacHeuTD@ufs.ac.za](mailto:MacHeuTD@ufs.ac.za)  
or at the Centre for Graduate Support, Johannes Brill Building, Office 10

## SECTION A - PERSONAL DETAILS OF APPLICANT

UFS Student Number								
Surname								
Full Names								
Gender					Title			
Equity		African		Coloured		Indian		White
Home Language								
South African Citizen		Yes		No				
Marital Status								
Disability		Yes		No		<i>(If yes, indicate the nature of disability hereunder)</i>		
Home Address	Street							
	Suburb							
	City/Town						Postal Code	
Location				Rural		Urban		
Cell Phone Numbers					Alternative Cell phone			
Email Address								

## SECTION B: PARENT(S) / GUARDIAN(S)

Name and Surname – Mother			
ID Number (Mother)			
Mother's Contact Number			
Name and Surname – Father			
ID Number (Father)			
Father's Contact Number			
Social Status – Mother	<i>(Indicate the status in the box – employed or unemployed, deceased, or whereabouts unknown)</i>	Status of Mother	
Social Status – Father		Status of Father	
Name and Surname – <b>Guardian</b> <i>(if applicable)</i>			
ID Number (Guardian)			
Relationship of Applicant to Guardian			
Guardian's Contact Number			
Social Status of Guardian	<i>(Select the applicable)</i>	Status of Guardian	

## SECTION C: CONFIRMATION OF COMBINED HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Total Annual Household Income per annum.  <i>(Total combined annual income of Father and Mother or Guardian(s) – where applicable)</i>	
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## SECTION D: TERTIARY EDUCATION: 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR OF STUDY

Details of the qualification you will be studying in 2026				
Name of Honours Qualification				
Will you be completing your honours in 2026?	Yes		No	

## SECTION E: CHECKLIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

A recently certified copy of your ID document	
Written motivation letter indicating the study area, which is in line with merSETA's service sectors	
Full academic transcript	
Honours acceptance letter	
Proof of household Income: Payslips of father/mother/Guardian or proof of SASSA payment for Parent/Guardian, where applicable, Or Affidavit when Parent/Guardian is unemployed, Or Death Certificate of Parent/Guardian, where applicable.	
Proof of NSFAS Funding (if applicable)	

## SECTION F: DECLARATION

By submitting this completed form,

- I hereby confirm that the information submitted is true and correct, and I am aware that providing incorrect or misleading information and supporting documents will result in the disqualification of my application.
- I agree that this application does not guarantee an award.
- I accept that late applications will be disqualified.
- I agree and undertake to comply with the University's approved procedures and practices on postgraduate funding.
- I agree and accept that the University reserves the right to cancel, withdraw and recover any funds paid to me should I not comply with the Conditions of the Award.
- I acknowledge that the awarding of the bursary is at the absolute and sole discretion of the University of the Free State (UFS), and the UFS reserves the right not to award me the bursary.
- I further authorise the UFS to access all necessary academic, financial and any other relevant information that has a bearing on this application and continue to access the said information/documents should my bursary application be successful. The UFS may also share my personal information with all relevant organisations/institutions for reporting purposes.

Full Name and Surname		Date:	
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Signature	
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- E-mail your application form and supporting documents to **MacHeuTD@ufs.ac.za** with the email subject “Application for merSETA Honours Funding” and your UFS student number.
- *Application forms sent to any other e-mail address will not be considered.*
- *Only e-mailed application forms will be considered.*
- *Do not send Application forms by links such as Google Drive, OneDrive or Adobe Cloud or ZIP files.*

**Application Closing Date: 30 November 2025**