



HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

Status of the Bursary Funding in South Africa, 2013

5 December 2013



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Partnering to innovatively develop SA's human potential

Secondary national statistics



NATIONAL NSFAS AWARDS FOR 2008-2011 (DISA 2013)

Qualification level	Measure	2008	2009	2010	2011
	NSFAS awards	94 119	111 975	112 974	128 418
Occasional students & Undergraduate qualifications	Number applications	128 207	147 453	166 231	189 672
	% eligible applicants	89.6	93.6	90.7	89.7
	% awarded of applicants	73.4	75.9	68.0	67.7
Postgraduate qualifications below Master's degree	NSFAS awards	840	1 032	1 061	1 602
	Number applications	1 920	2 162	2 681	4 124
	% eligible applicants	82.8	82.1	78.2	77.6
Master's & Doctoral degrees	% awarded of applicants	43.8	47.7	39.6	4.8
	NSFAS awards	56	53	71	101
	Number applications	1 235	1 385	1 421	1 920
Master's & Doctoral degrees	% eligible applicants	72.7	74.6	83.8	66.4
	% awarded of applicants	4.5	3.8	5.0	5.2

Stakeholder group cross analysis

Caveat:

Given the sensitive nature of the survey, questions were not made compulsory. Therefore, not all participants responded to all questions.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF BURSARIES OFFERED TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



Qualification level	Corporates	International	National Government	Provincial & Local Government	Total
Count					
Certificate and diploma course	7 851	5	2 719	627	11 202
Undergraduate studies	91 495	11	19 552	2 991	114 049
Honours studies	1 578	23	228	60	1 889
Masters studies	55	143	541	13	752
Doctoral studies	13	5	112	1	131
Post Doctoral studies	6			3	9
Total	100 998	187	23 152	3 695	128 032

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE MONITORING



Stakeholder group	Yes	
	<i>n</i>	%
HEI	11	73.3
Corporates	52	96.3
International	6	66.7
National Government	27	96.4
Provincial & Local Government	69	93.2
Total	165	91.7

DONORS CONTRIBUTING MOST FUNDING



Disciplines	Corporates		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Engineering	32	59.3	5	55.6	12	38.7	38	48.1
Health	9	16.7	6	66.7	4	12.9	15	19.0
Education	8	14.8	6	66.7	5	16.1	12	25.3
Social Sector	9	16.7	4	44.4	5	16.1	20	12.7
Agriculture	11	20.4	6	66.7	4	12.9	10	64.1
Finance	25	46.3	7	77.8	12	38.7	50	63.3
Other	33	20.4	4	14.8	0	37.6	92	34.2

Caveat:

Given the sensitive nature of the survey, questions were not made compulsory. Therefore, not all participants responded to all questions.

HEIs SUPPORTED



HEIs	Corporates		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
CPUT	20	37.0	5	55.6	9	29.0	21	26.5	55	37.0
CUT	16	29.6	3	33.3	6	19.4	20	25.3	45	26.9
DUT	20	37.0	3	33.3	8	25.8	20	25.3	51	30.4
MUT	10	18.5	2	22.2	4	12.9	16	20.2	32	18.5
Medunsa	6	11.1	3	33.3	2	6.5	16	20.2	27	17.8
NMMU	20	37.0	3	33.3	12	38.7	19	24.1	54	33.3
NWU	23	42.5	3	33.3	8	25.8	20	25.3	54	31.7
RU	9	16.7	4	44.4	6	19.4	19	24.1	38	26.2
TUT	23	42.5	3	33.3	15	48.4	29	36.7	70	40.2
UCT	25	46.3	4	44.4	10	32.3	26	32.9	65	39.0
UFH	9	16.7	3	33.3	8	25.8	15	19.0	35	23.7
UFS	21	38.9	3	33.3	9	29.0	26	32.9	59	33.5

Most funding	Large proportion funding	Least proportion funding
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HEIs SUPPORTED



HEIs	Corporates		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
UJ	35	64.8	3	33.3	12	38.7	33	41.8	83	44.7
UKZN	26	48.1	3	33.3	11	35.5	26	32.9	66	37.5
UL	14	25.9	3	33.3	7	22.6	18	24.0	42	26.5
UP	38	70.3	3	33.3	11	35.5	30	38.0	82	44.3
Unisa	14	25.9	3	33.3	13	41.9	51	64.6	81	41.4
Stellenbosch	27	50.0	4	44.4	10	32.3	24	30.3	65	39.3
UV	8	14.8	3	33.3	6	19.4	15	19.0	32	21.6
UWC	11	20.4	3	33.3	7	22.6	20	25.3	41	25.4
WITS	29	53.7	3	33.3	11	35.5	34	43.0	77	41.4
UZ	7	13.0	3	33.3	7	22.6	18	22.8	35	22.9
VUT	12	22.2	3	33.3	6	19.4	22	27.8	43	25.7
WSU	6	11.1	3	33.3	4	12.9	15	19.0	28	19.1

Most funding	Large proportion funding	Least proportion funding
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STUDENT SELECTION CRITERIA



Student criteria	Corporates		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Students from our province only							34	43.0	34	43.0
Any student with academic potential and financial need, regardless of race	40	74.1	5	55.6	20	64.5	33	42.7	98	59.2
African students with academic potential and financial need	12	22.2	1	11.1	4	12.9	16	20.3	33	16.6
African students with an A pass for Maths in matric	3	5.6	1	11.1			5	6.3	9	7.7
African students with an A pass for Maths AND Science	4	7.4					5	6.3	9	6.9
Any students with an interest in the disciplines that produce professionals relevant to your organisation's business, regardless of race	20	37.0	4	44.4	10	32.3	30	38.7	64	38.1
Only African students with an interest in the disciplines that produce professionals	4	7.4			1	3.2	3	3.8	8	4.8
Male students only					3	9.7	2	2.5	5	6.1
Female students only	1	1.9			3	9.7	2	2.5	6	4.7
Disabled students only					1	3.2	4	5.1	5	4.2

HEI SELECTION CRITERIA



HEI criteria	Corporates		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Historically Black Institutions	3	0.6	1	1.1	2	0.6	4	0.5	10	0.7
All institutions offering disciplines relevant to your core business	44	81.4	3	3.3	17	55.0	46	58.2	110	49.5
Institutions in poorer provinces	1	0.2					2	0.3	3	0.3
Institutions rated as among the top in the world	3	0.6					3	0.4	6	0.5

DISCIPLINE SELECTION CRITERIA



Discipline criteria	Corporate		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Disciplines that produce professionals relevant to core business	46	85.2	2	22.2	18	58.1	51	65.6	117	57.8
Scarce skills needed by the South African economy	19	35.1	6	66.6	15	48.3	25	31.6	65	45.4
Scarce skills identified in certain provinces					1	0.3	28	35.4	29	17.6

FUNDS DISTRIBUTION BY RACE



Race	Corporates		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
African	47 642 417	79.5	108 514 886	39.1	53 241 538	91.1	209 398 841	52.9
Coloured	5 473 027	9.1	18 950 211	6.8	3 422 457	5.9	27 845 695	7.0
Indian	2 125 130	3.5	82 177 810	29.6	760 070	1.3	85 063 010	21.5
White	4 651 277	7.8	67 905 676	24.5	1 001 790	1.7	73 558 743	18.6
Total	59 891 851	100.0	277 548 583	100.0	58 425 855	100.0	395 866 289	100.0

FUNDS DISTRIBUTION BY GENDER



Gender	Corporates		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%
Male	30 722 247	48.9	66 488 438	42.4	7 665 495	32.8	104 876 179	43.2
Female	32 155 605	51.1	90 174 146	57.6	15 676 638	67.2	138 006 389	56.8
Total	62 877 852	100.0	156 662 583	100.0	23 342 133	100.0	242 882 568	100.0

FUNDS DISTRIBUTION BY HEI



HEIs	Corporate	International	National Government	Provincial & Local Government	Total
	(R)				
CPUT	115 000	684 000	1 027 933	1 348 706	3 175 639
CUT	293 309		150 000	180 000	623 309
DUT	227 410		200 000	60 000	487 410
MUT	40 000		200 000	6 300 000	6 540 000
Medunsa				1 095 000	1 095 000
NMMU	4 685 380	6 080 000	1 197 890	118 000	12 081 270
NWU	3 552 525	20 000	1 928 000	413 300	5 913 825
RU	260 800	700 000	916 840	210 000	2 087 640
TUT	349 510		2 999 070	623 000	3 971 580
UCT	16 106 288	4 084 000	1 435 040	981 486	22 606 814
UFH	12 000		1 323 710	295 000	1 630 710

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FUNDS DISTRIBUTION BY HEI



HEIs	Corporate	International	National Government	Provincial & Local Government	Total
	(R)				
UJ	16 230 786	469 000	1 169 545	2 883 500	20 752 831
UKZN	2 862 105		6 707 439	6 972 000	16 541 544
UL	98 799		212 021	251 000	561 820
UP	19 265 253		2 705 185	2 245 241	24 215 679
Unisa	485 580		20 683 030	7 696 436	28 865 046
Stellenbosch	11 716 349	30 000	6 384 528	484 000	18 614 877
UFS	4 644 647		1 485 212	2 207 000	8 336 859
UWC	108 660		412 500	959 402	1 480 562
UV	1 141 180		62 330	40 000	1 243 510
WITS	17 378 009		638 049	6 737 001	24 753 059
UZ			99 047	6 785 000	6 884 047
VUT	30 000		100 000	150 000	280 000
WSU	211 520		-	1 070 000	1 281 520
Other	15 765 000		86 306 617	14 705 299	102 071 617
Total	115 580 110	12 067 000	138 343 986	64 810 371	214 024 551

MARKETING STRATEGY TO CREATE AWARENESS



	Corporate		International	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Advertisements on radio	3	5.6	2	22.2
Advertisements on television	2	3.7	1	11.1
Advertisements in print	17	31.5	8	88.9
Notifications via universities	36	66.7	1	11.1
Presentations to students	14	25.9	1	11.1
Via our company website	41	75.9	5	55.6

STUDENT THROUGHPUT



Discipline	Corporate	International	National Government	Provincial & Local Government	Average
	%	%	%	%	%
Engineering	77.0	57.4	54.1	45.4	58.5
Health	53.0	28.8	5.0	25.3	28.0
Education	60.0	20.5	64.4	21.4	41.6
Social Sector	54.0	49.3	4.7	27.2	33.8
Agriculture	68.0	18.4	47.7	21.0	38.8
Finance	73.0	77.6	6.3	44.7	50.4
Average	64.2	42.0	30.4	30.8	41.8

EXPENSES COVERED



Expenses	Corporate		International		National government		Provincial & Local government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Tuition	34	63.6	9	100.0	27	87.1	67	85.1	137	84.0
Study material (stationary, text books, equipment)	45	83.3	7	77.7	23	74.2	51	65.5	126	75.2
Medical cover (doctor fees, dental, reading glasses)	4	7.4	3	33.3	2	6.5			9	15.7
Life cover (life assurance policy)					1	3.2			1	3.2
Food and incidentals	24	44.4	3	33.3	8	25.8	17	21.5	52	31.3
Accommodation	39	72.2	6	66.6	14	45.2	32	41.0	91	56.3
Transport	24	44.4	3	33.3	8	25.8	9	11.4	44	28.7
Monthly stipend (living allowance)	20	37.0	5	55.6	6	19.4	10	12.7	41	31.2
Total	191	50.5	32	50.8	89	35.9	194	41.0		

VALUE-ADDED SUPPORT



	Corporate		International		National government		Provincial & Local government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Additional tutoring	6	11.1	4	44.4	4	12.9	9	11.4	23	20.0
Mentoring and coaching	14	26.0	2	22.2	13	42.3	25	32.4	54	30.7
Counselling sessions	7	13.0	3	33.3	7	22.6	7	0.9	24	17.5
Workshops	21	39.0	2	22.2	7	22.6	20	25.3	50	27.3
Work experience exposure/placements	15	28.0	3	33.3	12	39.0	25	32.4	55	33.2
Campus events	7	13.0	3	33.3	3	9.7	1	0.1	14	14.0
Career information	9	17.6	3	33.3	10	32.2	18	22.8	40	26.5
Ad hoc support via telephone/e-mail	12	22.2	3	33.3	4	13.0	8	10.1	27	19.7

ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT



Discipline	HEI	Corporate	Inter- national	National Government	Provincial & local Government	Total
	%					
Engineering	63.3	84.3	65.0	60.0	60.5	66.6
Health	65.4	60.0	35.0	65.0	60.0	57.1
Education	77.5	50.0	50.0	72.5	40.5	58.1
Social Sector	50.8	26.0	40.0	73.3	61.4	50.3
Agriculture	26.5	53.3	10.0	90.0	66.7	49.3
Finance	51.7	70.6	72.0	64.6	49.8	61.7
Other	19.4	61.9	80.0	59.0	32.6	50.6
Total	50.7	58.0	50.3	69.2	53.1	

FUNDS DISBURSEMENT



Disbursement	Corporate		International		National Government		Provincial & Local Government		Total	
	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%	<i>n</i>	%
Directly to tertiary institutions	48	89.0	3	33.3	24	77.4	72	91.1	146	84.4
Directly to student	14	26.2	4	44.4	7	22.6	5	6.3	29	16.8
Via fund management agencies	3	5.6			4	12.9	1	1.3	8	4.6

BUDGET AND SPEND



Funder	Budget 2012	Budget 2013	Spend 2012
(R)			
Corporate	131 130 758	118 322 651	206 936 397
International	29 812 000	29 812 000	25 605 000
National Government	93 221 889	147 982 824	95 159 473
Province & Local Government	245 828 931	167 754 720	379 456 316
Total	499 993 578	463 872 195	707 157 186

Increase
 Decrease

Recommendations

ITEM**Recommendations**

Government

- Become more involved in **value-added support interventions** – enhance student throughput rates
- A higher level of **accountability** required from all departments to **follow through on contractual agreements** with student beneficiaries – improve pass rates and throughput rates
- **Stricter monitoring** mechanisms to be applied - **reimbursement** of bursary value – motivate student throughput
- **Identify career advancement opportunities** for employees who are awarded local/international bursaries/scholarships
- Build **stronger partnership with the private sector** to encourage Corporates to invest more substantially by **matching financial contributions** made by Government
- Higher level of **cohesion & coordination between departments** required – to address skills shortages effectively (at provincial level)
- **Fraud prevention** – enable HEIs to access relevant **databases** (SARS, Home Affairs, Dept of Labour) – during student applications – establish true need for financial assistance

ITEM

Recommendations

Government

- **NSFAS** needs to **cover the full cost of study** (tuition, accommodation, study material, equipment, transport & living expenses) to those whom are awarded
- Inform high school learners of **scarcity of bursaries** and **insufficiency of funding** – prepare them to source other avenues of funding
- Improve **Basic Education** to improve student profiles
- Education system to produce more **entrepreneurs** – ensure more **job creators** vs job seekers
- **High school system to align subjects** to that of **scarce priority** professions
- All Departments should ideally utilise **internships** – extended to **2 years** – enhance level of **employability**
- **SETAs** should effectively communicate to and **educate corporates** re. benefit of utilising **learnerships** (corporates make contributions to SETA but do not take on learners) – reduce unemployment
- THE FINDINGS OF THIS STUDY CALL FOR **URGENT PROACTIVE TIMEFRAMES, INTERVENTIONS & MONITORING** TO IMPROVE THE CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED IN THE BURSARY FUNDING LANDSCAPE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

ITEM

Recommendations

Corporate

- More corporates to become **actively involved in providing value-added support** interventions to students – enhance throughput
- A higher level of **accountability** required from all departments to **follow through on contractual agreements** with student beneficiaries – improve pass rates and throughput rates
- **Internship opportunities** to be **well structured** to be **mutually beneficial** for both corporates & students – align work activities with students' qualifications and career goals while contributing to productivity
- Take advantage of **SETA's learnership programmes** – workplace exposure; preparation for entry into permanent employment
- Corporates to **collaborate & coordinate respective interventions** – improve **Maths & Science** at High School level
- Higher level of **cohesion & coordination between different corporates in the same sector** – ensure effective **bursary funding distribution** to address skills shortages – eg. via foundations to administrate & monitor sectoral disbursement
- Identify & implement **programmes that enhance entrepreneurial incubation opportunities** for students displaying relevant acumen
- Identify opportunities for **partnerships with Government** to collaborate on bursary funding

ITEM	Recommendations
International funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Chambers of Commerce in South Africa to collate bursary information from their stakeholders to enable more efficient funding that is relevant to local context
HEIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A higher level of accountability required to follow through on contractual agreements with student beneficiaries – improve pass rates and throughput rates • Additional HR required at HEIs to expedite the processing and administration of bursary funds • Channel more funding to postgraduate studies – produce professionals with high level skills – reduce employment • Offer compulsory career guidance – redirect students to technical fields and FET colleges before wrongful registration • Career guidance to be offered to High School learners about scarce skills – choose careers with better employment prospects

Top 5 recommendations



1. **Improved coordination & monitoring of bursary funding allocation** - ensure coherence of strategies across sectors – partnerships between Government & Private Sector
2. Greater commitment and involvement in **value-added support interventions** to enhance student throughput
3. Higher level of **accountability** required from Government, Corporates, HEIs and students to follow through on contractual agreements to improve pass rates and throughput rates
4. Funders to cover all tuition and living **expenses** to enhance student throughput
5. NSFAS funding to cover **full cost of study** and to ensure that HEIs distribute the funding fairly to awarded students – fund fewer but better