

2026

FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

FULLTIME BURSARY APPLICATIONS **NOW OPEN**



the premier

Office of the Premier
FREE STATE PROVINCE

The Office of the Premier is calling on the interested and deserving **unemployed youth (18–35)** in the Free State Province looking to pursue a qualification at a Higher Education Institution (HEI) for the 2026 academic year.

Applications are opened for current **Grade 12 Learners and students** who are already accepted/ enrolled at a Higher Education Institution.

Selection Criteria

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

- Must be a South African Citizen;
- Must be a Free State Resident;
- Total Household earnings should be below R600 000 per annum (must provide proof);
- Must not be in possession of another sponsorship (No Double Dipping), proof must be provided (E.g. NSFAS status or Affidavit);
- Must be accepted by the recognized Higher Education Institution (HEI) to study in the following fields that are identified as a shortage/ critical and or scarce within the province; : refer to page 2 of the bursary application form
- Currently enrolled students should submit most recent statement of results /academic record/transcript;
- Certified copy of matric results (for current Grade 12 learners, September results must be attached);
- Proof of Residence;
- Acceptance letter from HEI;
- Proof of household earnings (Salary Advice on an original letterhead/Affidavit and/or SARS ITR12 / SASSA), in the case of self-employed parents, certified copies of business registration, CIPC report and a valid Tax clearance certificate.
- **In cases where the student already has a sponsor, the application will be automatically disqualified.**

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply

Financially needy applicants performing academically well will be prioritized.

Application forms are available from the following offices:

- Office of the Premier (FSTDI and OR Tambo Building)
- Thusong Centres
- Free State Provincial Government Facebook Page
- Central University of Technology and University of the Free State

The Free State Provincial Government reserves the right to determine the total number of bursary allocations for the academic year based on the total budget available.

Applicants are advised to ensure that they have the following documents when submitting an application:

- Request Letter;
- Application form (Checklist on page 6 must be fully completed)
- Certified copy of ID of applicant, both parents/proof of guardianship (in cases where the applicant is an orphan, certified death certificates must be attached and an affidavit or proof from SASSA);

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

If you do not receive any response from the Bursary Section within four months after the closing date for applications, please consider your application as unsuccessful. The Department reserves the right not to provide individual feedback or reasons regarding the outcome of any bursary application.

If you do not receive any response from the Bursary unit within **four months** after the closing date for applications, please consider your application as **unsuccessful. The Department reserves the right not to provide individual feedback or reasons regarding the outcome of any bursary application.**

Late applications will not be accepted. If the documents are to be submitted by post please ensure that the application will be received before the closing date.

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 and Thusong centres.

Enquiries: bursariesfs@fspremier.gov.za | Office hours only: 07:30 - 16:00

Mr ME Makhetha **065 742 5935**, Ms NB Thekiso **060 533 4702** & Ms MC Motaung **065 742 6737**

Closing Date and Time: 16 January 2026 @ 16:00

www.freestateonline.fs.gov.za

FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

FULL-TIME BURSARY APPLICATION FORM

2026 Academic Year



the premier

Office of the Premier
FREE STATE PROVINCE

**ADMINISTERED BY THE FREE STATE
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER**

Surname & Names:

Course Applied for:

**IDENTIFIED SCARCE OR CRITICAL SKILLS FOR THE FREE STATE PROVINCE 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR
FULL TIME BURSARY ADVERTISEMENT**

	Course Selection for 2026	Tick (choose 1 only)
1.	Bachelor of Community Development	
2.	Bachelor / Post Graduate Diploma / Honors of Accounting	
3.	Diploma / Bachelor of Supply Chain Management / Finance	
4.	Bachelor Dietetics	
5.	Bachelor Physiotherapy	
6.	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	
7.	Bachelor of Radiography	
8.	Bachelor of Pharmacy	
9.	Bachelor of Nursing	
10.	Diploma/ Bachelor of Information Technology (Cyber Security/ Information Security/ Software or Network Systems/ Techniques of Artificial Intelligence/ Information Resource Management/ Robotics)	
11.	Bachelor of Data Science / Data Analytics / Financial Analytics / Investment Management / Business Analytics	
12.	Diploma / Advanced Diploma in Somatology	
13.	Bachelor in Radiography/ Radiation Therapy	
14.	Bachelor of Nuclear Medicine	
15.	Bachelor of Social Work	
16.	Masters in Clinical Psychology	
17.	Post Graduate Diploma in Applied Psychometry	
18.	Bachelor in Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics	
19.	Diploma / Bachelor in Emergency Medical Care	
20.	MB CHB (Bachelor of Medicine)	
21.	Bachelor / Honors of Psychology	
22.	Bachelor of Human Resource Management and Psychology/ Human Resource Analytics	
23.	Diploma / Bachelor of Engineering (Civil/ Mechanical/ Chemical/ Electrical/ Mining/ Nuclear/ Architectural/ Aerospace/ Mechatronics/ Structural / Quantity Surveyor/ Agricultural)	
24.	Bachelor of Economics/ Econometrics/ Developmental Studies	
25.	Bachelor of Construction Management / Quantity Survey/ Construction Project Management	
26.	Bachelor of Risk Management / Fraud Investigation (Forensic Auditor)/ Internal Auditing	
27.	Diploma / Bachelor of Disaster Management	
28.	Diploma / Bachelor of Town & Regional Planner / Property Valuation / Land & Property Administrator / GIS Professional / Occupational Health & Safety/ Build Environment	
29.	Diploma / Bachelor of Publicity & Marketing / General Arts Management or Fine Arts / Social Studies	
30.	Diploma / Bachelor of Agriculture/ Veterinary Science / Soil Science / Pasteur Science	
31.	Bachelor / Honors of Actuarial Science	
32.	Bachelor of Education (Accounting/ Natural Sciences/ Mathematics / Early Childhood Development)	

BURSARIES WILL BE AWARDED TO APPLICANTS TO STUDY FULL-TIME AT AN ACCREDITED HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION TO STUDY TOWARDS IDENTIFIED STUDY FIELDS/SCARCE SKILLS, FOR THE MINIMUM PRESCRIBED/MINIMUM REMAINING DURATION OF THE COURSE.

TAKE NOTE: BURSARIES ARE AWARDED FOR SOUTH AFRICAN CITIZENS ONLY!!

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR APPLICATION

- 1 Certified copy of South African Identification Document (ID).
- 2 Certified copy of the salary advice/affidavit of income of **both** your parents or guardians. The copy of the **salary advice must not be older than three (3) months** at the time of submission of the application forms on or before the closing date. Failure to submit these documents would mean that your application would not be considered. An applicant whose parent/guardian are unemployed are required to submit proof of unemployment (6 months bank statement, Affidavit and SARS ITR12). Self-employed parents must provide certified copies of business registration, CIPC report and a valid Tax certificate.
- 3 Grade 12 June examination results/ Grade 12 certificate and latest academic transcript if you are already studying at a higher education institution.
- 4 In the case of an ORPHAN/DISABLED – proof must be provided.
- 5 Copy of your proof of address (municipal account/clothing account with affidavit if it is your parents/guardians 'account) – **not older than three (3) months (preferably your home address)**.
- 6 *In cases where the student has another sponsor, the application will be automatically disqualified.

COMPLETION AND INSTRUCTIONS OF THE APPLICATION FORM

- 7 For any further enquiries and assistance in completing the application form, please contact the **Bursary office at Brahman Building, 124 Nelson Mandela Street, Bloemfontein**, Postal address: 124 Nelson Mandela Drive, Westdene, Bloemfontein, Free State Office of the Premier, Bursary Section, Bloemfontein, 9300.
- 8 Incomplete application forms will not be considered and it will be disqualified.
- 9 Please print when completing the form.
- 10 Mark appropriate blocks with an "X".
- 11 No bursary will be granted if the application does not comply with the criteria as set out in the advertisement.
- 12 No change of course from the one which the bursary was allocated will be approved, except where the skill required constitutes major modules of the changed course. Approval should first be sought.
- 13 Consult with vocational councilors at a tertiary institution to make sure that you qualify for admission in the study field you applied for by having the required "M" Score / APS.
- 14 Your application will not be considered if you apply for more than one study field.
- 15 Attach an Affidavit in the case if parent/s or guardian/s is/are unemployed.
- 16 If you do not receive any response from the Bursary Section within **four months** after the closing date for applications, please consider your application as **unsuccessful**. **The Department reserves the right not to provide individual feedback or reasons regarding the outcome of any bursary application.**

THE BURSARY WILL PAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

- 17 The prescribed Registration fee per semester/year.
- 18 The prescribed registered modules per year (paying for modules once only)
- 19 The prescribed residence and meal fees as recommended by the HEI's.
- 20 Books and/or study materials
- 21 Special equipment necessary for the study field registered will be paid for separately on receipt of such a request by the bursary holder and recommended by the HEI. Each request will be dealt with on its own merit.
- 22 Special equipment for disabled bursary holders will be paid on receipt of such a request by the bursary holder and recommended by the HEI's Disability Office. Each request will be dealt with on its own merit.

BURSARY APPLICATION FORM

1. For which academic year do you want a bursary? 2026		2. Type of bursary applying for? Full-time	
3. ID Number			4. Surname:
5. Initials:	6. First Names:		
7. Race	African	Coloured	White Indian
8. GENDER:	Male	Female	9. Title Mr. Me
10. Present postal address where correspondence must be posted to (FULL ADDRESS REQUIRED)		11. Second postal address where correspondence can be posted to (FULL ADDRESS REQUIRED)	
Town: Postal code		Town: Postal code	
12. Cellphone number :		13. Telephone Number:.....	
14. E-mail Address (COMPULSORY):			
15. SA Citizen:		Disabled? If disabled specify!	
YES	NO	YES	NO
16. Matriculation Year:			
17. District of School:		20. Name of School:	
Motheo			
Xhariep			
Lejweleputswa			
Fezile Dabi			
Thabo Mofutsanyane			
18. Post School Qualifications if applicable! Name of Qualification		Year obtained	Name of institution (HEI)
19. Are / were you a recipient of a bursary from any government department or private company?		YES	NO
20. If "YES" – which government department or private company?			
21. Do you still have bursary obligations to the relevant government department or company?		YES	NO
22. If "YES" – how do you have to fulfill your obligation?		SERVICE	REFUND
23. Give the name of the Higher Education Institution (HEI) where you are / or intend registering/ currently registered? (University, University of Technology, other). Please note: you may study at an institution of your choice, but it should be an accredited learning program at a registered institution.		HEI: CAMPUS:	
24. Full name of the study field you intend registering/ currently registered for example a , <u>Diploma or Degree</u> (e.g. Diploma in Engineering, Bachelor of Nursing) (1 study field only)			
25. Specializing Field: Major Subject:		26. Need bursary for how many years.....	
27. Academic year of course in 2026 ?.....(1 st , 2 nd , etc)		28. Student No:	
29. Does the study field that you intend registering/ currently registered appear in the bursary advertisement / circular as an identified need?		YES	NO
30. Will this be your first qualification?		YES	NO

PROVINCIAL BURSARY MANAGEMENT

P.O Box 517, Bloemfontein, 9300

FSTD Building, Ground Floor, Nelson Mandela Drive, Bloemfontein 9300

31. Is this your first bursary application?	YES	NO
32. Have you been a Free State Provincial Government bursary holder before?	YES	NO
33. If you were a bursary holder before, did you complete your studies?	YES	NO
34. If "YES" , which year did you complete your studies?		
35. Annual income of both parents / guardian R	36. Annual income of Spouse? (If married) R	
AFFIDAVIT OR ITA34 MUST BE PROVIDED IN THE CASE OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR AN ORPHAN / SELF-EMPLOYED /SASSA PAYSIP IN CASE OF GRANTS		
37. Parent/s work for Free State Provincial Government? Yes / No.	38. Name and address of parent's employer	
39. Tel No. of parent:		

BURSARY APPLICATION CHECKLIST 2026

NOTE: IT IS THE APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT THE APPLICATION ADHERES TO THE STATED REQUIREMENTS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING DISQUALIFIED.

The following required documents must be submitted with the prescribed application form:

NR	HEADING	ATTACHED (To be completed by Applicant)	CHECKER (Office use only)
1.	Certified copy of Identity Document of applicant		
2.	Certified copy of full academic record / results (matric / academic results from Higher Education Institution)		
3.	Proof of provisional (conditional) / final acceptance by Higher Education Institution		
4.	Proof of registration at Higher Education Institution if applicable		
5.	Curriculum plan of intended field of study		
6.	Certified proof of income of both parent (s)guardian (s) co debtor (s) spouse		
7.	Latest 3-month bank statements of both parents / guardians / spouse		
8.	Child grants and pension should be confirmed by official documents from SASSA		
9.	In case where the parent (s) guardian (s) or spouse are unemployed, proof of such from the Department of Labour or an affidavit must be attached		
10.	Self-employed person must attach the latest Financial Statement and Tax Assessment		
11.	Letter from all registered banks confirming account details / status of both parents / guardians etc.		
12.	Copy of Certified Identity Document of the parent(s) / guardian(s) / spouse		
13.	Certified copy of the death certificate of the parent(s) / guardian(s) / spouse		
14.	Certified copy of the marriage certificate		

15.	If parents are divorced, a certified copy of the divorce decree must be attached		
16.	If the Applicant is an orphan or fostered child, authentic legal documents from SASSA, Social Development or the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development must be attached		
17.	In case of a single parent, proof of such from school principal or affidavit must be attached		
18.	The legally appointed guardian must submit the related documents issued by the court / magistrate stating that he /she is taking care of the child		
19.	Proof of other sponsor (e.g. NSFAS status or Affidavit)		
20.	Signed Application form		

NB: It is important to note that any misrepresentation of information and or failure to disclose information shall result in immediate disqualification and terminated, if it has already been granted.

I hereby confirm that I attached all the applicable documents as required per the above checklist.

Signature of applicant:

Date:

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT:

I (initials and surname) declare that:

- 1 the above particulars are complete and correct and I understand that any false information supplied, will lead to the immediate cancellation of the bursary,
- 2 all documents required are attached - if not I understand that it will lead to the immediate cancellation of my application,
- 3 I meet the requirements for my selected study field if not the bursary will be deemed cancelled,
- 4 I understand that this application is for a bursary and not a loan and I intend making my services available to the Free State Provincial Government upon obtaining the qualification in terms of the bursary contract, which is to be entered into if I am successful in my application for a bursary,
- 5 I understand that this bursary must be utilized as from the **2026** academic year and cannot be transferred to the following year or to another person and that no outstanding balances from previous academic years will be paid,
- 6 I understand that if I receive a bursary it is my responsibility to register at a registered and accredited Higher Education Institution and to effect payment, I will submit my bursary contract, specified account and previous years' results / Grade 12 final results **before 31 January 2026 to the Bursary Section, Office of the Premier, FSTDI Brahman Building, 124 Nelson Mandela Drive, Bloemfontein.** If I do not register, I am aware that my bursary will be deemed cancelled,
- 7 I understand that no payment will be made before all documentation has been submitted.
- 8 I understand that I have to comply with the following to be considered for a bursary:
 - **Be a South African Citizen**
 - **Be a Free State Citizen**
 - **Must be unemployed**
 - provide proof of the financial circumstances of both my parents or guardian
 - select a study field from those that appear on page one/two of the advertisement
 - study **full-time** should I be successful in my application
 - complete the application form correctly
 - not take up another bursary whilst I have a FSPG Bursary
 - be obliged to enter into a contract with the **Office of the Premier**, and
 - attend all functions called to.
- 9 I will not enter into full-time employment during my full-time study period and am aware that my bursary will be deemed cancelled.
- 10 By completing and submitting this application, I hereby consent to my personal information being shared with relevant third-party institutions and authorities for the purposes of verifying the accuracy of the information provided and assessing my eligibility for the bursary.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: **DATE:**

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN:..... **DATE:**.....

(If applicant is under the age of 18)