

21 December 2017

UWC Returning/ Current Students – Important Information

Dear Student/Parent

The recent announcement from President Jacob Zuma regarding fee-free higher education for new, first-year South African undergraduate students in 2018 from poor and working class families refers. While the University welcomes the initiative by the government to support the above category of students, South African universities remain fee-paying institutions for all other students.

The following information is important for students and parents to note:

- There will be an 8% fee adjustment for 2018.
- Returning students who are NSFAS beneficiaries, with a combined household income not exceeding R122 000, will have their NSFAS loans converted into 100% grants;
- Students from households with a combined income up to R 600 000 per annum in 2018, known as the “missing middle”, will have to apply for gap funding to cover the 8% fee increase.

Interested students should please complete the online DHET grant (gap funding) application via this link: <https://dhetgrant.uwc.ac.za> , applications which will open on 15 January 2018.

Please Note:

Only South African citizens and citizens with permanent South African residency studying towards an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification in 2018 will be considered. More information regarding eligibility criteria, and grant conditions and processes are available on <https://dhetgrant.uwc.ac.za/Home/About>

- NSFAS-eligible students will prequalify for the gap funding.
- Students whose 2017 applications were successful and will be returning in 2018 will **not** be required to re-apply for the gap fund.
- Gap funding will be applicable for 2018 tuition and accommodation fees only.
- Full cost-bursary/scholarship holders must provide the Financial Aid Office with proof of bursaries / scholarships for 2018, and may consult the Financial Aid Office Helpdesk at +27 21 959 9753/2737; for other returning students with zero balances an upfront payment of R 4290 for non-residents, and R 4840 for residents, is payable before registration, and remains unchanged from 2017;
- The Schedule of Fees booklet will be made available online by 05 January 2018; see the University website for more information of actual costs.

The information below pertains to various fee categories. Kindly read the section that applies to you carefully.

1. NSFAS, Scholarships and Bursary holders

- The qualifying threshold for NSFAS beneficiaries remains R122 000 per combined household income per annum;

- Applications for NSFAS for 2018 have closed. No new applications will be considered by NSFAS;
- Students who received NSFAS funding in 2017, and have met the academic requirements for continued funding in 2018 do **not** have to re-apply. You will be cleared for registration. **No** upfront payment or registration fee is applicable to you;
- Students who received NSFAS funding in 2017, and have **not** met the academic requirements for continued funding in 2018 must consult the Financial Aid Office
- Please familiarise yourself with NSFAS rules and procedures available on its website, <http://www.nsfas.org.za/content/studentssupport.html>
- Students who have signed their loan agreements and their accounts are not paid for 2017 need to consult with the Financial Aid office

2. **Missing Middle – Gap Funding**

Students whose combined household income does not exceed R600 000 per annum qualify to apply for gap funding to cover the 8% fee adjustment. Applications will open on 15 January 2018.

Interested students should please complete the online DHET grant application via this link: <https://dhetgrant.uwc.ac.za/>

Please Note:

- Only South African citizens and citizens with a permanent South African residency studying towards an undergraduate or postgraduate qualification in 2018 will be considered. More information regarding eligibility criteria and grant conditions and processes are available here <https://dhetgrant.uwc.ac.za/Home/About>
- NSFAS-eligible students will prequalify for the gap funding.
- Students who have successful 2017 applications and will be returning in 2018 will **not** be required to reapply for the gap fund.
- Gap funding will be applicable for 2018 tuition and accommodation fees only.

3. **International Students**

- All international students are required to pay the full tuition and residence fees upfront, at the beginning of each year of registration.
- All students who have permanent African citizenship will be required to pay the same tuition fees as South African citizens unless the study programmes for which they are enrolling are marketed at a specific price.
- International students without African citizenship will be required to pay the international fees as published.
- All fees are RAND (ZAR) denominated.
- Please consult our website for detailed registration guidelines www.uwc.ac.za/Registrar/ISSO
- You may also contact the International Student Services Office at isso@uwc.ac.za.

4. **Post-graduate Students**

Post-graduate students may consult the Post-graduate Division as well as their respective Faculty offices for any queries. Please see the University website for contact details.

5. **Historic Debt**

Historic debt remains in place but the Minister of Higher Education and Training, together with National Treasury and the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation will determine the funding required to address this issue. We look forward to a positive outcome that provides sufficient funding of these debts.

This is only applicable for NSFAS funded students who meet the academic requirements for continued funding.

For queries please contact the relevant offices:

1. Fee-related queries (Student Credit Management):
Tel: +27 (21) 959 3558 / +27 (21) 959 3559
Fax: +27 (21) 959 3518
Email: scm@uwc.ac.za
2. NSFAS, bursary and scholarship queries(Financial Aid Office):
Tel: +27 (21) 959 9753
Email: finaid@uwc.ac.za
3. Accommodation queries:
Tel: +27 (21) 959 2569 or +27 (21) 959 2999
Fax: +27 (21) 959 2671 or +27 (21) 959 2671
Email: resservices1@uwc.ac.za or jwanza@uwc.ac.za
4. Registration queries:
UWC Contact Centre - 021 959 3900/01/02
Faculty of Arts – arts@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 2152
Faculty of Community & Health Sciences – chshelpdesk@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 2852
Faculty of Dentistry – dentistry@uwc.ac.za, 021 937 3000
Faculty of Economic & Management Sciences – emsadmin@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 3164
Faculty of Education - educundergrad@uwc.ac.za, edupostgrad@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 2276
Faculty of Law – dsynders@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 3291
Faculty of Natural Science - science-undergrad@uwc.ac.za, science-postgrad@uwc.ac.za, 021 959 3426

We wish you a safe and enjoyable festive season, and best wishes for a happy 2018.

Regards

Registrar