



National Student Financial Aid Scheme

**CIRCULAR NO.3 OF 2023  
(FOR TVET COLLEGES ONLY)**

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**TO: PRINCIPALS**

**CC: FINANCIAL AID OFFICERS, STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES MANAGERS**

**FROM: ANDILE NONGOGO  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**DATE: 26 MAY 2023**

**SUBJECT: 2023 STUDENT FUNDING UPDATE**

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The purpose of this circular is to provide TVET Colleges with an update on 2023 student funding matters, related to the availability of the funding list, student accommodation allowances and trimester 2 applications.

**1. 2023 STUDENT FUNDING MATTERS**

NSFAS undertook a comprehensive data review and remediation exercise for all (Returning and FTEN) 2023 records to ensure accuracy and completeness in the final funding outcomes of students. The primary objective of this exercise was to review student information, based on additional information that impacted on the initial funding decision.

We can now confirm that this exercise has been concluded and as such institutions should extract their latest funded list from the NSFAS portal and proceed to prepare and upload all outstanding registration data.

Students would need to appeal where they are rejected and provide the necessary supporting documents.

**2. 2023 APPEAL OUTCOMES**

Appeals are currently being processed. As and when they are approved the student portals and funding list will be updated accordingly. We have also noted a significant number of students with appeals that do not have the relevant supporting documents, we have exhausted all avenues to contact the students to upload these documents.

We, therefore, urge institutions to assist in this regard, we will share the list of returning students with the institutions through our servicing administrators.

**3. 2023 TVET TRIMESTER 2 APPLICATIONS EXTENSION**

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**Board Members:** Mr. Ernest Khosa - Chairperson | Mr. Andile Nongogo - Chief Executive Officer | Mr. Bamanye Matiwane | Ms. Jullie Beya | Ms. Lindiwe Matlali | Mr. Nceba Maxwell Fuzani | Ms. Pretty Makukule | Prof. Pumela Msweli | Ms. Reshma Mathura | Ms Lisa Seftel | Mr Melosi Baloyi | Mr. Sanele Zondi | Mr. Sibonelo Cyril Madiba | Mr. Yonke Twani

NSFAS opened applications for 2023 trimester 2 for TVET Colleges on 04 May 2023 with a deadline of 22 May 2023. We have extended this deadline to **Friday 09 June 2023**.

#### **4. 2023 STUDENT ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES**

We have noted with concern both on the part of students and other stakeholders where the indicative cap amount is being used as a standard amount, so much so, that some colleges have students demanding that their colleges change the amounts submitted on the registration templates sent to NSFAS, which were correctly based on the lease agreements provided by the students.

It should be noted that the amount of R45,000.00 p.a. is the maximum claimable amount (ceiling) for private accommodation as contained in the NSFAS 2023 Eligibility Criteria and Conditions for Financial Aid. A reasonable actual cost of accommodation should be charged and claimed based on the condition, location, and other factors to be considered on the accommodation. The cap amount is not, and should not, be an automatic amount to be claimed for private accommodation allowances. A circular at the beginning of the year was issued to institutions to advise that they should follow the same process as last year in determining the claims of accommodation.

Colleges would remember that up until 2022, the standard amounts claimed for private accommodation were in accordance with the categorisation the college was under, i.e., urban, peri-urban, rural, and it, therefore, means that even in 2023 the going rate in the area would not have significantly changed. In 2023, the student signed lease agreements should have been a key indicator in terms of which amount to claim, provided it is below the cap, and is useable as a document to substantiate the amount claimed.

We are, however, noting some institutions who have developed one standard amount to claim across all private accommodation students and take it that colleges are able to provide documents to support the process followed to reach the amount.

Sincerely



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**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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