

2022

FINANCIAL REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

BLOEMFONTEIN & WELKOM CAMPUSES



Central University of
Technology, Free State

2022 FINANCIAL REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

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Introduction

There has been a number of developments around the matter of student fees at institutions of higher learning. A number of engagements took place with different stakeholders, such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), Universities South Africa (USAf), etc., in a bid to arrive at the most sustainable solution for both students and universities. Although the matter has not yet been finalised by the DHET, the institution has developed the following guidelines in the interim.

Since 2017, the university has been increasing the fees according to the directives received from the DHET.

The 2022 tuition and accommodation fee increases will depend on the guidelines from the DHET towards the end of 2021. However, as the registration fees are a down payment on the total fees payable for the year, it is not dependent on the fee increases.

Background

The registration guidelines in this document seek to give clarity on, and to smoothen, the registration process. The guidelines focus on several areas that impact students' ability to register for the academic year 2022. These areas are:

- i) the **application fees**;
- ii) the **minimum initial payment (MIP)**:
 - a. South African citizens and Southern African Development Community (SADC) students; and
 - b. international students;
- iii) the settlement of **prior debt**;
- iv) the allocation of **NSFAS funds**;
- v) the allocations of **external donors**; and
- vi) the allocations of the university **merit award**.

It must be understood that, at present, South Africa's university funding system is based on both a government grant and the payment of tuition fees, of which the latter is expected from students, their parents/guardians and/or sponsors. In addition, the NSFAS system is available for those students considered academically deserving and financially needy. Students are encouraged to apply on NSFAS' website. The following are the income thresholds for NSFAS funding:

- 2018 first-time entering students (FTENs) with a combined household income not exceeding R350 000.

- Disabled students with a combined household income not exceeding R600 000.
- Returning students with a combined household income not exceeding R122 000.

NB: NSFAS assesses the applications and approves the applications, not the institution.

CUT has to optimise the initial payments that are due to avoid:

- serious cash-flow problems; as well as
- an increase in overall student debt. The recoverability of student debt is becoming more and more of a challenge from year to year.

Financial guidelines

Application fees payable

There are no fees payable with the submission of the application form for admission:

- Application fee **R0.00**
- Residence application fee: **R0.00**

Minimum initial payment

The 2022 MIP for South African citizens and SADC students is as follows:

Registration fee	R1 200.00
Deposit on tuition fees	<u>R7 400.00</u>
MIP on tuition	<u>R8 600.00</u>
(MIP – non-residence)	

Students accepted for university residence accommodation

Minimum initial payment on tuition	R8 600.00
Deposit on student residence fees	<u>R3 400.00</u>
MIP on tuition and residence accommodation	<u>R12 000.00</u>
(MIP – residence)	

All self-funded students with a household income exceeding R600 000 per annum must pay the full initial payment (registration fee, deposit on tuition fee, and deposit on student residence fee).

Self-funded students with a household income of less than R600 000 per annum are expected to pay as per the categories set out in Table 1 and Table 2 below. Proof of combined household income must be submitted during registrations.

TABLE 1:
Self-funded deposit levels: senior students registered in 2018 and prior years

Level	Income level	Income level	MIP: non-residence	MIP: residence
No.	Start (R)	End (R)	(R)	(R)
1	-	122,000	1,200	1,200
2	122,001	200,000	2,000	2,800
3	200,001	300,000	3,500	4,900
4	300,001	400,000	5,000	7,000
5	400,001	500,000	6,500	9,100
6	500,001	600,000	8,000	11,200
7	600,001	and above	8,600	12,000

TABLE 2:
Self-funded deposit levels: students registered from 2019 onwards

Level	Income Level	Income level	MIP: non-residence	MIP: residence
No.	Start (R)	End (R)	(R)	(R)
1	-	350,000	1,200	1,200
2	350,001	400,000	5,000	7,000
3	400,001	500,000	6,500	9,100
4	500,001	600,000	8,000	11,200
5	600,001	and above	8,600	12,000

Verifiable proof of combined household income must be submitted during registrations.

Please also complete and submit the application form to financeinfo@cut.ac.za before the 2022 registrations, but no later than 28 January 2022.

The application form can be found at the link: <https://www.cut.ac.za/fees-bursaries-and-loans>

South African citizens and SADC students

Please note that the following students are exempted from paying the initial payment:

- All returning NSFAS-funded students who passed 50% of their modules; registering for a NSFAS-funded qualification (in line with the university's Programme and Qualification Mix (PQM)); and not exceeding the NSFAS N+2 rule for students registered prior to 2018, or the N+1 rule for FTEN students registered from 2018 onwards.
- All 2022 FTENs provisionally approved by NSFAS (**funded qualifications**).
- Students funded by external donors as per the **stamped and signed original** donor letters.

Previously funded NSFAS students who did not progress academically, or who exceed the N+ rule, will form part of the self-funded students with a household income of less than R600 000 per annum, who are expected to pay as per the categories set out on page 5. Proof of combined household income must be submitted during registrations.

The initial payment for bursary-funded students

Where the funding award letter excludes the registration fee, the student will be required to pay the registration fee of R1 200.

International students

Background

The rules regulating the acceptance of international students are legislated by the South African Department of Home Affairs. Thus, the Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT), as an institution that operates under the jurisdiction of South Africa, and that is governed by the Higher Education Act, has to comply with these regulations.

International students are responsible for the regular payment of tuition fees, plus the portion of the government subsidy that is forfeited. Tuition fees are calculated at 150% of the normal fees charged.

The process

All international students (new entrants and returning students) are required to pay 100% of the cost of their study for the year before registration.

Deviation from the normal category

- i. Where an international student has applied for a concession to the normal process, and provided that such concession is granted, 50% of the cost of the study for the year will be required to be paid upon registration.
- ii. Where the international student cannot afford a deposit of 50% of the cost of study, a reduced deposit can be negotiated:
 - a. at 150% of the MIP:
 - MIP for non-residence students: a minimum of R12 300; and
 - MIP for residence students: a minimum of R17 400.
 - b. This arrangement will be based on the merits attached to representations that must be submitted to the delegated official.
- iii. All the above concessions are to be supported by the following:
 - a. **An affidavit acknowledging the debt, and committing to settle the debt by 30 June 2022, with clear monthly payments.**
 - b. **Where the international student has a South African citizen as a guardian, a debit order, to be signed to service the debt, should be submitted in addition to the affidavit. The last debit order should be no later than 30 June 2022. The following must also be submitted:**
 - Three months' bank statement of the account payer.
 - Certified copy of identity document (ID) of student and account payer.
 - Proof of income/salary advice.
- iv. Requests for concessions are to be submitted to the Fees and Financial Aid Officer or the delegated official, for consideration upon recommendation of the Director: Fees and Financial Aid.

Feedback to students

The Director: Fees and Financial Aid or delegated officials will process the requests within two days of receipt of submission, and the outcomes will also be communicated on a daily basis, where possible.

General

Student debt settlement

Student debt continues to be a challenge in the sector. Non-payment of tuition fees is not sustainable for the institution. Student fees contribute to approximately 30% of the total budget needed to run the institution. A continuous increase in student debt will result in failure of the university to meet its obligations, and compromises the teaching and learning activities.

Thus, students are urged to act responsibly, and to make the necessary payments, not only for the current year, but also for previous years' debt. The students and their parents are requested to engage with the Financial Aid Officers to make the necessary arrangements regarding the payment of outstanding debt.

In a case where a student has not paid the full account for a previous year of study, such a student will not be allowed to re-register before the account concerned has been paid in full.

Alternatively, the student will have to make acceptable payment arrangements, and submit the signed *Acknowledgement of Debt (AoD)* form and the *Debit Order Authorisation* form before the university can allow registration. The following supporting documentation must also be submitted to the Fees and Financial Aid Officers:

- Three months' bank statement of the account payer.
- Certified copies of ID of student and the account payer.
- Proof of income/salary advice of account payer.

Please note that all student fees are supposed to be settled by 30 November of the year of registration.

The university encourages academically successful students who have outstanding student debt to register with FEENIX, at www.feenix.org, and other donors to assist with funding.

Please note that all student fees are supposed to be settled as follows:

Semester 1: by 31 May 2022

Semester 2: by 30 November 2022

Year: by 30 November 2022

CUT banking details

Students are encouraged to deposit the money directly into the university's bank account, to reduce the risk associated with handling too much cash.

Bank	:	First National Bank
Account name	:	Central University of Technology, FS
Branch name	:	Bloemfontein OFS 171
Branch code	:	230134
Account number	:	62684987418
Account type	:	Cheque account
Account name	:	Central University of Technology, FS
Reference	:	YOUR STUDENT OR ID NUMBER