

# DRAFT 2023 FINANCIAL REGISTRATION GUIDELINES



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## Introduction

There were developments around the matter of student fees at institutions of higher learning. Several 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 guidelines in this document in the interim.

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

The 2023 tuition and accommodation fee increases depend on the guidelines received from the DHET at the end of 2022. The proposed fee increases for 2023, as per the letter received from the DHET, dated 13 December 2022, are as follows **5.1%** increase in tuition fees, and a **7.1%** increase in residence fees (see the attached annexure).

## Background

These registration guidelines seek to provide clarity on, and to smoothen, the registration process.

The areas below have an impact on students' ability to register:

- i) **Application fees.**
- ii) **Minimum initial payment (MIP):**
  - a. South African citizens and Southern African Development Community (SADC) students; and
  - b. international students.
- iii) Settlement of **prior debt**.
- iv) **National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) funding.**
- v) Other **external donors**.

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 are expected from students, their parents/guardians and/or sponsors.

CUT must optimise the MIPs that are due to avoid:

- i. serious cash-flow problems; and
- ii. an increase in overall student debt.

## 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 2023 MIP for South African citizens and SADC students is as follows:

*(MIP – non-residence):*

Registration fee ( <i>non-refundable</i> ):	<b>R1 200</b>
Deposit on tuition fees:	<b><u>R7 400</u></b>
<b>MIP:</b>	<b><u>R8 600</u></b>

**Students accepted for university residence accommodation:**

MIP:	<b>R8 600</b>
Deposit on student residence fees:	<b><u>R3 400</u></b>
MIP – residence:	<b><u>R12 000</u></b>

**TABLE 1:**  
**Self-funded deposit levels: undergraduates**

Level	Income level	Income level	MIP: non-residence	MIP: residence
No.	Start (R)	End (R)	(R)	(R)
1	0	350,000	5,000	7,000
2	350,001	450,000	6,000	8,700
3	400,001	500,000	6,500	9,100
4	500,001	600,000	8,000	11,200
5	600,001	More than 600,00	8,600	12,000

**Verifiable proof of combined household income must be submitted upon registration.**

**TABLE 2:**  
**Self-funded deposit levels: postgraduates**

Level	MIP: non- residence	MIP: residence
No.	(R)	(R)
1	8 600	12 000

### South African citizens and SADC students

**Please note that the following students are exempted from paying the MIP:**

- All returning NSFAS-funded undergraduate students who are on the NSFAS-funded list, registering for a NSFAS-funded qualification.
- All 2023 first-time entering students (FTENs) on the NSFAS-funded list who are registering for **NSFAS-funded qualifications**.
- Students funded by external donors **confirmed with the Fees and Financial Aid (FFA) Office**. Where the funding award letter excludes the registration fee, the student will be required to pay the registration fee.

### International students

**The 2023 MIPs for international (foreign) students are as follows:**

MIP for non-residence students: a minimum of	<b>R12 300.00</b>
MIP for residence students: a minimum of	<b>R17 400.00</b>

### 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 required to run the institution. A continuous increase in student debt will result in failure of the university to meet its obligations and will compromise its 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. Students and their parents are requested to engage with the FFA 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 FFA officers:**

- Three months' bank statements of the account payer.
- Certified copies of the identity documents (IDs) of the student and the account payer.
- Proof of income/salary advice of account payer.

Below is a debt settlement schedule students must adhere to, prior to being allowed to register for 2023. This is to decrease the amount of debt in the system to a manageable level.

**TABLE 3:**

Levels	Debt level		Down payment expected	2023 Minimum down payment (R)
No.	Start	End		
	(R)	(R)	(%)	
1	0	10 000	100	Amount owed
2	10 001	40 000	80	10 000
3	40 001	60 000	75	32 000
4	60 001	MAXIMUM	50	45 000
<b>Total</b>				

### Settlement dates

- a) Year programmes: by 31 October
- b) First-semester programmes: by 31 May
- c) Second-semester programmes: by 31 October

The university encourages academically successful students who have outstanding student debt to register with FEENIX, at [www.feenix.org](http://www.feenix.org), and other donors, for assistance with funding.

### 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	:	<b>YOUR STUDENT OR ID NUMBER</b>

**Students are cautioned to be vigilant not to give cash to any individuals except the university cashiers, or to bring along their proof bank deposit slips. The university will not be held responsible for any loss that may occur due to non-compliance.**