

2021 FINANCIAL REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

BLOEMFONTEIN & WELKOM CAMPUS



Central University of
Technology, Free State

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Introduction

There has been a number of developments around the issue of student fees at the institutions of higher learning. A number of engagements have been held with different stakeholders (DHET, USAF, etc) in a bid to arrive at the most sustainable solution for both students and universities. Though the matter has not yet been finalized by DHET, the institution has derived the following guidelines in the interim.

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

The 2021 Fee Compact received from DHET indicated tuition fee increase of 4.7% and accommodation fee increase of 6.7%, which were approved by the CUT Council. **To ensure that self-funded students meeting the requirement of the missing middle do register, CUT will assist these students to cover the portion of the fee increase which effectively means a 0% fee increase** for these students. (The application can be found at the link: <https://www.cut.ac.za/announcements/115> . Please complete and submit the application form before 30 April 2021.)

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 the students' ability to register for the academic year 2021. These areas are:

- i) the **application fees**
- ii) the **minimum initial payment**,
 - a. South African citizens and SADC students
 - 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 awards**

It must be understood that at present, South Africa's university funding system is based on both government grant and the payment of tuition fees; the latter 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 Entrants with a combined household income not exceeding R 350 000.
- Disabled students with combined household income not exceeding R 600 000.

- Returning students with the combined household income not exceeding R 122 000.

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

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

- i. serious cash-flow problems as well as;
- ii. 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

The following fees must accompany the application form for admission:

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

Minimum Initial Payment

First year self-funded students that are able to make these payments, are advised to also make the initial payment (enrolment fee and a minimum tuition and residence fees), especially those that know that they are not funded.

All self-funded senior students with a household income exceeding R600 000 per annum must pay the full initial payment (enrolment fee and minimum tuition and residence fees).

The 2021 minimum initial payment for South African Citizens
Deposit tuition fees **R 8 170.00**

Students accepted for university residence.

Deposit student residence **R 3 170.00**
TOTAL DEPOSIT R 11 340.00

Self-funded senior students with household income less than R600 000 per annum are expected to pay as per categories below. Proof of combined household income must be submitted during registrations.

Below are the tables with the levels for the different student categories in 2021.

a) Self-Funded Deposit Levels:

Senior Students registered in 2018 and prior years

Levels	Income Range		Minimum Initial Payment
No.	Start	End	
	(R)	(R)	(R)
1	0	122 000	0
2	122 001	200 000	1 800
3	200 001	300 000	3 500
4	300 001	400 000	4 750
5	400 001	600 000	6 000
6	600 001	and above	8 170

b) Self- Funded Deposit Levels:

Students registered from 2019 onwards

Levels	Income Range		Minimum Initial Payment
No.	Start	End	
	(R)	(R)	(R)
1	0	350 000	0
2	350 001	450 000	5 000
3	450 001	600 000	6 000
4	600 001	and above	8 170

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

Please also complete and submit the application form as soon as possible, but before 30 April 2021 to financeinfo@cut.ac.za

The application form can be found at the link: <https://www.cut.ac.za/announcements/115>.

First year self-funded students that are able to make these payments, are advised to also make the initial payment (enrolment fee and a minimum tuition and residence fees), especially those that know that they are not funded.

South African Citizens

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 an NSFAS funded qualification (in line with the University PQM) and not exceeding the NSFAS N+2 rule for students registered prior to 2018, N+1 rule for FTEN students registered from 2018 onwards.
- All 2021 FTEN provisionally approved by NSFAS (**funded qualification**).
- Students funded by external donors as per **stamped and signed original** donor letter.

For previously funded NSFAS students that did not progress academically or who exceeds the N+2 rule, they will form part of the senior self-funded students with household income less than R600 000 per annum who are expected to pay as per 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 registration fee the student will be required to pay the enrolment fee of R1 170.00.

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, as an institution that operates under the jurisdiction of South Africa and governed by the Higher Education Act has to comply with these regulations.

The Process

All international students (new entrants and returning) 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, a 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 to a **minimum of R8 170.00** can be negotiated. 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 2021 with clear monthly payments.**
 - b. **Where the international student has a South African Citizen as a guardian, in addition to the affidavit a debit order to be signed to service the debt, the last debit order should be in line with the arrangements made and no later than 31 October 2021.**
 - 3 months bank statement of the account payer
 - Certified copy of ID of student and account payer
 - Proof of Income/ Salary advice
- iv. The requests for concessions are to be submitted to the Fees and Financial Officer or delegated official for consideration upon recommendation of the Director: Fees & Financial Aid.

Feedback to students

The Director: Fees & Financial Aid or delegated officials will process the requests within two (2) 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 about 30% of the total budget needed to run the institution. Continuous increase of students' debt will result in the failure of the university to meet its obligations and compromise 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 the outstanding debt.

The acknowledgement of debt (AoD) form must be submitted before the University can allow registration and the following supporting documentation must be submitted to the Fees and Financial Aid Officers.

- 3 months bank statement of the account payer
- Copy of ID of student and if available of the account payer (if possible certified copy of ID)
- Proof of Income/ Salary advice of account payer

Should the student not meet the required initial minimum payment, the submitted documents will be used a **for consideration by the Financial Aid and Assistance Committee.**

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

Semester 1 31 May 2021

Semester 2 31 October 2021

Year 31 October 2021

CUT banking details

Students are encouraged to deposit the money directly into the University Bank account to reduce the risk of handling too much cash.

Bank	:	First National Bank
Account Name	:	Central University of Technology FS Student Fee Account
Branch Name	:	Bloemfontein
Branch Code	:	230134
Account Number	:	62684987418
Account Type	:	Cheque account
Account Name	:	Central University of Technology FS Student Fee Account
Reference	:	YOUR STUDENT NUMBER OR IDENTITY (ID) NUMBER