



TO: ALL MEDIA HOUSES

ATTENTION: EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

23 November 2021

**FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON
BURSARIES**

The Premier of the Free State Province, Hon. Sefora Ntombela has noted with great concern the letter making rounds in the various social media platforms regarding availability of bursaries for prospective students for the 2022 academic year.

The Premier wishes to place it on record that the activist government understands the significance of facilitating and ensuring unhindered access to quality tertiary education, particularly for those who come from the historically disadvantaged backgrounds. Education remains the cornerstone in the process of building the national democratic society. Therefore, the provincial government remains committed to the provision of financial and non-financial support through bursaries to the deserving students in accordance with the set criteria.

The FSPG is on record that all current bursary holders, both local and international students, will continue to receive support in accordance with the agreement entered into with the provincial government until the



completion of their studies, subject to the conditions contained in their contracts with the provincial government.

However, the provincial government will not be awarding any new bursaries to students wishing to study outside the borders of the Republic of South Africa. To be eligible for any new bursary from the provincial government for the 2022 academic year, one must be accepted to study in one of the officially recognized and registered institutions of higher learning in the country.

We wish to appeal to all our learners currently sitting for their final National Senior Certificate to focus on the work at hand and not to be defocused and distracted by anything else. We are confident that they will make us proud once again as the province and maintain our leading position in the country.

Internal investigations into the conditions within which the circulating correspondence was developed are underway and the necessary internal appropriate measures will be undertaken.

**ISSUED BY THE FREE STATE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

For Enquiries

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