

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS  
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID (SFA)

# 2014 Financial Aid

Please read this leaflet carefully and contact the Student Financial Aid Office if you are uncertain about any aspect of your financial aid funding outlined below.

## Eligibility Criteria for Financial Aid

Applications for financial aid at UCT, includes application for National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) funding. In partnership with NSFAS, UCT financial aid provides a relatively comprehensive financial aid package.

All applications are checked against the following eligibility criteria:

- South African citizenship or permanent residency
- First undergraduate qualification
- Financial eligibility
- Applicant must not be under administrative order

Applications that pass the eligibility criteria are funded as outlined below:

## Expected Family Contribution

UCT uses the government's National Means Test to determine financial eligibility. The test calculates an Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is the only amount that you and your family/guardian need to contribute towards the approved cost of study. Students are encouraged to apply to other bursars to assist with paying the EFC.

**The EFC replaces the initial upfront payment required for registration and must be paid before the end of June.**

Note: No student should pay more than their EFC, unless they incur costs not covered by financial aid policy.

## UCT Financial Aid Package

As of 2014, UCT will be participating in the roll out of the NSFAS Central Application Process. This means that UCT will provide NSFAS with all the application data and costs of study. Using this information, NSFAS will then determine how much NSFAS funding will be allocated to you.

UCT is committed to the EFC that has been determined for you. **You will not be required to pay more than the EFC indicated in your funding letter.** If there is any shortfall in funding – where the NSFAS funding does not cover your approved cost of study, minus the EFC – the difference will be covered by a UCT bursary.

Your financial aid will therefore be a combination of NSFAS funding and UCT bursary funding.

## NSFAS Information

Through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (**NSFAS**), the Government makes loans and bursaries available to enable students to meet the cost of tertiary education. The exact loan or bursary amount will be determined by NSFAS.

The loan requires no surety and is interest free while you are studying. In addition you can receive a bursary rebate/conversion of up to 40% on your loan, based on your academic performance.

To accept the NSFAS loan offer you must:

- Be in receipt of a valid SA ID
- Be of sound mind
- Be in good academic standing
  - Renewal of NSFAS funding will be subject to academic performance
  - Repeat courses will not be funded

Further information is available on the NSFAS website at [www.NSFAS.org.za](http://www.NSFAS.org.za)

## Accommodation

**Cape Town Students:** Students whose home address is in the greater Cape Town area and who wish to stay in UCT residence or private accommodation must submit a written motivation to the SFA Office to have these costs covered. This should be submitted before signing into residence or signing a lease agreement. The SFA Office will confirm the outcome in writing. If the motivation is unsuccessful, and the student moves into residence or private accommodation, the cost of the accommodation will be borne by the student. If the motivation is successful, then the student does not have to re-submit a motivation the following year. Ensure that you submit your motivation before registration.

**Out of Town Students:** If you stay in private accommodation you must submit details of your private accommodation before registration. The form is available on the financial aid website.

### NOTE:

NSFAS and UCT will not consider the cost of private accommodation if received after registration, as your cost of study will be submitted to NSFAS when you register.

Due to a change in the management of the NSFAS Funding, students on financial aid will not be allowed to change accommodation type during the year. Change in accommodation type, will change your cost of study, if you change your accommodation type you will be liable for any additional costs incurred.

You are therefore advised to consult the Student Financial Aid office before making any changes that affect your cost of study.

## Approved Cost of Study Items & Allowances

The items listed below are all the different types of costs UCT allows. Some students will have; Course fees, catering residence costs, incidental allowance and books. Another student staying at home will have; Course fees, books, live-at home allowance and a live-at home transport allowance. Each student's financial aid package is different because their costs will differ.

Item	Approved cost	Applicable Monthly Allowances from Feb to Nov
Course Fees	Actual course fees , <u>excluding</u> Winter & Summer Term Courses	n/a
Catering Residence	Actual residence costs and R1 000 for incidentals, eg toiletries, airtime	R100
Self-Catering Residence	Actual residence costs and R13 200 for food and incidentals	R1 320
Private Accommodation	R31 900 for rent and transport, and R13 200 for food/incidentals. A lease agreement must be submitted to SFA. No lease, no allowance.	R4 510
Books	R3 300 per annum for books, stationary and photocopies. If your EFC is greater than R8 000 the book allowance will not be paid to you. Instead the book allowance will reduce your EFC, and your family must provide your books.	Once-off
Live at Home	R6 500 living allowance and R7 300 transport allowance. The living allowance is used to reduce your EFC. If your EFC is less than R6 500, you do not need to pay anything towards your study costs. But, if you need this allowance please consult the Applications Assessment Coordinator.	R730 Transport only

## Allowances

NSFAS will manage the payment of allowances from 2014, using a cell phone based voucher system. It is therefore important that you have your own bank account and also that you update any changes to your cellphone number on PeopleSoft and inform NSFAS. You are requested to complete the accompanying Banking Details form and submit to NSFAS. Private Accommodation will also be paid via a voucher that you will transfer to the landlord. Landlords will therefore have to register with NSFAS.

NSFAS will be available on campus during registration to assist students to use the voucher system. Note that allowances are only paid for 10 months, ie Feb to Nov. Medical students who are in their second year and beyond, and register early in January, will receive an additional allowance.

The above table is the UCT allowance amounts. If the NSFAS allowance/s vouchers do not equal the UCT allowance amounts, you will receive full or part allowances to your bank account by EFT. You will therefore need to ensure that you capture your banking details on PeopleSoft Self Service when you register.

## General Financial Aid and Study Choice Rules & Policies

1. You are being funded for a programme of study; your funding will be cancelled should you change your programme of study. You will need to submit a letter of Appeal to SFA & NSFAS for approval before you make the change.
2. The programme of study will be funded for N+2 years, where N is the minimum duration of the programme.
3. Summer and Winter Term courses are not automatically funded, but must be applied for and you will receive feedback on the outcome of the application.
4. If you cancel your registration all funding will be cancelled, and you and your family will be liable for fees owing.
5. Postgraduate Diplomas are only funded for 1 year – no appeals accepted for additional years
6. You must register for all courses at the start of the year, Courses added in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester will not be covered by financial aid, and you will be liable for the costs, as all costs are provided to NSFAS at registration in February.

If you are unclear on any aspect of financial aid funding, call, visit, or email us.

Student Financial Aid  
Level 3, Kramer Law Building  
Middle Campus  
Tel: 021 650 5094  
Email: FinancialAid@uct.ac.za

National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)  
Tel: 0860 067 327  
Email: Enquiries@NSFAS.org.za

**We wish you every success with your studies**

## Banking Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your personal cell number that you will use when you are a student

Your Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE NOTE. Banking details are mandatory and these must be your banking details and not those of your parent/parents or legal guardian. A stamped copy of your banking details must accompany this form.*



Name of the account holder (as it is registered with the bank) \_\_\_\_\_



Name of the Bank \_\_\_\_\_



Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Branch code \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_



Type of account (e.g. savings,current) \_\_\_\_\_



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Your signature

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Date

**Submit this completed form with your proof from the bank to:**

National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

Email: [Apply@NSFAS.org.za](mailto:Apply@NSFAS.org.za)

Telephone: 0860 067 327