



DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID (SFA)

2015 Financial Aid

Please read this leaflet carefully and contact the Student Financial Aid Office if you are uncertain about any aspect of financial aid funding as 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
- Students must have passed 50% of all courses registered for in the prior year of study at a tertiary institution
- Applicant must not be under administrative order

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

It is important that you read the following information carefully to understand the financial aid offered to you.

Expected Family Contribution

The financial aid offer is based on your approved Cost of Attendance (COA) below. You are required to only pay your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) towards your COA. Students do not need to pay more than their EFC unless they incur costs not covered by financial aid. The EFC must be paid before the end of June. Students on financial aid are not required to pay the initial fee payments before registration. No refunds will be issued for payments made in excess of the EFC, irrespective of when your financial aid is approved.

UCT Financial Aid Package

Your financial aid package will be based on a National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) loan and UCT administered bursary.

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

The Government has made funding available through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme to assist students to study at tertiary institutions. Through this scheme, students are offered a study loan, which is interest free and has a bursary conversion incentive whilst you are studying. Students are required to have a South African Identity document to take up the loan offer. Further information on NSFAS is available on their website at www.NSFAS.org.za

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

UCT Administered Bursaries

The Bursaries are non-repayable. The Bursary covers the shortfall between your COA, your EFC and your NSFAS offer.

Approved Cost of Study Items & Allowances

The items listed below are different types of costs your financial aid package 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 per annum	Applicable Monthly Allowances from Feb to Nov
Course Fees	Actual normal academic year course fees. You must register for all courses at the start of the year. Courses added in the 2 nd semester will not be funded. Funding for Winter & Summer Term Courses must be applied for separately, terms and conditions apply.	n/a
Catering Residence	Actual residence costs and R1 000 for incidentals, eg toiletries, airtime	R100
Self-Catering Residence	Actual residence costs and R14 500 for food and incidentals	R1 450
Private Accommodation	R34 300 for rent and transport, and R14 500 for food/incidentals. A lease agreement must be submitted to SFA at registration time. No lease, no allowance.	R4 880
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 payment
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 at Student Financial Aid.	R730 Transport only
Spectacles	Once-off assistance for spectacles from an approved service provider. Available on request at Student Financial Aid	

Note: Senior Health Sciences students will receive 11 months allowances due to their longer academic term.

Allowances will be paid directly to your bank account. It is therefore important that you capture your bank details in PeopleSoft Student System during registration.

Accommodation

Cape Town Students: If your home address is in the greater Cape Town area and you wish to stay in UCT residence or private accommodation you must submit a written motivation to the Student Financial Aid office to have these costs covered. This should be submitted before signing into residence or signing a lease agreement. The office will confirm the outcome in writing. You will be responsible for any cost incurred if your request is unsuccessful. It is therefore important that you submit your request before registration and before accepting any accommodation offer.

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.

You are not allowed to change your accommodation type without prior approval, as accommodation changes have cost implications. Should you wish to change your accommodation type you must submit a written motivation to Student Financial Aid for approval.

General Financial Aid and Study Choice Rules & Policies

1. You will only be considered for funding within the minimum duration (n) of the undergraduate programme plus 2 years of study, irrespective of who funded your studies.
 - Only the minimum duration of the PGCE and PG Dip in Music Performance will be funded.
2. You may not change your programme of study without written approval from SFA.
 - If you are approved for a change of programme, we use the initial programme for the n+2 funding formula.
3. If you cancel registration before writing the mid-year exam, all financial aid will be withdrawn. If you cancel after the 2nd semester, your funding will be adjusted accordingly.
4. You are required to contribute your EFC, other funding (external or scholarships) will not reduce or cover EFC.
 - External awards/scholarships will firstly reduce UCT Bursary funding, thereafter NSFAS funding.
5. If you receive full cost external funding you will not be eligible for financial aid and the allocated financial aid will be withdrawn.
6. Financial aid funding will be adjusted for any payments made direct to you by external sponsors. No financial aid student is permitted to be funded more than the approved financial aid Cost of Attendance.
7. You are required to inform Student Financial Aid of other funding received by submitting the letter of funding from the sponsor. Failure to report other sponsorship will result in disciplinary action being taken with a charge of fraud.

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1. You must have met academic eligibility which is set at a minimum pass of 50% of registered courses including any winter and/or summer term courses in the academic year
2. Academic exclusion automatically cancels eligibility for renewal.

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

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We wish you success with your studies