

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: Friday, 19 December 2025

TO: All media

ATTENTION: News Editors/ Reporters:

NSFAS COMMUNICATION ON FUNDING ELIGIBILITY DECISIONS FOR THE 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) confirms that it is started to release funding eligibility decisions from **15 December 2025**, following the conclusion of the 2026 funding application cycle.

The NSFAS 2026 application period opened on **16 September 2025** and closed on **15 November 2025**. During this period, the Scheme received a total of **893,849 applications** from First-Time Entering Students (FTENs) for the 2026 academic year. Continuing students are not required to reapply for NSFAS.

NSFAS is pleased to report significant progress in the assessment process. To date, **481,128** from **SASSA beneficiary applications** have been successfully assessed and issued with funding eligibility decisions. In addition, **49,132 non-SASSA applications** have been assessed with other applications continuing.

All applicants are encouraged to log in to their **myNSFAS portal** to view their current application status and any updates related to their submissions.

Applicants who have received SMS and email notifications regarding outstanding or incorrect documentation are reminded that they have **30 days from the date of notification** to submit the required information. Applications that remain incomplete after this period will not be processed and will remain unsuccessful.

NSFAS remains committed to finalising **all funding eligibility decisions for both first time entering and continuing students by 31 December 2025**, ensuring clarity and certainty for students as they prepare for the 2026 academic year.

The NSFAS Contact Centre will remain operational throughout the festive period to provide support and assist applicants with enquiries related to their applications and funding status.

For further inquiries, please contact NSFAS.

Enquiries: media@nsfas.org.za

Anele Ntswayi – Media Liaison Officer

Issued by the **National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)**

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