



ISFAP

Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme

Press Release
Immediate Release

ISFAP invests over R220 million in ‘wrap-around’ inclusive of psycho-social support for students

Johannesburg, 23 January 2025 – The Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme Foundation NPC (ISFAP) is proud to announce that since 2017, it has invested over R220 million into providing much needed wrap-around support to students who receive bursaries from the organisation. This significant investment underscores ISFAP's commitment to ensuring that students have the comprehensive support that they need to thrive academically as well as personally, as they pursue their qualifications.

"ISFAP is dedicated to supporting deserving students in obtaining tertiary qualifications that meet the demands of our economy," said Werner Abrahams, CEO of ISFAP.

"Our efforts in helping deserving students achieve the goal of graduating from university goes beyond the financial aid that we offer; we are committed to walking alongside our students throughout their journey. From mental health support to life skills training, our goal is to ensure they have everything they need to succeed," Abrahams added.

The ISFAP programme recognises that the path to academic success is not solely defined by financial support. By providing a robust support system, ISFAP aims to empower students to overcome challenges and achieve their educational goals. The organisation's investment in psycho-social support is a testament to its belief that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, regardless of their background.

Yandiswa Ghaleni, a postgraduate student at the University of the Western Cape who is being funded by ISFAP, shares her experience:

“[The] bursary doesn’t only focus on financial support; it [also] supports you as an individual. [I have] access to a Program Manager [who calls, and checks] up on me. I would love to say thank you for giving me this opportunity to focus on my studies and not worry about anything but my grades, and to extend my gratitude towards the ISFAP

team for providing support such as [offering] tutors for the modules that students are struggling with, as well as mentors and check-in calls,” Ghaleni said.

The comprehensive wrap-around support system that ISFAP has developed encompasses the following offerings:

- **Full Tuition Fees Coverage:** Ensuring that financial barriers do not hinder access to education.
- **Accommodation and Meal Allowances:** Providing students with safe living conditions and nutrition to support their studies.
- **Laptops for First-Year Students:** Equipping students with the necessary technology to succeed in their academic pursuits.
- **Psycho-Social Support and Counselling:** Offering mental health resources and counselling services to support emotional well-being.
- **Life Skills and Financial Literacy Training:** Preparing students for life beyond academia by equipping them with essential skills for personal and professional success.

As ISFAP continues to grow and evolve, it remains steadfast in its mission to create a brighter future for students across South Africa. The foundation is proud to play a vital role in shaping the next generation of leaders and professionals who will contribute to the country's economic development.

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About ISFAP

The Ikusasa Student Financial Aid Programme Foundation NPC (ISFAP) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to funding and supporting the higher education of South Africa’s missing middle students. Established in 2017, ISFAP partners with various universities and private sector entities to ensure that students in need can access and succeed in higher education, contributing to the nation’s economic development.

Since 2017, we have maintained a balanced 50% gender split among our students. Notably, female students lead in numbers within the Accounting, Health Sciences, and other specialised Science fields, although their representation is lower in Engineering and IT fields.

For more information about ISFAP please visit www.isfap.org.za