



National Student Financial Aid Scheme

## MEDIA RELEASE

06 MARCH 2019

### NSFAS ADDRESSES UNISA ALLOWANCES ISSUE

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) is concerned following media reports regarding non-payment of allowances for students at University of South Africa (UNISA). NSFAS would like to put it on record that students from this institution should have by now received their allowances as a total of R247 078 688.97 was advanced to the institution on February 06, 2019.

UNISA along with 25 other Universities agreed to administer direct payments of allowances to their students. More than R3 billion was advanced to universities who complied with the preconditions of a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The first tranche of payments was meant to ensure that First-Time Entering Students (FTENs) and senior students who are NSFAS approved receive their allowances as they commence with academic activities.

Universities are required to transfer funds to ensure that students are able to access funds for living expenses (accommodation, food, transport etc) and learning materials, and then secondly apply funding towards paying the first instalment of the tuition fee.

#### FOR MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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#### OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The appointment of Dr Randall Carolissen as the Administrator to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme is in terms of Section 17A (3)(a) of the NSFAS Act (Act 56 of 1999 as amended), effective from August 21, 2018 as published in the Government Gazette by the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mrs Naledi Pandor, MP.