



National Student Financial Aid Scheme

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NSFAS thanks the youth for the 2018 Application Drive

NSFAS applications for 2018 funding have closed and we would like to thank all young people who took part and applied for funding. NSFAS applications opened from 01 August 2017 and remained opened until midnight, 30 November.

"We opened the applications for four months, and in that period we received a total of 267 866 online applications, a quarter of which came through in the last week of applications. We made a promise that our processes will run smoothly, and today we can announce that our online systems did not fail," said NSFAS CEO Steven Zwane.

To ensure that the application campaign was a success, NSFAS employed more than one hundred graduates as Student Support Officers, partnered with NYDA to have point of presence in key town and cities, capacitated the service centred to enable virtual assistance, improved our online systems and simplified our application form. These key intervention made it easier for those in need of financial assistance to apply for NSFAS bursaries and loans.

The patriotism showed by our employees throughout the period is commendable. We are grateful to the NYDA for their support throughout the campaign. When we approached NYDA about our plans and visions for the 2018 application drive they fully committed to our request and offered their support. We would also like to thank all applicants for the step they have taken to be in control of their futures. NSFAS will evaluate all applications throughout the month of December. Applicants who are in Matric this year and out of school youth, will receive the outcomes of their applications via SMS in January 2018. For NSFAS funded students who will be continuing with their studies in 2018, we will reconcile their academic performance data with their respective institutions for their 2018 funding confirmation which will also be shared via SMS and their respective institutions.

NSFAS is fully committed to providing financial assistance to deserving beneficiaries and will continue to show commitment by improving its services.

"We would like to request all the young people who applied not to change the Cellphone numbers they provided in their application forms because NSFAS will use these numbers to send them the outcomes of their applications in January," Zwane concluded.

NSFAS would like commend the next generation for taking charge of their own future by applying for financial aid in order to gain access to institutions of higher learning, and for working hard towards attaining the required acceptance.

Issued by

Steven Zwane
Chief Executive Officer

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