

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: Wednesday, 18 January 2023

TO: All media

ATTENTION: News Editors/ Reports
For Immediate use:

MINISTER NZIMANDE STATEMENT TO OUTLINING THE MEASURES TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH BEGINNING OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2023

The Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande, wishes the 2022 matriculation class well as they are awaiting the announcement of their matriculation results tomorrow, the 19th of January 2022.

Minister Nzimande would like to assure current and prospective students that the announcement and the release of the matriculation results will not affect the state of readiness for the post school education and training 2023 academic year.

Universities registration for the academic year 2023 commenced from the 16th of January and anticipated to close on the 20th February. However, there will be several universities that will allow late registrations.

Prospective students are advised to continue to liaise with the universities of their choices through their communication channels.

Most of our Technical, Vocational and Training Colleges (TVET) have commenced with their teaching and learning including practicals following the successful online registration process. Some of the colleges are still accepting students in areas where the enrolment targets are not met. The Department's TVET branch is monitoring the developments at each college.

Community Colleges opened, on the 11th of January 2023 for inland provinces and opened today, the 18th January 2023 for coastal provinces.

Prospective students are advised to go to their colleges of choice for registration for the academic year 2023.

In order to further assist prospective students, the department has activated the services of the Central Application Clearing House (CACH) to assist individuals to access university, college and skills development opportunities. The system will open on the 24th January to the 31st March 2023.

As part of the Department of Higher Education and Training normal process to work with the sector to prepare for the academic year's registration process, consultation meetings are currently held with various stakeholders including with the Universities South Africa, (Usaf), the South Africa College Principals Organisation (SACPO), the South African Union of Students (SAUS) and South African Technical and Vocation Student Association (SATVESA).

The Minister wishes to also remind students that application results will be communicated to all applicants once NSFAS has received confirmation from the Institution that an academic offer has been made. This will be communicated all students via SMS, email and through student's myNSFAS account.

For further information on the NSFAS application processes, applicants are advised to visit the NSFAS website at www.nsfas.org.za

Further details on our state of readiness will be announced by the Minister before the end of January during the Ministers annual media briefing following the final engagements with all relevant stakeholders within the post school education and training sector.

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