



Teaching makes
a difference...

Information Guide on Initial Teacher Education

Make a difference...
Become a teacher



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Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Information Guide on Initial Teacher Education

Make teaching your career of choice

www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za
www.education.gov.za

Make a difference ... become a teacher



Department of Education

Sol Plaatje House
123 Schoeman Street
Private Bag X895
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Tel: +27 12 312-5911
Fax: +27 12 321-6770

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Contents

Teaching as a career	2
Approved initial teacher education programmes/ qualifications to be completed at a university	3
Areas of specialisation for a B.Ed. and for the PGCE	4
Key information for applicants	5
Funding available for university studies: bursaries and loans	5
The Funza Lushaka (educate the nation) Bursary Programme for teaching	5
Frequently asked questions about the Funza Lushaka bursary	8
Back cover: University contact details	

Teaching makes a difference



The Department of Education is committed to **providing quality education to all learners**. South Africans across the country want a better future for all. By choosing to become a teacher, you would be making this vision a reality.

Teaching as a career

Ten good reasons why you should consider teaching as a career of choice:

- Turn your love of learning into a love of teaching.
- Make the same difference to a child's life as your favourite teacher made to yours.
- Experience the joy of seeing children learn to read, write and count; and set them on a path to success.
- Mould and shape ordinary children into extraordinary citizens.
- Share your knowledge and make the world a better place.
- Help children understand the values that make South Africans strong and proud.
- Ignite the spark of curiosity in children.
- Pass on your love of learning and help students discover their potential.
- See the world through the eyes of a child and learn something in return.
- Serve children, your community and your country.

Approved initial teacher education programmes/ qualifications to be completed at a university

There are different routes open to you:

Undergraduate studies	Undergraduate studies	Graduate studies
A four-year Bachelor of Education degree (B.Ed.), specialising in the Foundation Phase (Grades R – 3); Intermediate Phase (Grades 4 – 6); Senior Phase (Grades 7 – 9); and the Further Education and Training (FET) Phase (Grades 10 –12).	A three or four-year Bachelors degree , e.g. Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Computer Science, Bachelor of Technology, in fields suitable for admission to the one-year programme: Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) .	One-year Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) for graduates whose degrees include majors that allow admission to the PGCE.

You may choose to study for the four-year Bachelor of Education degree and specialise in a range of areas focussing on younger or older children. For instance, if you prefer teaching younger children, you could specialise in the Foundation Phase (Grades R – 3) or in the Intermediate Phase (Grades 4 – 6). On the other hand, if you prefer teaching older children, you could specialise in the Senior Phase (Grades 7 – 9) or the Further Education and Training (FET) Phase (Grades 10 –12).

You may also choose, especially if your areas of choice are the Senior and FET Phases, to complete an academic degree first, e.g. Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Computer Science, Bachelor of Technology, etc., before completing a one-year professional teaching qualification – the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE).

It is important that the academic degree should include subjects/courses suitable for admission to the PGCE.

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Areas of specialisation for a B.Ed. and for the PGCE

Foundation Phase (Grades R – 3)	Intermediate Phase (Grades 4 – 6)	Senior Phase (Grades 7 – 9)	FET Phase (Grades 10 – 12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation phase specialisation: Literacy, Numeracy and Life Skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Languages • Mathematics • Arts and Culture • Economic and Management Sciences • Life Orientation • Natural Sciences • Social Sciences • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and Culture • Economic and Management Sciences • Languages • Life Orientation • Mathematics • Natural Sciences • Social Sciences • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounting • Agricultural Management Practices • Agricultural Sciences • Agricultural Technology • Business Studies • Civil Technology • Computer Applications Technology • Consumer Studies • Dance Studies • Design • Dramatic Arts • Economics • Electrical Technology • Engineering Graphics and Design • Geography • History • Hospitality Studies • Information Technology • Languages • Life Orientation • Life Sciences • Mathematics • Mathematical Literacy • Mechanical Technology • Music • Physical Sciences • Religion Studies • Tourism • Visual Arts

Key information for applicants

It is important to apply for admission to a degree of your choice at a South African university of your choice before the official closing date.

Any of the following people may apply for admission:

- Learners currently in Grade 12
- Graduates who want to complete a teaching qualification
- People who want to make a career change and become teachers
- Unemployed people who want to become teachers

It is important to note that admission to any university will be in accordance with that university's rules of admission. Contact the university of your choice for more information. Contact details for each public university appear on the back cover of this brochure.

Funding available for university studies: bursaries and loans

You can choose from a range of sources when it comes to funding your studies. These include self-funding; bursaries from government departments – both national and provincial; bursaries from corporate organisations, trusts and the like; as well as taking out a loan.

From time to time, the provincial education departments (PEDs) also offer service bursaries to prospective teachers. Student loans are available via the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) at www.nsfas.org.za. You may apply for NSFAS loans at your university's Financial Aid Office. Some banks and other financial services providers also grant student loans.

The Funza Lushaka (educate the nation) Bursary Programme for teaching

The Department of Education offers full-cost service bursaries (the Funza Lushaka bursary) to deserving capable first-year students who want to make teaching their career of choice, to graduates who want to complete the one-year professional teaching qualification, namely the PGCE, as well as to students in their second, third or fourth year of study who want to pursue teaching as a career. The bursary covers tuition fees; full accommodation that includes meals; books and other learning material; as well as a monthly allowance for living expenses.

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Universities have different cost structures, so the total value of a bursary may differ from institution to institution. The Funza Lushaka bursary is awarded to deserving capable students who specialise in the following priority areas:

The **current priority areas** for the **Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme** are:

Foundation Phase (Grades R – 3)	Intermediate Phase (Grades 4 – 6)	Senior Phase (Grades 7 – 9)	FET Phase (Grades 10 –12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foundation Phase specialisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• African Languages• English Language• Mathematics• Natural Sciences• Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• African Languages• English Language• Mathematics• Natural Sciences• Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• African Languages• Agricultural Sciences• Agricultural Technology• Civil Technology• Computer Applications Technology• Electrical Technology• Engineering Graphics and Design• English Language• Information Technology• Life Sciences· Mathematics• Mathematical Literacy• Mechanical Technology• Physical Sciences

You need to apply for admission to obtain a teaching qualification (a B.Ed. or a PGCE) or a Bachelors degree (e.g. B.Sc., BTech, B.A.) with at least one major course in a priority area, at a university of your choice. You can only apply for a bursary once you have gained admission to a university. The Financial Aid

Make teaching your career of choice



Office and/or the Faculty or School of Education at your university will provide you with information on how to apply for the bursary. Also visit www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za for more information.

The bursary is awarded for one academic year at a time and, upon proof of academic success, the bursary may be renewed each year until you have qualified as a teacher. As a bursary holder, you will be required to reapply by the end of October for the following year. You will be required to do one year of teaching for every year for which you have received a bursary.

What the bursary covers

A Funza Lushaka bursary covers all your essential expenses. These include tuition, full accommodation that includes meals, books and other learning material, as well as a monthly allowance for living expenses including travel costs and the like.

Universities have different cost structures, so the total value of a bursary may differ from institution to institution, and may also differ between students at the same institution, depending on the programmes they are studying.

Conditions for repeating a year

The bursary period may be extended to cover one additional year for a degree programme, or the time required for completion of one additional course in the PGCE programme. Only one such extension will be granted. Any additional time required will be at your own cost.

Conditions for repayment of a bursary

The bursary has to be repaid only if you fail to qualify, fail to apply for a teaching post with a provincial education department (PED) at a public school, fail to take up a teaching post with a PED at a public school, leave a teaching post with a PED before the end of your contracted service period, or fail to meet a requirement of the bursary agreement.

Frequently asked questions about the Funza Lushaka Bursary programme

The programme

1. What is the Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme?

It is a new multi-year programme, which was launched in 2007, to promote teaching at public schools as the career of choice for able and committed South Africans. Full-cost bursaries are available to enable eligible students to complete a full teaching qualification in an area of national priority. Recipients of a Funza Lushaka bursary are required to teach in a provincial education department (PED) for the same number of years for which they have received a bursary.

Roles and responsibilities

2. How are the roles and responsibilities, pertaining to the Funza Lushaka Programme, divided?

This is a national programme that is run locally at every higher education institution (HEI) that offers teacher education programmes. It is funded by the National Treasury and executed by the Department of Education (DoE).

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) administers the programme on behalf of the DoE via the Student Financial Aid Office at each HEI.

Eligible students must meet the admission criteria of the academic programme at the HEI to which they apply, and must meet the national selection criteria for a Funza Lushaka bursary. Provincial selection committees are constituted to guide the selection. (See paragraphs 13 to 16 on selection matters.)

Once qualified, bursary recipients are employed by a PED.

Applications and eligibility

3. How do I apply?

Prospective bursars must first apply for admission at a higher education institution. Once you have gained admission to a university, you can apply

for a bursary. The Financial Aid Office and/or the Faculty or School of Education at your university will provide you with information on how to apply for a bursary.

4. Where can I obtain more information about the bursary programme?

Student financial aid offices will provide details regarding financial matters, service obligations, etc. Staff members of the Faculty or School of Education will provide information on teaching as a profession, academic programmes and your eligibility for admission. For more information, log onto www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za.

5. How does an institution determine whether a student's academic programme complies with the priority areas' selection criteria?

The bursary programme is designed to boost the recruitment of teachers, especially in priority areas. In most cases, the Faculty or School of Education staff members will be able to determine whether a student's programme fits the teaching priority areas. In complicated cases, staff will have to use their own judgement, bearing in mind the purpose of the programme.

6. What are the priority areas?

Grades R – 9: Foundation Phase; African Languages; English Language; Mathematics; Natural Sciences; Technology.

Grades 10 – 12: African Languages; English Language; Mathematics; Mathematical Literacy; Agricultural Sciences; Life Sciences; Physical Sciences; Agricultural Technology; Civil Technology; Electrical Technology; Mechanical Technology; Information Technology; Computer Applications Technology; and Engineering Graphics and Design.

7. What programmes will be funded?

- Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.);
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE); and
- Bachelors degrees, e.g. B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. and BTech degrees, with majors that are suitable for admission to a PGCE programme, which you, as the recipient of the bursary, will agree to enter into upon graduation. At least one of the major subjects of these degrees must be selected from the list of priority area subjects.

8. Are there official quotas for the distribution of bursaries according to programme, year of study or priority area?

Yes. The distribution according to programme will be determined by the DoE, depending on national priorities. Students in any year of study will be considered, provided that at least one major subject for their degree comes from the list of priority area subjects.

9. Are first-year students eligible?

Yes, first-year students in the appropriate programmes are eligible.

10. Are Advanced Certificate in Education (ACE) students eligible?

No. Funza Lushaka bursaries are available only for the initial professional education of teachers.

11. Are distance education and part-time students eligible for a bursary?

Yes, provided they are eligible in all other respects.

Selection matters

12. Who should sit on a bursary selection committee?

Provincial selection committees will be constituted to guide the selection of bursars. The composition of the committees must be such so as to include academic staff members from the Faculty or School of Education, representatives of the financial aid offices of the HEIs in the province, as well as experienced professional representatives of the PED concerned.

13. What selection criteria should be applied?

The criteria applied by the selection committee must be clear, empirically-based, transparent and documented, and must include:

- *Academic ability.*
- *Eligibility for one of the academic programmes for which the bursary is granted.*
- *Commitment to a teaching career, which includes an interest in working with young people; enthusiasm for a professional career in teaching; readiness to face and surmount difficult challenges; and personal integrity.*
- *Commitment to teach at any school to which a you, as a student, may be appointed by a PED.*

All else being equal, selection should favour candidates from rural areas, candidates who wish to teach in rural areas, and candidates whose financial position would otherwise exclude them from enrolment for a teaching qualification.

14. Will late applications for admission to a university be considered?

This is a matter for each institution to determine in terms of its admission procedures. Institutions may consider late applications if they still have places to fill.

15. Will late applications for a bursary be considered?

The deadline for first-time bursary applications is set so that it accommodates students who may gain late admission to the university. Therefore, late applications for the bursary will not be considered.

Money matters

16. Have HEIs been allocated a certain number of bursaries or received a specific allocation of funds for bursaries?

Institutions receive funds, not bursaries. Each institution will pay out bursary funds in accordance with the purpose of the programme and its own cost structure.

17. What happens when institutions are not able to use all the funds allocated to them?

If some institutions are unable to use all the funds allocated to them, the balance will be redistributed amongst other institutions where the demand is greater. This will be done once the situation has been monitored at the end of the normal registration period.

18. How much is a Funza Lushaka bursary worth?

Funza Lushaka bursaries cover all the recipient's essential expenses. Institutions have different cost structures, so the total value of a bursary may differ from institution to institution, and possibly even between individual students within an institution.

19. What does a bursary cover?

Registration fees, tuition fees, residence fees or approved accommodation and the cost of meals, a book and learning material allowance, as well as a monthly allowance for living expenses.

- 20. May a student accept a bursary for fewer years than the number of years required to complete a programme?**

Yes, provided that the bursary covers the year in which the teaching qualification is completed.

- 21. May I as a student, accept less per annum than the total amount on offer?**

Yes. However, for every year that the bursary is received, you must serve one year in a provincial teaching post. This is regardless of the amount that you accept.

- 22. May a student who has another bursary receive a full-cost Funza Lushaka bursary?**

If the terms and conditions of the two bursaries do not conflict with each other, the student could retain that bursary, as well as accept a Funza Lushaka bursary. If the other bursary carries conditions that will prohibit the student from satisfying conditions attached to the Funza Lushaka bursary, e.g. the service obligation, then the student should not apply for the Funza Lushaka bursary.

- 23. If I have to repeat a year, will the bursary be paid for that extra year?**

The bursary period will be extended to cover one additional year of study for a degree programme or the time required for completion of one additional course in the PGCE programme. Only one such extension will be granted. Any additional time required will be at your own cost. Granting of an extension is, however, not automatic. You will have to show that you have been diligent with regard to your studies.

- 24. Who pays for costs incurred over and above the allocated bursary amount?**

You, as the student.

- 25. Is the bursary renewable?**

Yes. The bursary is awarded for one academic year at a time and, upon proof of academic success, the bursary may be renewed each year until you have qualified as a teacher. However, as recipient of the bursary, you are required to reapply every year for the renewal of the bursary.

- 26. How will my accommodation and living expenses be paid?**

In accordance with the institution's normal practice with regard to NSFAS awards.

Service agreement

- 27. Must I, as the recipient of a bursary, receive a copy of the service agreement?**

Yes. You must carefully read the agreement before signing it, and a signed copy must then be given to you. A copy of the agreement documentation can be accessed from the Funza Lushaka website (www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za).

- 28. For how many years will I, as the recipient of a bursary, be required to teach?**

You will be required to teach one year for every year for which you have received a bursary.

- 29. If a student changes from an NSFAS loan to a Funza Lushaka bursary, will the years pertaining to the NSFAS loan form part of the service contract?**

No. The NSFAS loan and the bursary have different conditions.

- 30. Must the bursary be repaid?**

The bursary has to be repaid only if you fail to qualify, fail to apply for a teaching post with a PED at a public school, fail to take up a teaching post with a PED at a public school, leave a teaching post with a PED before the end of your contracted service period, or otherwise fail to meet a requirement of the bursary agreement.

- 31. How much will have to be repaid?**

The full amount of the bursary received in terms of the programme, less one year's funding for every year spent teaching at a public school.

- 32. Will interest have to be paid on the amount owing?**

Yes, at an interest rate determined from time to time by NSFAS.

- 33. Who determines the placement of newly qualified teachers in terms of the programme?**

Qualified recipients of bursaries must apply for an appropriate public school position with the PED of their choice. The PED concerned will determine whether there is a suitable post available. If not, the applicant will be offered employment with a PED that does have suitable vacancies. Offers of employment will be made subject to the Employment of Educators Act, 1998, and the South African Schools Act, 1996.

34. Are Funza Lushaka bursary recipients eligible for school governing body (SGB) posts at public schools?

No. As a bursar you may only accept an SGB post after you have fulfilled your contractual obligations to a PED.

35. Are Funza Lushaka bursary recipients able to take a “gap year” immediately after qualifying?

No. Students are required to accept a teaching post immediately after qualifying; i.e. an extension will not be granted to a qualifying student.

36. Will an extension be granted to qualifying students to complete further studies?

No. Students are required to accept a teaching post immediately after qualifying; i.e. an extension will not be granted to a qualifying student.

37. Are foreign students eligible for Funza Lushaka bursaries?

No. NSFAS will not enter into a contract with a foreign student or a student who holds a temporary resident’s permit.

More information

38. Where can additional information be obtained?

Information on the Funza Lushaka Programme may be obtained from www.education.gov.za or from www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za.

Contact details for South African public universities

University of Cape Town

Tel: 021 650 4500
Private Bag X3
RONDEBOSCH 7701
Western Cape
www.uct.ac.za

North West University

Tel: 018 299 1111
Private Bag X6001
POTCHEFSTROOM 2520
North West
www.unw.ac.za

Walter Sisulu University

Tel: 047 502 2111
Private Bag X1
UMTATA 5100
Eastern Cape
www.wsu.ac.za

University of Fort Hare

Tel: 040 602 2011
Private Bag X1314
ALICE 5700
Eastern Cape
www.ufh.ac.za

University of Pretoria

Tel: 012 420 4111
PRETORIA 0002
Gauteng
www.up.ac.za

University of Venda

Tel: 015 962 8000
Private Bag X2220
THOHOYANDOU 0950
Limpopo
www.univen.ac.za

University of the Free State

Tel: 051 401 9111
PO Box 339
BLOEMFONTEIN 9300
Free State
www.ufs.ac.za

Tshwane University of Technology

Tel: 012 382 5911
Private Bag X680
PRETORIA 0002
Gauteng
www.tut.ac.za

University of the Western Cape

Tel: 021 959 2911
Private Bag X17
BELLVILLE 7535
Western Cape
www.uwc.ac.za

University of Johannesburg

Tel: 011 559 2911
PO Box 524
AUCKLAND PARK 2006
Gauteng
www.uj.ac.za

Durban University of Technology

Tel: 031 373 2000
PO Box 1334
DURBAN 4000
KwaZulu-Natal
www.dut.ac.za

University of the Witwatersrand

Tel: 011 717 1000
PO WITS 2050
Gauteng
www.wits.ac.za

University of KwaZulu-Natal

Tel: 031 650 4500
DURBAN 4041
KwaZulu-Natal
www.ukzn.ac.za

Rhodes University

Tel: 046 603 8111
PO Box 94
GRAHAMSTOWN 6140
Eastern Cape
www.ru.ac.za

University of Zululand

Tel: 035 902 6000
Private Bag X1001
KwaDLANGEZWA 3886
KwaZulu-Natal
www.unizul.ac.za

University of Limpopo

Tel: 015 268 9111
Private Bag X1106
SOVENGA 0727
Limpopo
www.ul.ac.za

University of South Africa

Tel: 012 429 3111
PO Box 392
UNISA 0003
Gauteng
www.unisa.ac.za

Central University of Technology

Tel: 051 507 3911
Private Bag X20539
BLOEMFONTEIN 9300
Free State
www.cut.ac.za

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

Tel: 041 504 3111
PO Box 1600
PORT ELIZABETH
Eastern Cape
www.nmmu.ac.za

University of Stellenbosch

Tel: 021 808 9111
Private Bag X1
MATIELAND 7602
Western Cape
www.us.ac.za

Cape Peninsula University of Technology

Tel: 021 680 1500
PO Box 652
CAPE TOWN 8000
Western Cape
www.cput.ac.za