



# Presentation about NSFAS

SIKHO QWATEKANE

MANGOSUTHU UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

0738011229

QWATEKANE@GMAIL.COM

# Introduction

- ▶ National students financial aid scheme (NSFAS) is a loan or a funding that is provided by government to students who are coming from a previously disadvantaged backgrounds.
- ▶ NSFAS has its own criteria to select people who are eligible or deserve to be funded. NSFAS only caters for South African citizen.
- ▶ NSFAS helps needy students pay their registration fees, tuition fees, accommodation, grant them meal allowances and books allowance.

# Benefits from using NSFAS

- ▶ As a student who comes from a previously disadvantaged background without parents depended on my grandfather I stand firm to say that I benefited a lot from NSFAS.
- ▶ When I firstly came to Mangosuthu University of Technology I was frustrated and stranded because I had no money to pay for my registration, up until I reached a stage whereby I was introduced to Financial Aid offices and that is where I got help from NSFAS to fund my registration.
- ▶ Since then I was a happy man even now i am still benefiting from NSFAS. As I have mentioned above that NSFAS pays for registration, tuition, gives meal allowances and book allowances I also enjoy those benefits from NSFAS, this had also relieved a heavy load from my grandfather.

# Privilege of using NSFAS

- ▶ In our institution we are very privileged because all students who deserve and qualify to for NSFAS are granted which makes our lives very easy, because I would like to believe that in order for the country to be developed it needs educated people
- ▶ There are many people who want to study but doesn't have money to fund their studies, it is very painful to see young people staying on streets due to the fact that they are encountering or suffering from the poverty of funds.

# Challenges from using NSFAS

- ▶ There are some challenges we are facing from NSFAS which also needs to be addressed like: Accommodation, Meal allowances and Book allowances, duration period
- ▶ NSFAS has the jurisdiction or restrictions when it comes to pay for accommodation of about a 20kilometres radius which makes our lives not easy because for the fact that you need NSFAS it means you also need to accommodation.
- ▶ Another thing is the amount of money we receive for Meals and Books in not sufficient and it doesn't arrive at time we are getting it very late. I would like to believe that food is a basic need and no one can go to a journey with empty stomach.

# Concerns and frustration

- ▶ When we are going in classes we need books but we don't have them because they are too expensive and the money we get is not sufficient, the money is also injected very late in our accounts sometimes get it after writing our first assessment tests
- ▶ There is another criteria that also deprives students which says NSFAS can only cover you for a period of 5 years, so the question arise what about those slow learning students or student who has 2 more modules to finish his/her course?
- ▶ Are we saying that student no longer needs assistant from NSFAS?
- ▶ Are we promoting more people to stay at home because they don't have money?
- ▶ Are we saying those students must go on the streets and be the thugs in order for them to pay their studies?
- ▶ In University academic excellence is the daily bread but now how are going to excel academically whereas we still have such hindrances

# Online application system

- ▶ I understand that there is a new system of applying online via the central office applications at Cape Town which I think not effective for us.
- ▶ I believe that the government imposed this system merely to catch all those students who were defrauding and faking their documents.
- ▶ In my point of view I tend to be in contrary to this system based on a fact that there are many students who needs NSFAS and in our country we need educated people in order to uplift the economy but now if students are going to suppressed by this online system it means no development is done rather we go back where were during the past
- ▶ It must never be the case that students don't get NSFAS whereas they need it or deserve to get.

# Recommendation

- ▶ The system has been tested in various institutions and we have saw a number strikes from those universities which I think it's also drags down the economy and is hindering the progress of the prosperity in the country
- ▶ Our former president Dr Nelson Mandela once said “education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”
- ▶ now if our government is really willing to let us change the world and be fruitful to our country must grant all deserving students NSFAS and we request that our all old system of applying for NSFAS still continues to be administrated in campus.



# Conclusion

- ▶ In order to address the above issues I think it will be very wise for the government to enforce all universities to introduce entrepreneurship skills in all faculties so as to address the challenge of unemployment rate.
- ▶ The system of education we have only teaches us how to be the Berger's in our society but no creators.
- ▶ Free education is also another mechanism that the government can use so as to address the issue of having inadequate funds for NSFAS
- ▶ in Dubai and Cuba we have saw the system of free education works so we also believe that nothing can hinder South Africa from doing so.
- ▶ I lobby all students and a working class at large to rally behind the struggle of free quality and compulsory education.

# THE END

- ▶ Any form of intellectual influence will form part of political input, increase your intellectual stamina it will be your political influence

▶ Thank you