



**higher education
& training**

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**BUFFALO CITY
TVET COLLEGE**

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COLLEGE SUBMISSION TO THE FEES-COMMISSION

1. INTRODUCTION

In response to a request from The Presidential Commission of Inquiry into Higher Education and Training (The Fees Commission), the Buffalo City TVET College Council wishes to make the following submission.

The College is of the view that all South African prospective learners who meet the minimum entry requirements of their chosen programmes and who wish to study at an institution of higher learning should not be excluded for financial reasons. Learners that can afford higher education must fund themselves, however student representative body believes that education should be free for all regardless of the financial status of the students.

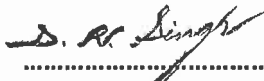
2. FUNDING PRINCIPLES

- The fees referred to above include all costs associated with full-time study at a higher education institution. These include: tuition, accommodation, food, study material, an allowance for personal living expenses and transport.
- A strong emphasis on academic performance. A learner who fails to meet an accepted level of academic performance should be immediately excluded from the programme and replaced with another learner. Funds need to be allocated to bridging/extended programmes to provide academic support to learners as basic education, in the main, does not adequately prepare a learner for higher education.
- An interest free loan system to be associated with this financial support. Graduates wishing to immigrate within a period of (i.e. 5 years) need to pay back the value of the benefits received. Repayments to be made once a graduate begins earning. This will provide sustainability of the system.
- A strong emphasis on the eradication of fraud and corruption. In particular, the verification of documents provided by learners seeking financial assistance.
- The bulk of these funds to be sourced from government. However, careful attention needs to be taken that this will not have a detrimental effect on economic growth which is a key component in assuring jobs for young graduates.
- To encourage institutions of higher learning to obtain third stream income from forming partnerships with commerce and industry

3. AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

- Criteria to be put in place to measure the capability of an institution of higher learning to run its own affairs within the relevant statutory requirements.
- Encourage all institutions of higher learning to become autonomous and independent and for government to provide support, where needed, to realise this objective.
- To focus on both annual internal and external audit reports to ensure continuous adherence to best practice in all spheres.
- The FEES-COMMISSION need to look at roles and responsibilities regarding oversight, monitoring and evaluation by DHET, Council Management and SRC and any other significant role players.

Kind regards



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D.R. Singh

PRINCIPAL

BUFFALO CITY TVET COLLEGE