sport, arts & culture
Department:
Sport, Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DSAC BURSARIES FOR HERITAGE RELATED STUDIES: 2027

The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture invites applications for bursaries from tertiary students from Undergraduates and Postgraduates institutions accredited and registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training who wish to pursue studies in heritage related programmes.

Closing date for applications: 31 January 2027.

Eligibility

- South African citizenship.
- Not older than forty (40) years.
- Outstanding / satisfactory academic performance. (Academic Threshold of 65%)
- Field of study must be heritage related.
- Not employed full time by government, state agencies or private sector.
- Household income should not exceed R350 000 per annum.
- Applicants must be full-time students
- Students are allowed to benefit from other bursaries and donors on condition that it covers a shortfall.
- Students studying or intending to study at an accredited and registered institution of higher learning.

Value of the bursary

- The maximum value of the bursary is R110 000 per student.
- The total amount of tuition fees will be covered.
- The total amount of prescribed books will be covered.
- Electronic devices not costing more than R10 000.
- Accommodation: R 50 000 maximum amount (***NB*** where applicable)
- Meals: R 18 500 maximum amount (***NB*** where applicable)
- Transportation: R20 000 maximum amount (**NB** where applicable)
- **NB**: Funds are payable directly to the higher institution of learning

Fields of study

- Physical and Biological Anthropology
- Archaeology (Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Archaeology)
- Geography and Geomatic sciences and preferably Postgraduates specialising in Cartography and GIS
- Archives and Records management

- Library and Information sciences
- Conservation of the built environment including preventive conservation (Postgrads specialising in Conservation)
- Heritage and Museum studies: Management, Curatorship and Preservation
- Palaeontology
- Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) or Courses that contribute to the preservation and promotion of Indigenous Knowledge Systems
- History
- Digitisation of heritage resources

International Studies

- Maritime Archaeology and Underwater cultural heritage
- Digital Heritage
- Heritage Conservation and Preservation

Documents to attach

To be considered, you must attach all the following required documents:

*Any certified copy must not be older than three (3) months

- Certified copy of a valid South African identity document.
- Letter of Provisional Acceptance or Proof of Registration written on the institution's letterhead and signed. No screenshots will be accepted.
- Certified copy of senior national certificate (Matric) and a copy of latest academic results or progress report for those who are already doing post graduate studies.
- Certified proof of household income.
- Certified latest payslip (not older than three months)
- Proof of disability (if applicable to the applicant)
- Provide affidavit confirming that the salary advice/ payment slips of parents/ guardians are authentic.

Before you apply for the Heritage Bursary, please reflect on the following questions:

1. Have you provisionally/been admitted to study in the 2027 academic year?

2. Does your qualification fall within the fields of study highlighted above?
   NB: Application will not be accepted if the study field does not fall within the list highlighted above.

Students awarded the heritage bursary in academic year of 2026 ***must*** apply again to receive the bursary for the academic year of 2027.

NB: The department is only able to award 45 to 50 applicants. Therefore, submitting an application does not automatically mean that the applicant will be awarded the bursary.

An application will not be considered if all required documents are not uploaded and submitted.

Successful applicants will be required to sign a Code of Conduct with the Department.

Enquiries regarding the bursary applications should be directed to:
Ms Reinette Stander: reinettes@dsac.gov.za; or
Mr Maano Muhadi: maanom@dsac.gov.za

Closing date for applications is 31 January 2027.
No late applications will be accepted. Applications not submitted via the online platform will not be considered.

Applicants should consider their applications unsuccessful if they have not received a reply by 31 March 2027.