



**Publication:** Germiston City News - Main  
**Title:** Hard work pays off for bursary beneficiaries  
**Publish date:** 23 Feb 2024  
**Page:** 10

**Reach:** 29753  
**AVE:**R 42601.33  
**Author:** Staff Reporter



Jumping with excitement are some of 100 bursary recipients with the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Sihle Zikalala and his deputy, Bernice Swarts.

## Hard work pays off for bursary beneficiaries

Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure Sihle Zikalala visited the Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre recently to award 100 bursary recipients from various provinces.

The selected beneficiaries have enrolled to study various built environment courses, such as construction project management, occupational health and safety and quantity surveying at universities across the country.

Zikalala said during the award ceremony, attended by various dignitaries, this is the 10th year that the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure has offered these bursaries to address the challenges of the skills pipeline and transformation in the built environment.

"Our university bursary scheme is one way through which we respond to the country's occupation skills in high demand as gazetted by the Department of Higher Education

and Training.

"We support our valued bursary beneficiaries financially throughout their tertiary studies until graduation. Upon completion of studies, bursary holders join the department's internship programme wherein they gain relevant technical experience for 24 months in line with their contractual obligation to the department and by the DPSA-regulated internship period," said Zikalala.

The minister added the estimated budget per student is R177 500. This amount varies based on the institution and study programme. The department has allocated nearly R18m for the 2024 academic year new intake.

The bursary covers all university costs, including tuition fees, accommodation, meals, textbooks, projects, excursions, and a monthly allowance.



The Department of Public Works and Infrastructure Minister Sihle Zikalala and his Deputy Minister, Bernice Swarts visited Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre recently to award 100 bursary recipients from various provinces.



A proud moment: Learners from Free State and Queenstown with Deputy Minister of Public Works Bernice Swarts at the bursary ceremony held at Kopanong Hotel and Conference Centre recently. From left: Masibulele Ndebeni (Nkwanca Public High School), Kamva Ninjiza (Nkwanca Public High School), Biko Banda (Nkwanca Public High School), Thabang Moloi (Lerato-Uthando Comprehensive Secondary School) and Lindokuhle Kubheka (Lerato-Uthando Comprehensive Secondary School).