



public works
& infrastructure

Department:
Public Works and Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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079 416 5996**

Enquiries: Zara Nicholson:

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MEDIA INVITATION

MINISTER PATRICIA DE LILLE TO HAND OVER BURSARIES TO MATRICULANTS ENROLLED FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT COURSES AT SOUTH AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES

On Thursday, 26 January 2023, Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure, Patricia de Lille will hand over bursaries to matriculants who have enrolled to study various built environment courses at universities across the country for the 2023 academic year.

The awarding of the bursaries forms part of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure's (DPWI) Skills Pipeline Programme as part of government's efforts to bring more skilled professionals into the public sector and specifically the built environment.

As part of building a capable and ethical state, the DPWI annually awards bursaries to pupils in need of financial assistance, who display excellence and have been accepted for courses in the built environment for their tertiary education.

The DPWI has a Bursary Programme linked to an overall Skills Pipeline project whereby pupils are encouraged on school level to consider careers in the built environment.

Another key aim of the DPWI Bursary Programme is to remove financial barriers by providing funding for disadvantaged students to access built environment qualifications.

The programme further aims to increase the number of built environment professionals from previously disadvantaged groups to represent the demographics of the country and ensure transformation of the built environment sector.

The programme also serves as feeder to the department's Internship and Young Professionals Programme and later form a pool of qualified built environment professionals to serve the state in the delivery of infrastructure projects.

The bursary accommodates the following study areas: Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Marine Engineering, Property Studies / Real Estate, Actuarial Science, Quantity Surveying, Construction Project Management, Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Town and Regional Planning.

The bursary covers tuition, accommodation, meals, textbooks, project and compulsory study resources and a monthly allowance.

Over the past 9 years, DPWI has awarded bursaries to 452 students since the programme started in 2014, an investment of R160 million into the lives of the students and to bring the required skills into the public sector.

This year Minister de Lille will hand over bursaries to more than 70 students who recently matriculated and have been accepted to study at various universities across the country for built environment degrees. Many of the students have achieved excellent results in the recent matric exams, many of them achieving distinctions in Maths and Physics.

The students have been accepted for courses such as Actuarial Science, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering and other built environment courses.

Minister de Lille will hand over bursary award certificates to the students at a ceremony where previous bursary beneficiaries will also give testimonials on how these bursaries have assisted them to enter and thrive in careers in the built environment. Details of the bursary awards ceremony are as follows.

Details of the hand over event are as follows:

Date: Thursday 26 January 2023

Time: 12h00 - 14h30

Location: Protea Fire & Ice Hotel, Summit Place Precinct, 221 Garsfontein Road, Menlyn, Pretoria

All media are welcome to attend.

ENDS

Enquiries: Zara Nicholson, Media Liaison Officer to Minister Patricia de Lille

Mobile: 079 416 5996

Email: zara.nicholson@dpw.gov.za