

PEF

Presbyterian Educational Fund

A Bursary Fund of the
Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa

1. WHAT IS the PEF?

The Presbyterian Educational Fund was established in 1972 by the General Assembly of the then PCSA when the denomination celebrated its 75th birthday.

Initial funds were raised by as many members as possible donating amounts equivalent to an hour's income.

Income continues to come in from congregations, individuals and the church's associations, bequests, trusts and gifts in memory of loved ones.

Grants from certain Trusts were also used and the capital was increased **when the Women's Association's educational fund was merged** with the PEF.

The Fund is run by a task team reporting to the Education and Training Committee appointed by the General Assembly of the UPCSA.

The cost of the administration of the Fund is carried by the UPCSA through assessment income.

This means that all income (from interest and donations received) goes directly towards the bursaries awarded.

The Fund is part of the Christian outreach of the UPCSA.

CELEBRATING

more than 40 YEARS

of

EMPOWERMENT through EDUCATION

2. WHAT IS a PEF BURSARY?

It is a **contribution towards fees** (never full payment of fees) made on behalf of someone (who meets the criteria in 3. below), who **does not have the financial means to fund his/her own studies fully.**

i.e. the Fund aims to help those members of the UPCSA who would otherwise not have the opportunity to finish their schooling or continue with further training after finishing their schooling, because they cannot afford it. Contributions vary greatly and may be as little as 10% of fees.

High School learners are given priority.

3. WHO MAY APPLY FOR A BURSARY?

a) A **MEMBER of the UPCSA** who is under 25 years of age and is in good standing (a Communicant members of the UPCSA), whether resident in South Africa, Zimbabwe or Zambia, **OR**

b) a **CHILD** of a member of the UPCSA who will be in High School or at a post-secondary institution of learning (a college, university, university of technology, etc.) in the year in which s/he will receive assistance from the Fund.

4. WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AN AWARD?

i) Any child **not yet in High School** (Bursaries are **not granted for primary school** years, but a child currently in Grade 7 may apply for a bursary for the following year when s/he will be in High School) **OR**

ii) Anyone who is **already 25 years of age or turning 25 in the year in which s/he would be studying.** (Bursaries are **not available to adults**)

5. WHAT ACADEMIC STANDARDS ARE REQUIRED?

Results must equal or exceed the standard required by the fund:

- Applying for bursary for Grade 8 / Form I: average over all subjects of **65% or more**
- Applying for bursary for Grade 9 / Form II onwards: average over all subjects of **NO LESS THAN 50%**

Applying for university / college **after** final year at school, but before any post school study, requires an overall average of **no less than 50%** in the final school exams.

Border-line cases **may be** assisted on a term by term (semester by semester) basis, at the discretion of the Task Team, but assistance falls away immediately the learner/student fails to achieve, and then maintain, the required 50% average. Continued assistance is dependent on the submission of every school (term) / college (semester) report, showing that the requirements have been met before subsequent payment is made. Alternatively, a smaller amount may be awarded.