

Funding assistance options and opportunities 2025

Here are a few financial assistance options and opportunities students may wish to explore:

Bank loans

Financial institutions offer loans to students to pay for their studies. As a student, you may be required to service the loan and interest while you study and then pay back the capital to the financial institution as is stipulated by the bank's terms and conditions.

Absa, Capitec, Standard Bank, and Nedbank offer various loan options to students with outstanding debt.

Student Hero assists students and their families to apply, qualify, and compare affordable student finance offers from major South African banks and alternate finance providers; this is done from a single online platform at no cost.

Manati is a student funding organisation providing innovative funding solutions. They are a unique funder as they consider joint household income and have a more lenient credit criterion. As an alternative loan providing platform, their typical client would not, under normal circumstances, qualify for a bank loan or a student loan.

- For more detailed information on the various bank loans available, please click on this [Bank Loans](#) tab.

Crowdfunding

Feenix is an online crowdfunding platform that provides students with the tools to formalise their fundraising efforts and a channel for funders to find students they wish to support. There are financial eligibility criteria that must be met before you can register.

For more information, visit the [Feenix](#) website.

Stellenbosch University Funding Opportunities

Applications for the **2025 Stellenbosch University Funding Opportunities (SUFO)** reopen for undergraduates only from 3 – 28 March 2025.

It is recommended that you read through the [application process](#) information online and prepare your support documents in the meantime. All undergraduate students are encouraged to apply annually for SUFO. This means you will then be registered on the financial database and be considered for funding should your financial circumstances change unexpectedly during the 2025 academic year.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You will only be notified of the outcome of your SUFO application by the end of June 2025. In instances where financial assistance is needed urgently, it is recommended that students initially secure a bank/study loan, and then apply for SUFO during the application period.

The 2026 SUFO applications for undergraduates will open 1 July – 30 September 2025. Dates are subject to change.

Online research for private funding

There are numerous websites that list available private bursaries and funding by category and/or closing date. As a starting point, here are a few for to review: [Allbursaries](#); [gostudy](#); [Bursaries South Africa](#).

For more information: [Centre for Undergraduate Bursaries and Loans](#)