

Sondeza Absa Bursary Scheme

Every year a maximum of five study bursaries may be awarded to top performing Sondeza delegates who will be studying full-time for a B degree at an accredited South African university after completion of their Grade 12 school year, provided they meet the criteria as set out below.

Qualifying criteria and conditions of bursary grant:

Studies must be related to the Financial Services Industry, within the following study fields:

- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Accounting towards the CA qualification
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Actuarial Sciences
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Mathematical Sciences
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Informatics
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Statistics
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Risk Management
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Human Resource Management
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Agricultural Sciences
- Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Industrial Psychology
- National Diploma, Bachelor or postgraduate degree in Engineering

The study fields above may change in future as the needs of Absa may change.

The prospective student must:

- Be accepted by and registered as a full-time student of an accredited South African University for studies related to the Financial Services Industry.
- Have passed all his/her subjects and must have obtained a minimum aggregate of 80% in the June as well as the December Grade 12 exams.
- Be proficient in English (reading, writing and speaking).
- Be a South African citizen or permanent resident of South Africa with proof of permanent resident status or a Namibian citizen.
- Have no criminal record.

Terms and conditions after having been granted a bursary:

After having been granted a bursary the terms and conditions will include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Bursars are expected to complete their qualification within the disciplines as agreed with Absa.
2. Bursars must maintain a minimum academic aggregate of 70% throughout the course of studies.
3. Bursars may be requested to participate in relevant project work at Absa.
4. Bursars will be expected to actively participate in skills training provided to them by Absa.
5. Bursars will be required to take up employment with Absa after the completion of studies and will be contractually bound to a year service for each year of sponsorship. The decision to offer employment to the bursar is at the sole discretion of Absa.
6. Should a bursar not complete the qualification for which the bursary was granted and/or not be willing to join Absa on request, the bursar will be liable to repay the full bursary amount and the interest accumulated as specified in the contract between Absa and the bursar.
7. Should Absa not be in a position to offer employment to the bursar after completion of studies, the bursar will be released of his/her obligations to Absa and repayment of the bursary awarded will not be expected.
8. Bursars may not be registered for more than one qualification at a time.
9. The Sondeza Absa Bursary is not open to Absa employees or legal dependants of Absa employees. There are separate study aid schemes available to these groups.

Application:

- The Absa bursary scheme will be advertised online on the Absa website on the 'Careers at Absa' section from 1 June every year.
- The closing date for online applications is 31 August every year.
- Only online applications will be accepted.
- Selection of bursars will be made in line with the Absa Employment Equity strategy.
- Only candidates who have achieved an aggregate of at least 80% in the June Grade 12 exams will be considered for a bursary.
- Short listed candidates will be required to submit their final results for the Grade 12 school year.
- Sondeza delegates who apply for the bursary must inform Ilse Loock of the Swartland Municipality (IlseLoock@swartland.org.za) and Theo Steenkamp (theos@absa.co.za) that they have applied. This will enable the bursary application administrators to separate the Sondeza applicants from other bursary applicants.