



12 February 2024

APPLICATIONS FOR iSIMANGALISO BURSURY PROGRAMME ARE OPEN



iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority is conducting recruitment for the 2024 bursary through the Tertiary Support Programme. As part of developing and working with communities living in and adjacent to the park, this programme is aimed to support disadvantaged youth from communities living in and neighbouring the iSimangaliso. This programme offers a package of support for first year students to assist them as they adapt to the life of tertiary smoothly.

During the course of the year, students participate in the work base experience, where they are exposed to the field of work related to what they are studying. This gives beneficiaries knowledge and exposure of the course enrolled for and understand it more. iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority has been implementing the Tertiary Support Programme since 2010. Since its inception, the programme has supported 184 youth

from local communities to access tertiary education and provided psycho-social support to students to ensure they pass. 168 beneficiaries have graduated more than 60% of them are employed; 25% being employed by iSimangaliso. The programme provides academic support to the youth from neighbouring communities to access tertiary education in the fields of study related to conservation, tourism and development.

Variety of workshops and trainings are organised for students, such as financial management, time management and how to deal with peer pressure. Beneficiaries of this programme receive stipends, data allowances, laptops and on their final year, they are assisted with obtaining their driver's licence. This Programme is one of the key programmes that enables iSimangaliso to change the prevalent narrative about our District, uMkhanyakude. We want to ensure youth of the area is trained and equipped with the necessary skills in conservation and tourism related fields.

Once again, it is that time of the year when iSimangaliso goes out to recruit students for Tertiary Education Support Programme for 2024. We are seeking 10 students that can meet the following criteria:

1. Students must be registered for a first year of study only in the following institutions: University of KwaZulu Natal, University of Zululand, Mangosuthu University of Technology and Durban University of Technology.
2. Students must apply for the National Student Financial Aid Scheme and have confirmation that they have been awarded the NSFAS Bursary for 2024.
3. Students must be registered for a course in Conservation, Tourism or Development related programme, finance, Supply Chain, Business, Infrastructure, Law, Engineering (not limited to).
4. The student is a South African citizen who is a verifiable member of either; the Land Claimants Communities of iSimangaliso Wetland Park or a resident of the Umkhanyakude District Municipality within areas that are close to iSimangaliso Wetland Park or the Mfolozi Local Municipality particularly the Sokhulu area.

iSimangaliso is visiting the above-mentioned Universities for programme exhibitions and recruitment. Interested students can also access and download the application form from iSimangaliso Wetland Park website (www.isimangaliso.com). Closing date for applications is 24th of February 2024.

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Statement issued by iSimangaliso Wetland Park Authority

Media enquires

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