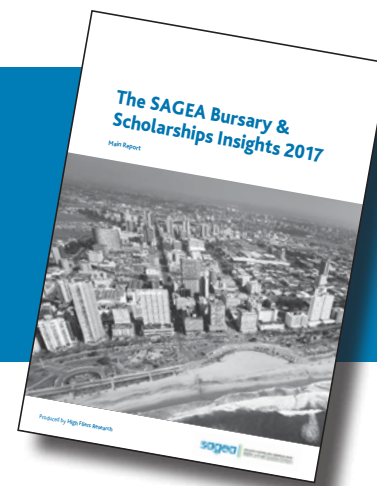


The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships Insights 2017



Press Release

Significant growth in bursaries & scholarships amongst South Africa's leading graduate organisations.

Results from an **independent survey** of leading organisations in South Africa shows that these organisations are set to sponsor a **record number** of bursars in 2017. *The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships Insights 2017* report is based on responses from 68 organisations from a range of industries. It provides encouraging news for students interested in bursary positions, which are often focussed on key scarce skills in areas such as commerce, engineering and IT.

Attracting and retaining high-calibre individuals remains a key focus for most organisations. *The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships Insights 2017* – an online questionnaire with 68 of the largest organisations in the country – confirmed that most were committed to bursary sponsorship to help build future talent pipeline, while a smaller number offered bursaries for purely philanthropic reasons.

Three-quarters of organisations who participated in the research confirmed that in order to apply for the programme, candidates needed to have an academic average of 65 per cent or above. While academics remain important, it is encouraging to note that more companies are also focusing on candidates' learning and leadership potential. They offered successful applicants a range of opportunities from funding of tuition fees and accommodation through to work experience within the organisation.

Highlights from *The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships 2017* include:

- Together, employers in this year's survey provided more than **6,000 bursaries in 2017**.
- The vast majority have a bursary programme in place to help with their **talent pipeline**.
- More than **three-fifths** offer bursaries to **post-graduates**.
- Four-fifths provide full **funding of fees**, while two-thirds offer **full accommodation**.
- Most employers were particularly satisfied with their bursars' **willingness to learn, commitment** and their **team working capabilities**.

Executive Director for SAGEA, **Cathy Sims** commented:

"It is fantastic to see so many organisations in South Africa who are providing additional opportunities to access university and helping younger generations reach their potential. Early talent is an integral part of employers' recruitment strategies and as a result, organisations want to engage with students at an earlier stage. Many companies understand that a bursary programme can be very beneficial to an organisation – either to help the talent pipeline or for philanthropic reasons."

Notes for Editors

1. *The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships Insights 2017* was carried out on behalf of **The South African Graduate Employers Association (SAGEA)** by the specialist graduate research company, **High Fliers Research Ltd.** Research took place from August to October 2017, using an online questionnaire.
2. **The South African Graduate Employers Association** is a professional body dedicated to connecting and advancing the graduate recruitment industry. SAGEA is the hub of the industry, making use of synergies, resourcefulness and insights to bring global best practice to our members, and elevate the profession.
3. The employers who participated in *The SAGEA Bursary & Scholarships Insights 2017* include:

<i>ABSA Bank</i>	<i>Media24</i>
<i>Accenture</i>	<i>Michael & Susan Dell Foundation</i>
<i>Adams & Adams</i>	<i>MMI Holdings</i>
<i>AFGRI</i>	<i>Moshal Scholarship Program</i>
<i>Anglo American</i>	<i>Nedbank</i>
<i>Anglo American Coal</i>	<i>Nestle South Africa</i>
<i>Anglo American Platinum</i>	<i>Norton Rose Fulbright</i>
<i>Baker McKenzie</i>	<i>Old Mutual</i>
<i>BMW Group South Africa</i>	<i>Old Mutual Education Trust</i>
<i>Capitec Bank</i>	<i>Philips South Africa</i>
<i>Coronation Asset Management</i>	<i>PPS Insurance</i>
<i>Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)</i>	<i>PSG</i>
<i>Curo Fund Services</i>	<i>Public Investment Corporation</i>
<i>Deloitte</i>	<i>PwC</i>
<i>Dimension Data</i>	<i>Rand Merchant Bank</i>
<i>Discovery</i>	<i>RCL Foods</i>
<i>Engen Petroleum Limited</i>	<i>Rural Education Access Programme</i>
<i>ENSafrica</i>	<i>SARS</i>
<i>Ericsson South Africa</i>	<i>Sasol</i>
<i>EY</i>	<i>Senwes</i>
<i>Fasken Martineau</i>	<i>Shoprite Checkers</i>
<i>FirstRand</i>	<i>South32</i>
<i>General Electric South Africa</i>	<i>Standard Bank</i>
<i>Genesis Analytics</i>	<i>Students for Better Future</i>
<i>Glencore Coal</i>	<i>Telkom SA</i>
<i>Globeleq South Africa</i>	<i>The Foschini Retail Group</i>
<i>Grant Thornton</i>	<i>Thuthuka Bursary Fund (SAICA)</i>
<i>Hatch Africa</i>	<i>Tiger Brands</i>
<i>Hogan Lovells South Africa</i>	<i>Tongaat Hulett Sugar</i>
<i>Investec Bank</i>	<i>Vodacom</i>
<i>J.P. Morgan Chase Bank</i>	<i>Webber Wentzel</i>
<i>KPMG</i>	<i>Woolworths</i>
<i>Kumba Iron Ore</i>	<i>WorleyParsons RSA</i>
<i>Mazars Cape Town</i>	<i>WSP Group Africa</i>

4. For further information or additional comments please contact:
Cathy Sims, Executive Director, South African Graduate Employers Association.
Telephone: 021 712 6168 *Mobile:* 083 297 7740 *Email:* cathy.sims@sagea.org.za