



NSFAS

Dear Stellenbosch University Student,

We invite you to participate in an important survey aimed at gaining deeper insights into the financial strategies of students who receive a living allowance from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) at Stellenbosch University (SU). Your participation in this survey will contribute significantly to our understanding of how students manage their finances, particularly in terms of purchasing food and supplementing their allowances.

The purpose of this survey of the NSFAS Contingency Committee of SU is to gather valuable insights to enable us to make informed decisions and implement measures to assist students in optimizing financial strategies. Your input is an opportunity to contribute directly to initiatives aimed at enhancing the overall well-being and academic success of students at SU.

Your participation in this survey is voluntary, and all responses will be kept confidential.

Thank you for your valuable participation in this endeavour.

Kind regards,

Prof Stan du Plessis

(Chairperson of the NSFAS Contingency Committee)

*** 1. Do you finance your studies through NSFAS?**

- Yes
- No

SECTION A: INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

* 2. Which Campus do you study at?

- Tygerberg
- Stellenbosch

* 3. Where do you stay?

- At your family home
- Privately accredited accommodation (not in university-owned accommodation and not in family home)
- University-owned accommodation

* 4. If you selected University-owned accommodation, please specify below:

- Senior accommodation without a dining hall
- Junior accommodation with a dining hall
- Junior accommodation without a dining hall

* 5. In which year of study are you currently?

- 1st year
- 2nd year
- 3rd or more

SECTION B: STELLENBOSCH CAMPUS - FAMILY HOME

* 6. Do you receive a traveling allowance (R7 875) from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 7. Do you use your travelling allowance to come to campus regularly?

- Yes
- No

* 8. How do you get to campus?

- Close enough to walk
- Taxi/Uber
- Bicycle
- Lift club
- Other:

* 9. How long does it take you to get to campus?

- 15 min or less
- 15 min – 30 min
- 30 min – 45 min
- More than 45 min

* 10. Do you receive a living allowance (R16 500) from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 11. Do you use your living allowance to supplement the family spending on food?

- Yes
- No
- I use the living allowance in other ways to make study possible (please indicate):

* 12. Do you use your living allowance to buy food on campus?

- Yes
- No

* 13. Do you know that as part of your cluster affiliation, you can book and buy the *meal of the day* at residence in your cluster?

- Yes
- No

* 14. If no - now that you know, would you make use of it?

- Yes
- No

* 15. If yes, have you made use of this option?

- Yes, I make regular use of the option
- Yes, but I do not make regular use of the option
- No

* 16. Why do you not make regular use of the option?

- It is too much hassle
- The cluster residences are far from my classes
- I have classes over lunchtime
- Other:

* 17. If no, why not?

(Choose all applicable options)

- It is too much hassle
- I do not know how to do it
- The cluster residences are far from my classes
- I have classes over lunchtime
- Other:

* 18. If you do not use your living allowance to buy food on campus, why not?

- I buy food, but not on campus
- I bring my own food from home
- I do not eat a meal during the day and eat mostly at home

* 19. Where do you buy and why?

(Please indicate)

* 20. Suggestions and Feedback:

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?



SECTION C: STELLENBOSCH CAMPUS - PRIVATELY ACCREDITED ACCOMMODATION

(NOT IN UNIVERSITY-OWNED ACCOMMODATION AND NOT IN FAMILY HOME)

* 21. How do you get to campus?

- Close enough to walk
- Taxi
- Uber
- Bicycle
- Lift club
- Landlord/landlady provides transport
- Other:

* 22. If you selected Landlord/Landlady, is the transport included in the rent?

- Yes
- No

* 23. How long does it take you to get to campus?

- 15 min or less
- 15 min - 30 min
- 30 min - 45 min
- More than 45 min

* 24. Do you receive a living allowance from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 25. Do you use your living allowance to buy:

(Choose all that apply)

- Food
- Electricity
- Other essentials
- Travel

* 26. Do you use your living allowance to buy food on campus?

- Yes
- No

* 27. Do you know that as part of your cluster affiliation, you can book and buy the meal of the day at residence in your cluster?

- Yes
- No

* 28. If yes, have you made use of this option?

- Yes
- No

* **29. If no, why not?**

(Choose all applicable options)

- It is too much hassle
- I do not know how to do it
- The cluster residences are far from my classes
- I have classes over lunchtime
- Other:

* **30. If you do not use your living allowance to buy food on campus, why not?**

- I buy food, but not on campus
- I bring my own food from home
- I do not eat a meal during the day and eat mostly at home

* **31. Where do you buy and why?**

(Please indicate)

* **32. Financial Management:**

How do you currently supplement your living allowance?

(e.g., part-time job, financial assistance from family, study loan)

* **33. On average, how much do you spend on meals per day?**

- Less than R60
- R60 – R80
- R80 – R100
- R100 – R120
- More than R120
- I do not know.
- Other:

* 34. On average, how much do you spend on meals per week?

- Less than R450
 - R450 - R560
 - R560 - R700
 - R700 - R840
 - More than R840
 - I do not know
 - Other:

* 35. Do you join with others to share a meal?

- Yes
 - No

* 36. If yes, please explain

1. **What is the primary purpose of the study?** (10 points)

* 37. Suggestions and Feedback:

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?

1. **What is the primary purpose of the study?** (e.g., to evaluate the effectiveness of a new treatment, to explore the relationship between two variables, to describe a population, etc.)

SECTION D: STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY-OWNED ACCOMMODATION - JUNIOR ACCOMMODATION WITH DINING HALL

* 38. Do you receive a meal quota to buy meals in the residence?

Yes

No

* 39. Do you receive an personal care allowance?

Yes

No

Typically, the meal quota is released at R120 per day to you so that you can use it to buy food. At this rate, the meal quota will run out at the end of the first semester or the beginning of the second semester (depending on how much you used to buy food). The questions below are important for us to determine the preferred strategies you must make to make your meal quota last deep into the year and how you supplement your meal quota throughout the year. Your answers will help us plan better to enable us to assist students in the future.

* 40. How many meals do you typically consume in a day?

Less than 1

1

2

3

More than 3

* 41. Which meals do you eat regularly in a day?

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Other:

* 42. Where do you usually eat your meals?

- Residence dining hall,
- Self-prepared meals
- Neelsie
- Other:

* 43. Would you prefer to have the option to be limited to buy fewer meals per day if it meant stretching your meal quota further?

- Yes
- No

* 44. Do you regularly book and eat the meal of the day?

- Yes
- No

* 45. Please specify why not:

* 46. Do you know that you can book a meal of the day in the residence, collect it in the morning, and take it to campus?

- Yes, I do it regularly
- Yes, but I do not do it regularly.
- No

* 47. If you selected you do not do it regularly, why not?

* 48. Now that you know, would you make use of it?

- Yes
- No

* 49. Please indicate why not?

* 50. Do you know that you can book a meal of the day and collect it at the Victoria Hub over lunch time?

- Yes, I do it regularly
- Yes, but I do not do it regularly.
- No

* 51. If you selected you do not do it regularly, why not?

* 52. Now that you know, would you make use of it?

- Yes
- No

* 53. Please indicate why not?

* 54. Allocation Preference:

(Please select your preference between the two scenarios below)

- I prefer the current daily allocation of R120 for meals, knowing it would only last half the year.
- I prefer a smaller daily allocation (e.g. R100) to make the meal quota last longer.

* 55. Any comments on the allocation preference?

* **56. Financial Management:**

How do you currently supplement your meal quota funds?

(e.g.,part-time job, financial assistance from family, study loan)

* **57. On average, how much do you spend on food per day?**

- Less than R60
- R60 - R80
- R80 - R100
- R100 - R120
- I do not know
- Other:

* **58. On average, how much do you spend on food per week?**

- Less than R450
- R450 – R560
- R560 – R700
- R700 – R840
- More than R840
- I do not know
- Other:

* **59. Do you join with others to share a meal?**

- Yes
- No

* **60. Of yes, please explain:**

* **61. Please select:**

- I would prefer to receive a lump sum at the beginning of the semester/year instead of being limited to R120 per day on the meal quota.
- I prefer to continue with a daily allocation such as the limitation to R120 or something similar per day.

* **62. Please explain your selection above:**

* **63. Suggestions and Feedback:**

Do you have any suggestions or ideas for improving the meal quota system?

* **64. Suggestions and Feedback:**

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?

SECTION E: TYGERBERG: UNIVERSITY-OWNED ACCOMMODATION

* 65. Do you use your living allowance (R16 500) to buy prepared food on campus?

- Yes
- No

* 66. If yes, where do you buy?

* 67. If no, why?

- I buy prepared food, but not on campus
- I bring my own food from home
- I prepare my own food
- I do not eat a meal during the day and eat mostly at home

* 68. Where do you buy and why?

(please indicate)

* 69. Do you use your living allowance to buy groceries?

- Yes, on campus
- Yes, but not on campus
- No

* 70. If you selected "yes, but not on campus", please indicate where:

* 71. Do you regularly make use of a delivery service such as Sixty60? If so, which one?

* **72. Financial Management:**

How do you currently supplement your living allowance?

(e.g.,part-time job, financial assistance from family, study loan)

* **73. On average, how much do you spend on meals per day?**

- Less than R60
- R60 – R80
- R80 – R100
- R100 – R120
- More than R120
- I do not know.
- Other:

* **74. On average, how much do you spend on meals per week?**

- Less than R450
- R450 – R560
- R560 – R700
- R700 – R840
- More than R840
- I do not know
- Other:

* **75. Do you join with others to share a meal?**

- Yes
- No

* 76. If yes, please explain

* 77. Suggestions and Feedback:

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?

SECTION F: TYGERBERG - FAMILY HOME

* 78. Do you receive a traveling allowance (R7 875) from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 79. Do you use your travelling allowance to come to campus regularly?

- Yes
- No

* 80. How do you get to campus?

- Close enough to walk
- Taxi/Uber
- Bicycle
- Lift club
- Other:

* 81. If you indicated Taxi/Uber, how much do you spend on it a month?

* 82. If you indicated Lift Club, how much do you spend on it a month?

* 83. How long does it take you to get to campus?

- 15 min or less
- 15 min - 30 min
- 30 min - 45 min
- More than 45 min

* 84. Do you receive a living allowance from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 85. Financial Management:

Do you use your living allowance to supplement the family spending on food?

- Yes
- No
- I use the living allowance in other ways to make study possible (please indicate):

* 86. Do you use your living allowance (R16 500) to buy prepared food on campus?

- Yes
- No

* 87. If yes, where do you buy?

* 88. If no, why?

- I buy prepared food, but not on campus
- I bring my own food from home
- I prepare my own food
- I do not eat a meal during the day and eat mostly at home

* 89. Where do you buy and why?

(please indicate)

* 90. Suggestions and Feedback:

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?



**SECTION G: TYGERBERG ACCREDITED PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION
(NOT IN UNIVERSITY-OWNED ACCOMMODATION AND NOT IN FAMILY HOME)**

* 91. How do you get to campus?

- Close enough to walk
- Taxi/Uber
- Bicycle
- Lift club
- Landlord/landlady provides transport
- Other:

* 92. If you indicated Taxi/Uber, how much do you spend on it a month?

* 93. If you indicated Lift Club, how much do you spend on it a month?

* 94. Is transport included in the rent?

- Yes
- No

* 95. How long does it take you to get to campus?

- 15 min or less
- 15 min - 30 min
- 30 min - 45 min
- More than 45 min

* 96. Do you receive a living allowance (R16 500) from NSFAS?

- Yes
- No

* 97. Do you use your living allowance to buy:

(Choose all that apply)

- Food
- Electricity
- Other essentials
- Travel

* 98. Do you use your living allowance to buy food on campus?

- Yes
- No

* 99. If yes, where do you buy?

* 100. Please select:

- I buy prepared food, but not on campus.
- I bring my own food, from home
- I prepare my own food
- I do not eat a meal during the day and eat mostly at home

* 101. Where do you buy and why?

* 102. Financial Management:

How do you currently supplement your living allowance?

(e.g., part-time job, financial assistance from family, study loan)

* 103. On average, how much do you spend on meals per day?

- Less than R60
- R60 – R80
- R80 – R100
- R100 – R120
- More than R120
- I do not know.
- Other:

* 104. On average, how much do you spend on meals per week?

- Less than R450
- R450 – R560
- R560 – R700
- R700 – R840
- More than R840
- I do not know
- Other:

* 105. Do you join with others to share a meal?

- Yes
- No

* 106. If yes, please explain



* 107. Suggestions and Feedback:

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?



SECTION H: STELLENBOSCH CAMPUS - SENIOR/JUNIOR RESIDENCE WITHOUT A DINING HALL

* **108. Do you receive a living allowance (R16 500) from NSFAS?**

Yes

No

* **109. Do you use your living allowance to buy:**

(Choose all that apply)

Food

Electricity

Other essentials

Travel

* **110. Do you use your living allowance to buy prepared food on campus?**

Yes

No

* **111. Do you know that as part of your cluster affiliation, you can book and buy the *meal of the day* at residence in your cluster?**

Yes

No

* **112. If no - now that you know, would you make use of it?**

Yes

No

* **113. If yes, have you made use of this option?**

Yes, I make regular use of the option

Yes, but I do not make regular use of the option

No

* **114. Why do you not make regular use of the option?**

- It is too much hassle
- The cluster residences are far from my classes
- I have classes over lunchtime
- Other:

* **115. If no, why not?**

(Choose all applicable options)

- It is too much hassle
- I do not know how to do it
- The cluster residences are far from my classes
- I have classes over lunchtime
- Other:

* **116. If you do not use your living allowance to buy food on campus, why not?**

- I buy food, but not on campus
- I prepare my own meals, because it is cheaper
- I prepare my own meals, because it is more convenient
- I prepare my own meals, because I have a special diet
- Other:

* **117. Where do you buy and why?**

(Please indicate)

* **118. Financial Management:**

How do you currently supplement your living allowance?

(e.g.,part-time job, financial assistance from family, study loan)

* 119. On average, how much do you spend on meals per day?

- Less than R60
- R60 - R80
- R80 - R100
- R100 - R120
- More than R120
- I do not know.
- Other:

* 120. On average, how much do you spend on meals per week?

- Less than R450
- R450 - R560
- R560 - R700
- R700 - R840
- More than R840
- I do not know
- Other:

* 121. Do you join with others to share a meal?

- Yes
- No

* 122. If yes, please explain

* 123. **Suggestions and Feedback:**

Is there any additional support or resources you believe would help students better manage their living allowance?