



PRESS RELEASE

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Al Jama-ah welcomes improvement by NSFAS on processing applications for funding

The Al Jama-ah Party welcomes NSFAS improvement on processing applications from students for funding and to ensure the accuracy and efficiency thereof.

Higher Education, Science and Technology Minister Blade Nzimande was replying to a written submission from Al Jama-ah Member of Parliament on delays by NSFAS to respond to appeals from parents whose children did not qualify for funding based on reports from the South African Revenue Services (SARS).

“Reports from SARS are not always correct and that such bureaucracy leads to negative impact on students who are denied funding from NSFAS. Our concern is that the appeal channels to NSFAS is not efficient as it may take more than a year to clear up issues raised by NSFAS leaving thousands of students not being able to pursue their studies. Parents say the appeal channel they are referred to are not responsive,” says Hendricks.

We recognise the existing challenges and the Department’s efforts to address it. We are further pleased to state that the enquiries on appeals received through the Al Jama-ah Constituency office have been noted by NSFAS and will be processed accordingly.

Al Jama-ah further commends Minister Nzimande’s appointment of a Board to carry out oversight on NSFAS and the regular feedback to the Minister. We hope that Treasury will agree to increase the administration budget to ensure more efficiency of services within the department and NSFAS.

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