

UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG



Corporate Student Support

Opportunities and benefits for
corporate sponsors and donors

The University of the Witwatersrand is grateful to individuals and organisations that support our students. We have more than 500 sponsors and donors ranging from Individuals and Corporates to Government, Trusts and Foundations that support over 19 000 students.

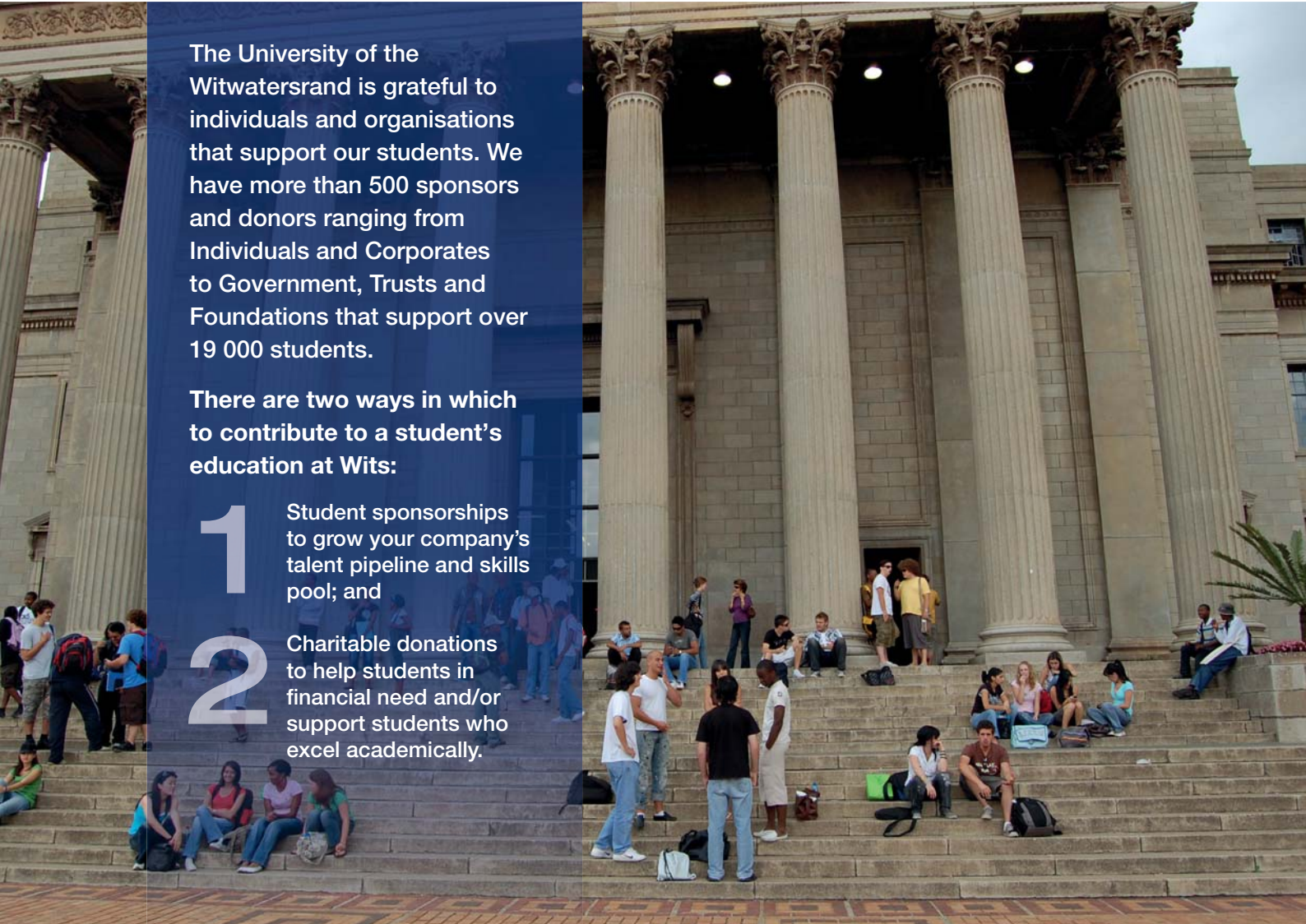
There are two ways in which to contribute to a student's education at Wits:

1

Student sponsorships to grow your company's talent pipeline and skills pool; and

2

Charitable donations to help students in financial need and/or support students who excel academically.



CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF STUDENTS FOR FUTURE EMPLOYMENT

At Wits, we have a proud history of providing the private and public sector with skilled graduates.

In a recent *Times Higher Education* ranking, which measured the number of alumni who are executives of global companies, Wits was placed 1st in South Africa and 24th internationally. Our students are highly sought after and over 90% of our students find jobs within six months of graduation.

Corporates wishing to expand the pool of skilled graduates entering their organisations now have additional incentives to support university students. Under the *Revised B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice*, Skills Development spending now encompasses spending on both employees and non-employees and can include university students and staff. Wits degree and short course programmes are aligned to the *B-BBEE Skills Development Learning Programme Matrix* and qualify for varying amounts of skills development spending.

How Wits supports student employment sponsorships

At Wits we aim to help our corporate partners find talented future employees.

Advertising and promoting opportunities

The Wits student support website:

www.witsfoundation.co.za/corporatesupport

- The site is available for corporate clients to advertise student funding opportunities and/or graduate recruitment schemes. The sponsor can include links to the company website and tailor application processes.
- Wits publicises the site and new funding opportunities to the Wits student body through various channels including Wits social media.
- Wits staff distribute requests from companies for potential student beneficiaries in specific disciplines to the relevant Schools and Faculties within the University to ensure that the requests reach the correct audience.

Financial Administration

Wits distributes the funds received from the sponsor to students in accordance with the agreement between Wits and the sponsor.

Reporting

Sponsors receive regular reporting on student progress and the impact of their contribution on skills development at Wits.

Sponsorship benefits

- Organisations can increase the supply of skilled graduates to their business.
- Companies may claim B-BBEE points under the Skills Development element.
- The target for Skills Development spending has doubled from 3% to 6% of payroll.
- The Skills Development element is a priority element, which requires a minimum number of points to maintain the organization's B-BBEE recognition level.
- Internships are now recognised at the same level as learnerships and apprenticeships. This means that organisations can include the salaries of interns as part of Skills Development expenditure.
- The *Revised B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice* provides for up to 5 bonus points for absorption (employment) following an internship programme.
- Companies providing university funding for disabled students may claim extra skills development points. Wits has over 600 students who have disclosed a disability and are receiving physical, technological and social support at Wits throughout their studies.
- Wits is currently a Level 4 B-BBEE organisation thus allowing for recognition of 100% of your sponsorship spending under the Preferential Procurement element of the B-BBEE Scorecard.

Important considerations

- The sponsor collects and processes student applications.
- Agreements are signed between the sponsor and the student beneficiary, and between the University and the sponsor.
- The terms and conditions of the sponsorship will need to meet specific criteria to qualify for B-BBEE Scorecard points.
- Up to 15% of your B-BBEE Skills Development spending can fund student accommodation, catering and travelling expenses.

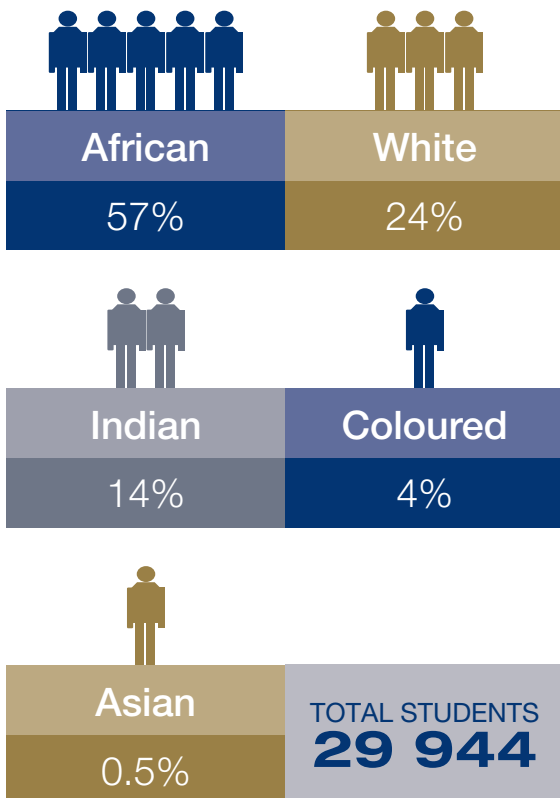
CORPORATE DONATIONS TO ASSIST STUDENTS

Donations by individuals and organizations are charitable contributions that help students fulfil their potential in academia and in their future careers. By donating to Wits student support, donors are key in developing the careers of the next generation of South African professionals and leaders.

Companies and corporate foundations that regularly donate to assist students from their *Corporate Social Responsibility/Investment* budgets can claim B-BBEE points under the Socio-Economic Development element.

Over 75% of Wits students meet the criteria for classification as 'Black' as defined in the B-BBEE Codes of Good Practice. Wits provides updated student demographic statistics for donor B-BBEE reporting on request.

Student Demographics for Wits as a B-BBEE Measured Entity 2014



Donation benefits

- If there are no conditions to the contribution, donors may be entitled to a tax rebate under the Income Tax Act. Companies can claim B-BBEE points under the Socio-Economic Development element.
- Corporate Social Investment budgets can be used to develop skills relevant to the organisation and associated industry.

Important considerations

- The relevant Wits department will shortlist candidates, and the donor will select the beneficiaries for non-discretionary scholarships such as the prestigious scholarships.
- Where donor contributions are bona fide donations, donors may not request refunds from students that perform poorly in a particular year of study.



To support students or to request more information, please contact:

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www.witsfoundation.co.za

[www.witsfoundation.co.za/
corporatesupport](http://www.witsfoundation.co.za/corporatesupport)

www.wits.ac.za

As the DTI Technical Assistance Guides have not yet been published, companies are advised to consult with their Verification Auditors (VA) regarding the opinions expressed in this document.

Donation Options

Wits has two recommended programmes that allow organisations and individuals to donate to students.

Prestigious Scholarships

Prestigious Scholarships are the most significant, restricted awards on offer to Wits students. The donor, in collaboration with Wits, may design the award to meet the criteria for named scholarships and donor recognition as set out in the relevant Wits policies and guidelines. Criteria include, for example, field of study, demographic and financial profile of beneficiary, monetary value of the scholarship, duration of the scholarship, and the option of establishing an endowment or donating through annual contributions.

Student support funds

The student support funds offer donors a range of options to assist students who have shown dedication to their studies and for whom financial need is the major barrier to success. The student support funds are unrestricted funds and funding is allocated to students according to the mandated criteria and objectives of the fund.

Types of funds:

- The **Wits Student Support Fund** provides scholarships, bursaries and financial support for deserving students who are in need. Examples include students who do not qualify for NSFAS funding, but come from households that cannot afford the cost of higher education, students who cannot graduate or progress to the next level of their studies due to outstanding debt.

Under certain conditions, corporates may also elect to recognize their contributions to the Wits Student Support Fund under their Skills Development element.

- The **SRC Humanitarian Fund** helps students with small grants allowing them to proceed and register for their courses.
- The **Wits Hardship Fund** provides emergency funding for accommodation and other pressing student needs.
- **Faculty Student Support Funds** are similar to the **Wits Student Support Fund** and allow donors to contribute to students who are studying towards a specific degree or field of study.

Financial Administration of Donations

Wits distributes the funds received from donors to students in accordance with the agreement between Wits and the donor and/or the mandates of the respective funds.

Reporting on Donations

Donors receive regular reports outlining the impact of donations in addition to a financial overview and update on student progress.