



#MyMandela_Fund Campaign

A fundraising initiative of the 2018 Student Representative Council (SRC)

26 March 2018

Mandela University's 2018 SRC has launched a #MyMandela_Fund campaign that aims to ensure that all students have access to a financial resource that can aid in paying outstanding debt, providing meals and purchasing textbooks.

The MyMandela_Fund is a modest attempt at closing the proverbial gap between access and success. Free education has been declared for first time entrants from poor and working-class families, however, many returning students find themselves being unable to register for the academic year as a result of outstanding fees from the previous years and family financial circumstances. Although the SRC of 2018 has been able to register students with their outstanding debt, we want to further assist them to clear this debt before the end of 2018. Debt is only a fraction of the challenges faced by students at Mandela University. Students require additional support during their academic journey in the form of study material, transport assistance and meals. In this regard, the SRC has collaborated with Campus Health Services to ensure that 300 students get a light lunch daily while 1200 students receive monthly groceries. We have also begun the textbook drive, where textbooks are donated or bought on behalf of students who need them the most. These efforts can only be sustained through continued support from donors, such as yourself, who invest in the lives of students at Mandela University.

To date, the SRC has raised R25 000 for the MyMandela_Fund through small donations from the student community. This is in addition to the R520 000 that has been allocated from the SRC budget to assist 2018 graduates with their outstanding debt. We are looking to exceed this amount during the current campaign.

Madibaz Tuesdays

Part of the broader MyMandela initiative is to introduce new traditions and contribute to identity shaping at Mandela University. We have therefore declared EVERY Tuesday as a Madibaz Tuesday. This is the day when students and staff wear university branded attire to show their passion and pride for belonging to the University community. We further encourage giving on Madibaz Tuesday in the form of food, money, textbooks or time.

#100FOR100

The SRC will be running a #100FOR100 Campaign for **100 Days**, starting on 5 March and ending on 13 June 2018. During this time, we call on individuals to donate **R100** towards the MyMandela_Fund as we celebrate **100 years** of Tata Madiba. Our request is for individuals to pledge their R100 and challenge their networks to do the same. For details on how to get involved, please visit the SRC website <http://src.mandela.ac.za/>.

We would like to thank all those who have partnered with us in the campaign thus far. We remain committed to changing the lived experiences of students at Mandela University and invite you to walk with us on this journey.

Regards,
MyMandela SRC