



Bursary & Grant Management System

Powered by **GMS-Web | PraxisKZN (Pty) Ltd**

A comprehensive, configurable platform purpose-built for South African bursary administrators, development funders, CSI programmes and government funding agencies — delivering 25+ years of grant-management expertise.

25+

Years of Grant Management

500+

Bursary & Grant Schemes Managed

100%

Web-Based & Mobile Ready



OVERVIEW — WHAT IS THE PRAXISKZN BURSARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM?

The **PraxisKZN Bursary Management System (BMS)** — powered by GMS-Web — streamlines every stage of your bursary or grant lifecycle, from the initial call for applications through to disbursement, student reporting and programme closure. It serves as the single source of truth for all funding activity across your organisation.

Designed specifically to meet the needs of South African corporates running CSI bursary schemes, National Skills Fund (NSF) intermediaries, Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), development finance institutions and government bursary offices, the BMS delivers a flexible, cost-effective solution regardless of team size.

Why PraxisKZN?

PraxisKZN has been developing and supporting grant and bursary management systems for over 25 years. GMS-Web — our flagship platform — has been refined through real-world deployments with dozens of development agencies across Africa and beyond. We do not just sell software; we partner with you to configure, implement and support a system that fits the exact contours of your bursary programme.

Key Benefits at a Glance

- End-to-end bursary lifecycle management in one platform
- Configurable online application forms with document upload
- Automated conflict-of-interest checking for review panels
- Real-time scoring and shortlisting of candidates
- Disbursements linked to academic milestones and deliverables
- Student progress tracking and results verification
- Comprehensive KPI dashboards and Microsoft Power BI integration
- Full audit trails satisfying B-BBEE verification requirements
- Role-based access control for administrators, reviewers and students
- Seamless integration with MS Office, email and SMS
- Flexible hosting — Praxis-managed cloud or client on-premises
- Ongoing support and continuous product evolution

GMS-WEB BURSARY MODULES

■ Online Bursary Application Portal

Students apply entirely online using unique credentials. The form enforces mandatory fields and document uploads (transcripts, ID, proof of income). Acknowledgement emails are sent on submission.

■ Call & Programme Management

Configure multiple bursary windows — undergraduate, postgraduate, artisan or TVET. Each call has its own deadlines, eligibility rules and funding caps with real-time budget tracking per programme.

■ Application Scoring & Review

Assign applications to a review panel with one click. Scoring criteria are predefined per bursary policy. Conflict-of-interest is auto-checked; scores are confidential and aggregated for committee decisions.

■ Shortlisting & Approval Workflow

Group shortlisted candidates for committee presentation. Record approval or decline decisions, upload signed minutes and trigger personalised award or decline notifications automatically.

■ Bursary Contract Generation

Generate legally compliant bursary agreements from pre-approved templates instantly. Track dispatch, signing and return; signed contracts are stored securely with full version control.

■ Beneficiary & Student Profiles

Comprehensive records covering demographics, institution, qualification and sponsor history. Real-time reports support B-BBEE skills development and SETA ROI analysis.

■ Disbursement Management

Record planned and actual disbursements linked to academic milestones. Make payments to institutions or students directly. Every disbursement carries a unique traceable reference.

■ Academic Progress & Reporting

Students submit results and re-registration proof via the portal. The system notifies the bursary coordinator on submission, with discussion boards for direct student-to-manager communication.

■ Integrated Mail, SMS & Communications

Automate award letters, payment advices and renewal reminders. All correspondence is stored per student record. MS Office integration enables professional document generation in seconds.

■ Document Management Centre

Store all bursary documents electronically — applications, contracts, transcripts, bank confirmations. Create a paperless bursary office with role-based access and full audit logging.

■ KPI Dashboards & Power BI

Real-time dashboards track applications, awards, disbursements vs budget and pass rates. KPI data feeds directly into Microsoft Power BI for executive and board reporting.

■ Search, Export & Management Reporting

Filter the full database by call cycle, programme, institution or status. Export any dataset to Excel. Generate management reports, exception reports and B-BBEE annexures on demand.

CUSTOMISED BURSARY MODULES TO SUIT YOUR ORGANISATION

Over 25 years of working with South African and international funders and bursary administrators, PraxisKZN has developed a library of add-on modules that deepen and broaden the BMS to match your specific policy and governance requirements. New custom functionality can typically be added within weeks of specification sign-off.

■ Prior Learning & Identification

Capture prospective bursary enquiries before formal applications open, enabling pre-screening and pipeline management.

■ Multi-Stage Assessment

Designed for large corporate and government bursary schemes requiring multi-step governance: initial screening, panel interview scoring, final committee approval.

■ SETA & NSF Compliance Reporting

Pre-built annexures for WSP/ATR submissions, Skills Development Levies Act reporting and National Skills Fund disbursement reconciliations.

■ Service Provider & Institution Payments

Enable direct payments to universities, TVET colleges and training providers on behalf of bursary holders, with SP contracts and payment tracking.

■ Team Collaboration & Chat

Multiple administrators can collaborate on an application review. Students can raise queries via the discussion board which are logged and tracked centrally.

■ Time & Cost Recording

Bursary administrators can log time and travel against specific programme activities for accurate cost-of-administration reporting.

■ ERP & Financial System Integration

Pre-built connectors for popular South African ERP and accounting packages, enabling automated payment instruction export and reconciliation.

■ Renewals & Multi-Year Awards

Manage automatic bursary renewals subject to academic performance thresholds, with configurable conditions and escalation rules for borderline cases.

ARCHITECTURE & TECHNOLOGY

Development Language	C# (.NET Framework 4.7)
UI Controls	Ajax page controls — responsive web interface
Backend Database	Microsoft SQL Server 2019
Document Generation	Winnovative Server PDF — automated contract & letter generation
Hosting	Intranet/VPN, cloud-hosted (Praxis-managed) or client on-premises
Integrations	MS Office (Word, Excel, Outlook), SMS gateway, Power BI, ERP connectors
Architecture	4-tier: Presentation → Business Logic → Data Access → Security
Minimum Server	4 GB RAM, Windows Server 2019+, IIS 10+, SQL Server 2019

SECURITY, HOSTING & ONGOING SUPPORT

Role-Based Access Control

Administrators, reviewers, programme managers and student applicants each operate within strictly defined permission boundaries. No user sees data outside their assigned role.

Full Audit Trails

Every action — application submission, scoring decision, disbursement, document upload — is logged with user, timestamp and change history. Audit logs satisfy both internal governance and external regulatory requirements.

Data Security & Backup

All data is encrypted at rest and in transit. Praxis-hosted deployments include daily automated backups, disaster recovery and 99.5% uptime SLA. POPIA-compliant data handling by default.

Extensible & Modular Design

New modules are seamlessly slotted into the existing core suite. System administrators can switch optional functionality on or off without developer intervention.

ONGOING SUPPORT COMMITMENT

As your bursary policies and compliance landscape evolve, PraxisKZN evolves with you. Our support model goes beyond technical helpdesk — we provide technology, system and business process support to bursary administrators, programme managers, board members and stakeholders. We treat every client as a long-term partner.

GET IN TOUCH

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Contact us today to arrange a demonstration of the PraxisKZN Bursary Management System and discover how we can simplify and strengthen your bursary programme.