



UF Reaffirms Commitment to Improve Access to Quality University Education

The Universities Fund (UF) underscored its commitment to fulfil the academic dreams of thousands of students through the provision of adequate financial support under the Student-Centred Funding Model (SCFM).

UF is expanding the avenues through which it can receive additional financial resources to equitably fund all needy students and improve access to quality and affordable university education.

Speaking during a recent media engagement in Naivasha, UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi said that government scholarships enable learners from needy families to access funds.

“We fund up to 70 percent of the programme cost because we know there are children coming from disadvantaged backgrounds, Dr Wanyonyi said.

“The Fund is an assurance that talent determines destiny, not background... We are the steward of equity, hope and transformation.”

Dr Wanyonyi said that in the 2024/2025 financial year, KSh40.5 billion was disbursed to both public and private universities to cater for tuition fees.

Of this, KSh23.1 billion was released to public universities under the Differentiated Unit Cost (DUC) model, KSh574 million to private universities under DUC, and KSh16.9 billion to public universities under the SCFM.

Further, Dr Wanyonyi added that 577,526 students were funded in the financial year - 320,003 under DUC and 257,523 under SCFM.



Universities Fund acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi addresses a media engagement forum in Naivasha on October 31, 2025.

The new model, which is in the third year of implementation, was introduced in 2023 by President William Ruto to alleviate universities' financial burden, improve autonomy of the institutions and ensure all needy students receive government support.

In efforts to improve higher education financing, Dr Wanyonyi stated that the Fund is implementing major reforms geared towards promoting efficiency.

He said the establishment of the Institutional Portal and Online Donations Platform are bound to enhance equity, inclusivity and access to funding opportunities.

Dr Wanyonyi explained that the institutional portal will fast-track validation of student data, improve reconciliation and refunds, and generate funding reports.

He said the agency is banking on technology-driven transformation to improve the sector.

Universities Fund Targets Secondary School Students to Boost Awareness of Government Scholarships



High school students learn about government scholarships at the Universities Fund exhibition stand during the Nairobi International Show on September 30, 2025.

The Universities Fund is exploring new ways of enhancing access to accurate and timely information by students.

UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi stated that the agency is working with secondary school principals to boost students' awareness about scholarship application process.

Dr Wanyonyi observed that some students are misled when applying for financial

assistance, especially at cyber cafes.

He said the agency is engaging the heads of institutions to make sure students have the right information before graduating.

While addressing a media sensitisation forum recently, Dr Wanyonyi said the Fund is also capitalising on on-ground support to university students.

During the beginning of the 2025-2026 academic year, the Fund mounted support desks in 28 universities to assist continuing and first-year students to apply for scholarships under the Student-Centred Funding Model (SCFM).

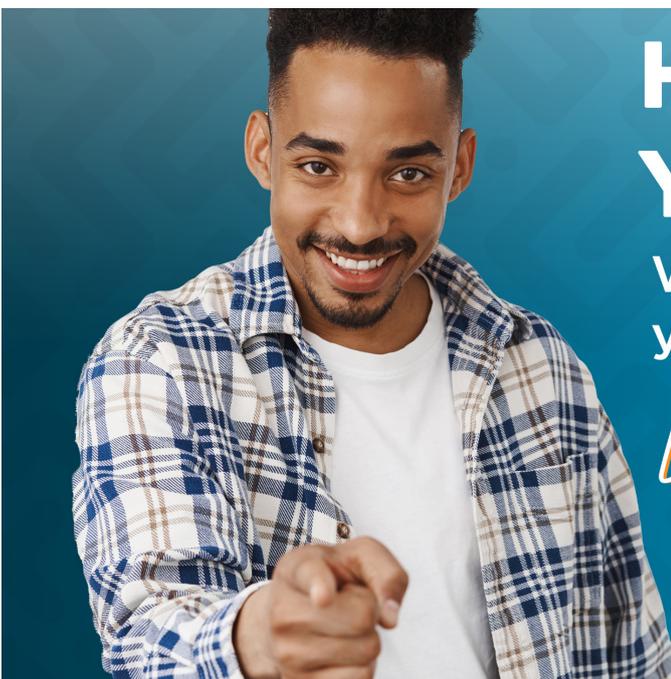
Dr Wanyonyi added that the Fund is also engaging students through its WhatsApp channel that has more than 10,000 members.

Additionally, it is capitalising on awareness creation by taking part in trade shows such as Nairobi International Trade Fair.

Dr Wanyonyi was optimistic that the SCFM will succeed, pointing to ongoing discussions on how it can be improved.

He underscored that the model is student-focused, need-based and promotes equity.

"The SCFM has made a few strides. We are having conversations on how we can fund the model so that it does not fail," he said.



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What information would you like to see more of?

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UF Feted for Enhancing Equitable Education

The Universities Fund received recognition for outstanding performance in promoting innovation, quality education and lifelong learning opportunities.

The agency took the 2nd Runners-up position in the State Corporations and Agencies Category at the National Standard Development Goals (SDG) Awards 2025 Gala on November 28, 2025 at Pridelnn Paradise.

The award recognised UF for its interventions in improving equity, inclusivity and access to quality and affordable university education for all Kenyans.

UF was commended for promoting the realisation of SDG 4 on quality education and SDG 9, which seeks to build resilient and sustainable infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

The award showcases the agency's commitment in supporting the realisation of the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.

BETA is the country's socio-economic plan, focusing on five key pillars: Agricultural Transformation; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Economy; Housing and Settlement; Healthcare; and Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy.



Fund Celebrates Employees' Academic Achievements



Universities Fund acting CEO Dr Edwin Wanyonyi congratulates Leah Miano, who was conferred with a PhD, on November 8, 2025.

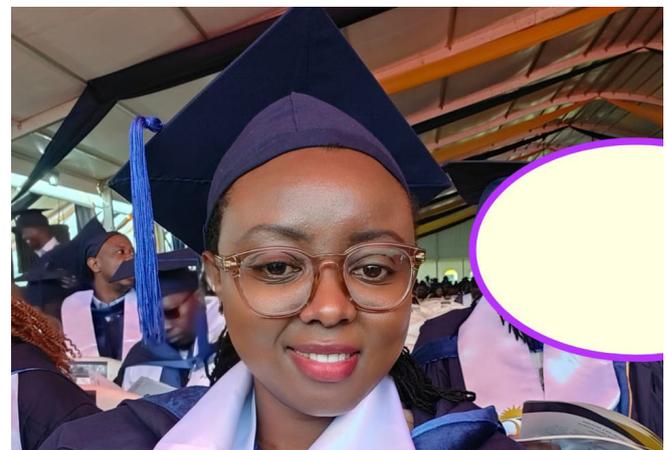
The Universities Fund proudly celebrates the remarkable academic accomplishments of its team, reflecting our commitment to professional growth and lifelong learning.

This year, Charity Jelagat graduated as a Certified Human Resource Professional from the Institute of Human Resource while Elizabeth Nzioki earned her Master

of Business Administration in Strategic Management.

Dr Leah Miano was conferred with a doctorate degree by Mount Kenya University. At the same time, Veronicah Kirugi completed her MBA from KCA University.

These achievements demonstrate the dedication, perseverance and pursuit of excellence that define our team.



Veronicah Kirugi during her graduation at KCA University.

UF Clinches Two Awards at Kitale National Show

It was a proud moment for the Universities Fund (UF) as our team showcased excellence and creativity at the 2025 Kitale National Show.

The team clinched First Place in Best Stand in Youth Activities and Second Place in Best Stand in Education and Research, demonstrating UF's commitment to innovation, engagement and community outreach.

The team's efforts highlighted the agency's role in promoting higher education, youth empowerment and research across the country.

More importantly, the recognition reinforces UF's mission to proactively engage with the community and inspire young people.



Universities Fund employees (right) engage stakeholders during the Kitale National Show that took place from October 8-11, 2025.

Universities Fund Participates in Graduation Season



KCA University holds a graduation ceremony on November 28, 2025. Several universities also held similar ceremonies.

The Universities Fund (UF) joined public and private universities in honouring thousands of graduands.

UF acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Edwin Wanyonyi attended several graduation ceremonies, underscoring the Fund's commitment to supporting higher education through sustainable financing.

At Tharaka University, he congratulated the 1,356 graduands during the institution's 4th ceremony.

Dr Wanyonyi also attended a similar occasion at Kibabii University under

the theme 'Applying Smart Education and Technology for Global Economic Transformation'.

State Department for Industry Principal Secretary Dr Juma Mukhwana, who oversaw the event, highlighted the role of higher education and innovation in promoting the country's global competitiveness.

The Fund further celebrated with Alupe University and Maseno University, praising the graduands for their resilience and determination for growth.