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| MEMORANDUM FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE |

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION 977**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 18/03/2022**

**INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO 11 OF 2022**

**Mrs N I Tarabella Marchesi (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation:**

(a) Which degrees offered at universities has he found have the most job opportunities in the Republic, (b) which universities offer the specified degrees and (c) what amount of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme funding goes towards funding students studying towards the degrees?

**NW1220E**

**REPLY:**

(a) and (b) The Department does not collect data on job opportunities linked to qualifications. However, the Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) — Quarter 3 of 2021 indicates that only 2.7% of unemployed persons were graduates, while 7.2% had other tertiary qualifications as their highest level of education.

(c) As at 31 December 2021, the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) reported that R33.652 billion was paid to new and continuing students registered at public universities.