

## KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY (KAFU)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Clarification on Student Deferrals

Kaimosi Friends University wishes to make a clarification on the article published on the Daily Nation website on 24th March, 2023, that hundreds of our students have been forced to defer their studies due to delays by Government-backed HELB to allocate financial aid. While the report references official communication posted on the University website, the headline is alarming and a section incorrectly suggests a mass deferment of students, which is misleading and inaccurate. Any challenges related to funding should be analyzed at a national level before being attributed to individual institutions.

As of the time of this publication, only 31 students had requested to defer their studies due to financial constraints in raising fees. Students who are beneficiaries of the HELB loan and whose balances could be cleared by the allocation were allowed to register for end-of-semester examinations. The University has a fee payment policy, just like other Universities, that stipulates timelines for payment, and we have been encouraging our students to adhere to it. As a growing University, we rely on fees collected from students to pay our part-time lecturers, who complement our lean faculty as part of proactive steps to manage our finances.

While the University acknowledges the funding challenges faced by needy students, we would like to clarify that we have made efforts to intervene. The University has provided a work-study program to support needy students, and has invited African Canadian Continuing Education Society (ACCES-Kenya), a charity organization that provides partial scholarships to students from vulnerable backgrounds, to provide support to needy students. This initiative currently supports a number of students. The University has also worked with HELB to provide sensitization sessions to students on applying for HELB loans.

We assure our stakeholders that we are committed to providing quality education to our students, and we encourage them to explore various financial support options to help them continue their studies. While we call for more allocation to HELB to meet the increasing need for financial support to University students, we also appeal to all well-wishers and foundations to come in and support our institution to cater for needy students.

We thank our stakeholders for their continued support and remain committed to our mission of providing quality education to all. Our office is always open for any clarification.

Signed:

Prof. Ogodo, M. J. Nandi

**ACTING VICE CHANCELLOR** 

VFR: 00 RFV: 0