

# R10m boost for bursaries for students of orthotics and prosthetics

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THE KWAZULU-Natal Department of Health has invested R10 million in bursaries for students studying orthotics and prosthetics.

Head of Department Dr Si-

bongile Zungu said the bursaries would benefit students who were studying towards a four-year bachelor's degree in Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics at the Durban University of Technology.

She described the skill of or-

thotics and prosthetics as crucial, especially in KwaZulu-Natal where many people lost their limbs – especially legs – as a result of car accidents and diabetes.

“We find that people settle for wheel chairs when they can

actually walk with the help of prosthetic limbs.

“We want to give people a choice,” she said.

Zungu said prosthetic limbs gave people independence.

The department of health has partnered with the Durban

University of technology to get the course accredited.

Classes started at the end of last month and there are 32 students – who come from various disadvantaged communities in the province – who are enrolled.

Once students complete their bachelor's degrees, they will service all the districts in the province through a one-year internship and community service.

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