

**Dear 18twenty8 Team,**

I hope this letter finds you well. As I prepare to graduate with my master's degree in industrial Sociology, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude and share my journey with 18twenty8, whose support has been instrumental in my success.

Firstly, I applied to the Financial Assistance Programme because I recognized the significant financial challenges that come with pursuing a postgraduate degree. The opportunity provided by 18twenty8 was not only a lifeline but also a source of encouragement that reminded me I am not alone in this journey.

The programme has been invaluable in helping me focus on my studies without the constant stress of financial pressures. The support extended beyond funding, creating a sense of belonging and community. Through check-up calls, I gained both personal and professional growth. These sessions were particularly impactful, as they offered guidance and inspiration to keep pushing and working hard.

With the assistance I received, I was able to focus entirely on my research and coursework, ultimately completing my Master's degree successfully. I am immensely grateful for the encouragement, resources, and unwavering support that 18twenty8 has provided me throughout this journey.

Looking ahead, I am excited about the opportunities that my master's degree in industrial Sociology will unlock. I am planning to continue with my PhD and my focus will be on contributing to workplace transformation and equity, especially in addressing systemic barriers faced by underrepresented groups. I plan to use my expertise to drive meaningful change in organizational structures and to empower others, just as 18twenty8 has empowered me.

Once again, thank you for everything you have done for me. Your support has not only helped me achieve this milestone but has also inspired me to pay it forward and contribute to creating a better future for others.

Yours sincerely,  
Lerato Prudence Ntebele