

Dear Prospective Newcomer Matie

COMMUTER STUDENT COMMUNITIES (CSC) AT STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

Congratulations on your being accepted conditionally for an academic programme at Stellenbosch University (SU). We are looking forward to welcoming you in 2025.

The purpose of this letter is to tell you about our Commuter Student communities. At SU, approximately 75% of enrolled students stay in private accommodation. Students are assigned to commuter student communities that provide them with extensive opportunities for successful social and academic integration on campus. These communities have been positioned to offer students in private accommodation a wholesome and diverse university experience. To this end, co-curricular and out-of-class experiences form one of SU's key focus areas for student development.

What is a Commuter Student Community?

It is an organisational structure supporting SU students living in private accommodation. These communities are managed through the Commuter Student Communities Unit within the Centre for Student Life and Learning (CSLL) and are supported by elected student leaders.

Each community coordinates the orientation of its newcomer students and offers access to sporting, cultural and social activities as well as leadership development opportunities. Newcomers are also allocated a peer mentor through your community. We believe that this support structure contributes towards SU's delivering well-rounded graduates to society.

Please note: Commuter Student Communities **DO NOT** provide student accommodation. If you will not be making use of a university residence, you have to find accommodation yourself.

How do I become a member?

Membership is conferred automatically to all enrolled students who do not live in an SU residence. Community membership fees are compulsory; the item is debited to your student account until the end of honours studies.

Commuter students are allocated to one of eleven Commuter Student Communities as per the SU Placement Policy. You may not change from one community to another, and your allocation remains unchanged for the duration of your journey at SU. All communities offer the same quality of academic and social support and allow you access to the facilities offered through each cluster. CSC membership also allows you to take part in various activities as a Matie. The academic faculties allocate students to academic tutorial groups according to their cluster.

CSC virtual engagement model

Commuter Student communities also make use of virtual engagement platforms to ensure that academic and mentor support, social engagements and support networks can be accessed despite the travel requirements of commuting students. This means that students have access to a huge variety of enriching opportunities ensuring that they remain connected to campus and to one another.

Your student community will be your access point to the SU campus life ecosystem, ensuring that your time at Stellenbosch is rich with developmental and social opportunities.

A personalised letter from your community to which you will belong, detailing the specifics of your welcoming and orientation programme for 2025, will follow in mid-December 2024.

More information

Your community allocation letter will be sent to you in mid-December 2025. You will also receive a personalised welcoming and orientation booklet from the community that you have been allocated to.

For more information on the community structure please click [here](#).

As noted above, the Commuter Student Communities Unit cannot provide you with information about private accommodation. However, please visit the following webpage, where you will find assistance in that regard: www.maties.com > [accommodation](#) > [private accommodation](#).

Warm Matie greetings

Commuter Student Communities Unit

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forward together
sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe

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