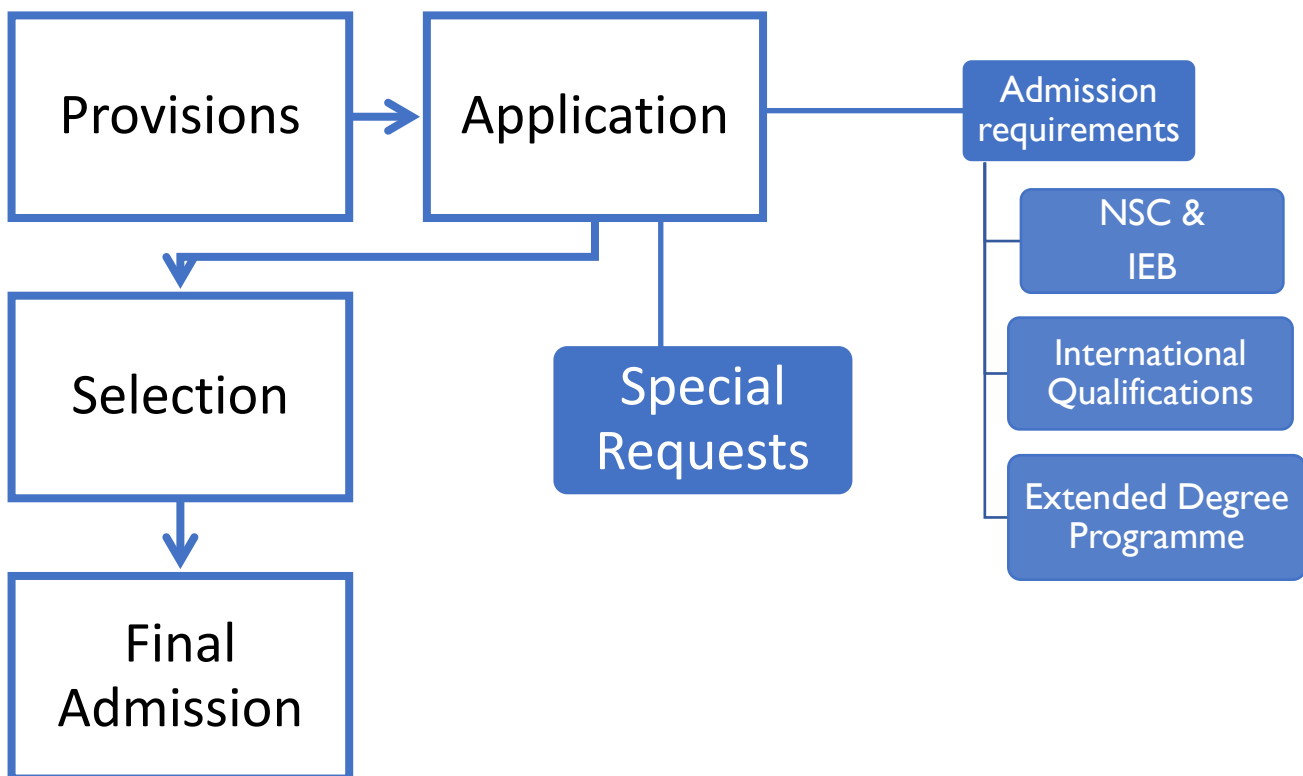


APPLICATION, SELECTION AND ADMISSION for UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES: FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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PURPOSE

This document provides the guidelines used in the application, selection, and admission procedures for undergraduate programmes offered by the Faculty of Science. The selection and admission procedures are followed in accordance with the Admission Policy of Stellenbosch University (SU).

1. PROVISIONS

1.1 Prospective students may apply for a maximum of **three** programmes (not necessarily all in the same faculty) and should not apply for more than one stream in any particular programme in the Faculty of Science (since the same admission requirements apply to all streams within a given programme).

1.2 The **order of the choices** of programmes is important since this is taken into account during the selection and admission processes. In particular:

- If provisional admission is granted for the **first choice** then selection for the second and third choice is not considered;
- If provisional admission is granted for the **second choice** then selection for the third choice is not considered;
- If final admission is granted for the first choice, then provisional admission that may have been granted for another programme will lapse.
- Provisional admission becomes final admission if the school-leaving examination results meet the admission requirements of the programme for which provisional admission has been granted;

1.3 [Admission requirements \(in Appendices 1, 2 and 3\)](#) are the minimum criteria to which an applicant must adhere but selection criteria may be set at higher thresholds for the BSc Human Life Sciences (stream Biology and Biology with Psychology) and BSc Molecular Biology & Biotechnology programmes due to the high number of applicants.

1.4 All applicants for programmes in the Faculty of Science (first-, second- or third choice) must take the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs). The NBT results will not be used for selection but for placement in support groups.

2. PROCEDURE

2.1 Application

- Fully completed applications must be submitted **between 1 March and 30 June** of the year preceding the intended year of study.
- A **FULLY COMPLETED APPLICATION** has all the steps of the application process finalised, the fee paid and all documents submitted.
- **No late applications** will be considered.

2.2 Special Admission Requests

Use the <https://forms.gle/qopxKymNEQQocaUN7> link for any of the following requests

- Applicants who have been provisionally admitted to a programme in the Faculty of Science but their final grade 12 results do not meet the [minimum requirements](#) of the specific programme, can request admission to an Extended Degree Programme by completing the [applicable form](#) as soon as the final NSC/grade 12 marks are made available. The closing date for requests is **15 January** of the intended year of study.
- Applicants who have not been provisionally admitted to a programme in the Faculty of Science on the basis of their grade 11 marks, but whose final grade 12 marks meet the [programme requirements](#), can submit a request by **15 January** to be reconsidered for admission.
- Applicants who have been provisionally admitted to a programme in the Faculty of Science but wish to change programmes or streams, can submit a request by **15 January** to be considered for admission.
- Applicants who have been provisionally admitted to a programme in another faculty at Stellenbosch University but wish to change to a programme in the Faculty of Science, can submit a request by **15 January** to be considered for admission to the Faculty of Science.
- Applicants who are improving their school leaving results or taking Mathematics and/or Physical Science (Chemistry and Physics) additional as school subjects, should submit a request by **15 January** and submit the improved marks to the Admissions Division (info@sun.ac.za) as soon as these marks are available. If the improved mark complies with the minimum requirements, the selection requirements for mainstream programmes as implemented in a specific year of study, will apply.
- Applicants with disabilities should complete the Student Support form from the Centre for Student Counselling and Development and contact the – Disability Unit at +27 21 808 4707 to arrange a meeting with the Faculty of Science to determine the support that is required and what can be offered.

2.3 Selection

The selection procedure done by the Selection Committee of the Faculty of Science, is in accordance with the Admission Policy of Stellenbosch University. The Selection Committee is constituted of the Dean, Vice Dean: Teaching & Learning, Director: Faculty Management, Faculty Administrator, and Coordinator: Academic and Student Affairs. All decisions regarding selection and admission are ratified by the Dean prior to communication with the candidates and decisions of the committee are therefore final.

2.3.1 Selection for Mainstream Programmes

- The faculty has a target of 700 new first-year intake of which 40% should comprise of diversity candidates by 2024. For each programme there is also an admission target.

Programme	Admission number
Biological Sciences	370
Physical Sciences	130
Mathematical Sciences	150
Interdisciplinary streams	50

- The principle of overbooking is applied to compensate for provisionally admitted applicants who do not take up the study offer to register. The overbooking rate is reviewed annually to incorporate changing application and registration trends.
- Applicants who meet the minimum admission criteria ([Appendices 1, 2, and 3](#)) are ranked according to a selection mark, which is calculated as follows:

NSC & IEB	$(2 \times \text{Mathematics mark} + \text{the marks of five other subjects}) \div 7$
NSC & IEB (more than six school subjects)	$(2 \times \text{Mathematics mark} + \text{the marks of the five best subjects}) \div 7$
International School Qualifications	$(2 \times \text{Mathematics mark} + \text{marks of other subjects}(n)) \div (n+1)$

- Marks for Life Orientation is excluded in the calculation of your selection mark.
 - At least one language will be included in the calculation of your selection mark: whether it be Afrikaans or English, as Home- or First Additional Language.
 - The final promotional marks of Grade 11 is used to calculate the selection mark for applicants that are in the process of completing their Grade 12. Results of the final school-leaving examination are used to calculate the selection mark for applicants that are already in possession of a school-leaving certificate.
- Applicants with a selection mark of $\geq 75\%$ will be able to see their admission status on My.Sun within one month after successful submission of the application. Applicants with a selection $< 75\%$ will be considered at the subsequent selection rounds and these will be finalised by 30 August.

2.3.2 Selection for Extended Degree Programmes (EDP)

- A maximum of 70 students per year are selected for these programmes;

- Only new entry South African applicants that falls into ONE of the Categories in [Appendix 4](#), who meet the socio-economic status ratio and have been provisionally admitted will be considered;
- All applicants who submitted requests to be considered for an EDP, will be notified of the outcome via email before on-campus first-year registration.

2.3.3 Selection of applicants that submitted a special admission request by 15 January

- This selection will occur prior to on-campus first year registration.
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome by means of a letter will via email before on-campus first-year registration. This letter must be presented at the on-campus first-year registration desk.

3. FINAL ADMISSION

- Each applicant who has provisional admission for a programme in the Faculty of Science and whose school-leaving results meet the minimum admission requirements for that programme (as in [Appendices 1,2, 3](#)) are eligible to register for that programme.
- Registration can be done electronically (e-registration) from middle January or alternatively during the on-campus first-year registration as communicated in the .as communicated in the [Guide For Newcomers](#).

Appendix I

Minimum admission requirements according to the National Senior Certificate (NSC) and International Examination Board (IEB) school-leaving certificate:

- 1) An average final mark of at least 65% (excluding Life Orientation) and
- 2) A performance level of at least 4 (50%) in Afrikaans or English (Home Language or First Additional Language) and
- 3) With the minimum admission requirements for mainstream programmes as follow.

Programmes	Minimum admission requirements
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	
1.1 Biodiversity and Ecology 1.2 Molecular Biology and Biotechnology 1.3 Human Life Sciences 1.3.1 Stream: Biology 1.3.2 Stream: Biology with Psychology 1.4 Sport Science	Physical Sciences 4 (50%) AND Mathematics 5 (60%) or 6 (70%) (the Mathematics mark determine the Physics and Mathematics that can be taken in the first year)
PHYSICAL SCIENCES	
2.1 Chemistry 2.1.1 Stream: Chemistry and Polymer Science 2.1.2 Stream: Chemical Biology 2.1.3 Stream: Materials Technology 2.2 Physics 2.2.1 Stream: Laser Physics (Physical), Nuclear-, Radiation- and Health Physics 2.2.2 Stream: Laser Physics (Biological) 2.2.3 Stream: Theoretical Physics	Physical Sciences 4 (50%) AND Mathematics 6 (70%)
2.3 Earth Science* 2.3.1 Stream: Applied Earth Science 2.3.2 Stream: Geo-Environmental Science 2.4 Geoinformatics*	<i>*an option for admission with:</i> Physical Sciences 4 (50%) AND Mathematics 5 (60%)
MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES	
3.1 Mathematical Sciences 3.1.1 Financial Mathematics 3.1.2 Computer Science Option 1: Computer Science (excluding Genetics or Geographical Information Technology) Option 2: Computer Science with Genetics Option 3: Computer Science with Geographical Information Technology 3.1.3 Applied Mathematics 3.1.4 Mathematics 3.1.5 Mathematical Statistics 3.1.6 Operational Research 3.1.7 Abstract Mathematics 3.1.8 Biomathematics Option 1: Molecular Biology Option 2: Ecology	Mathematics 6 (70%) AND <i>If Physics or Chemistry is taken:</i> Physical Sciences 4 (50%)
INTERDISCIPLINARY STREAMS	
4.1 Stream: Biomedical Mathematical Sciences 4.2 Stream: Applied Medicinal Chemistry 4.3 Stream: Bioinformatics and Computational Biology	Mathematics 6 (70%) AND Physical Sciences 4 (50%)

Appendix 2

Minimum admission requirements for applicants with International Qualifications

Applicants with International Qualifications have to meet the requirements for university exemption laid down by the Matriculation Board, Universities South Africa, formerly known as Higher Education South Africa (HESA).

- 1) An average performance level of at least 65%
- 2) A performance level of at least 50% in Afrikaans or English and
- 3) With the minimum admission requirements for mainstream programmes provided below.

International Qualification ¹	University subjects to be taken	Minimum admission requirement
HIGCSE and Namibian NSSC	Physics or Chemistry	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics OR Natural Science 3
	Mathematics 114, 144 and Physics 114, 144	Mathematics 2
	Mathematics (Bio) 124 and Physics (Bio) 134, 154	Mathematics 3
AS-level	Physics or Chemistry	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics OR Natural Science D
	Mathematics 114, 144 and Physics 114, 144	Mathematics B
	Mathematics (Bio) 124 and Physics (Bio) 134, 154	Mathematics C
A-level	Physics or Chemistry	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics OR Natural Science E
	Mathematics 114, 144 and Physics 114, 144	Mathematics D
	Mathematics (Bio) 124 and Physics (Bio) 134, 154	Mathematics E
IB HL	Physics or Chemistry	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics 2
	Mathematics 114, 144 and Physics 114, 144	Mathematics 4
	Mathematics (Bio) 124 and Physics (Bio) 134, 154	Mathematics 3
IB SL	Physics or Chemistry	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics 2
	Mathematics 114, 144 and Physics 114, 144	Mathematics 5
	Mathematics (Bio) 124 and Physics (Bio) 134, 154	Mathematics 4
School of Tomorrow	All programmes	Can only obtain a university exemption certificate on recommendation of the Faculty of Science Meeting programme specific requirements (Appendix 1) and Performance in the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)

¹ Contact the International Office (<http://www0.sun.ac.za/international/contact-us.html>) for the minimum admission requirements for school leaving qualifications not listed.

Appendix 3

Minimum admission requirements for Extended Degree Programmes (EDP)

Only applicants who have not been previously registered at Stellenbosch University or at any other higher education institution, will be considered. Preference is given to applicants from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds who have been provisionally admitted to a programme in the Faculty of Science, but whose final Grade 12 results are not meeting the minimum requirements. Such applicants can submit a request for a transfer into an EDP if he/she falls into one of the following categories::

	BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	MATHEMATICAL-, PHYSICAL SCIENCES
CATEGORY 1	Average $\geq 55\%$ Life Orientation excluded	Average $\geq 55\%$ Life Orientation excluded
	Meeting ALL other admission requirements	Meeting ALL other admission requirements
CATEGORY 2	Mathematics 4 (50%)	Mathematics 5 (60%)
	Meeting ALL other admission requirements	Meeting ALL other admission requirements
CATEGORY 3	Physical Science 3 (40%)	
	Meeting ALL other admission requirements	