

SUMMARY (Please read the document from p2 for detailed information)

General

- A selection procedure is followed in order to meet the target of 700 for new first-year student intake, of which 40% have to be diversity candidates by 2024.
- Prospective students can apply for a maximum of three programmes. The Faculty of Science will consider applications indicated as first, second or third choice.
- The applicant must give serious thought to the ranking of the various programme choices. If a prospective student obtain e.g. provisional admission for a first choice, the second and third choices cannot be considered. At the same time the provisional admission to a second choice can fall away should the application for the first choice be successful.
- **NB*** Selection for the BSc Human Life Sciences programme (Biology stream, and Biology with Psychology stream); and BSc Molecular Biology and Biotechnology programme, could be more strict and the admission threshold higher as a result of the large number of applications. Therefore applications where one of these programmes are listed as third choice, will possibly not be considered.
- The same admission requirements apply to the various streams within a specific programme. Therefore an applicant should rather not apply for more than one stream within the same programme.

Application procedure

- Closing date for applications is 30 June of the preceding year and no late applications will be considered.
- Only fully completed applications will be considered in the selection process.
- A fully completed application means: all steps of the application procedure have been finalised, fees have been paid, and all documentation submitted by 30 June.

Selection process

- Selection takes place according to three principles: (i) academic merit (ii) intake targets and (iii) diversity targets.
- All applicants with a selection mark of 75% and more AND who meet the programme specific requirements, will receive the outcome approximately one month after the successful submission of the application.
- Applicants with a selection mark lower than 75% will be considered at subsequent selection rounds and these applications will be finalised by 30 August.

1 General information regarding selection

A selection procedure is followed in order to meet the target of nearly 700 for new first-year student intake, of which 40% have to be diversity candidates by 2024. This selection process is in accordance with the Admission Policy of Stellenbosch University. Selection takes place per programme for the various programmes in the Biological Sciences, Mathematical Sciences and Physical Sciences. The admissions number is divided as follows (these numbers are revised annually on the basis of applications and needs):

Biological Sciences*	410
Mathematical Sciences	170
Physical Sciences	120

- ***NB** Selection for the BSc Human Life Sciences stream (Biology) and stream (Biology with Psychology); and Molecular Biology and Biotechnology could possibly be more strict and the admission threshold higher as a result of the large number of applicants. Therefore applications where **these** programmes are listed as third choice will possibly not be considered.
- The principle of overbooking is applied to allow for the fact that not all applicants who are provisionally selected turn up, or qualify for final admission. The overbooking rate is reviewed annually to incorporate changing application and registration trends.
- The Faculty of Science will not use the NBT results for admission, selection or placement in programmes. Applicants therefore do not need to take the NBTs in the application year. However, provisionally accepted prospective students in the Faculty of Science, who qualify for registration, have to write (if not taken yet), the National Benchmark Tests on the SU campus at a session that will be scheduled at the beginning of the academic year. The Faculty will use the results to allocate first years into academic support groups.
- Applicants who do not study directly after completing grade 12 often experience difficulties with Mathematics in their first year. Please keep in mind that it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that he/she is prepared for Mathematics on university level. There is no additional support from the faculty available to catch up with school work.
- If an applicant has studied previously at another tertiary institution (not a new entry student), additional admission criteria apply (contact scienceadmin@sun.ac.za).

2 Minimum admission requirements (take note of requirements for various school systems)

2.1 Table1: The minimum admission requirements for mainstream programmes with NSC and IEB

For detailed information see the Faculty of Science Calendar 2019 (Part 5)

Programmes	Minimum admission requirements - National Senior Certificate (NSC) and International Examination Board (IEB)	
An average performance level of at least 65% (excluding Life Orientation)		
A performance level of at least 4 (50%) in Afrikaans or English (Home Language or First Additional Language)		
1. PROGRAMMES IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES		
1.1 Biodiversity and Ecology	• Physical Sciences	4 (50%)
1.2 Sport Science	• Mathematics	5 (60%)
1.3 Human Life Sciences		
1.3.1 Stream: Biology with Psychology		
1.3.2 Stream: Biology	• Physical Sciences	4 (50%)
1.4 Molecular Biology and Biotechnology	• Mathematics (Your mathematics mark will determine which Physics and Mathematics you may take at university)	5 (60%) OR 6 (70%)
2. PROGRAMMES IN THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES		
2.1 Chemistry	• Physical Sciences	4 (50%)
2.1.1 Stream: Chemistry and Polymer Science	• Mathematics	6 (70%)
2.1.2 Stream: Chemical Biology		
2.1.3 Stream: Materials Technology		
2.2 Physics		
2.2.1 Stream: Laser Physics (Physical), Nuclear Physics, Radiation and HealthPhysics		
2.2.2 Stream: Laser Physics (Biological)		

Programmes	Minimum admission requirements - National Senior Certificate (NSC) and International Examination Board (IEB)	
2.2.3 Stream: Theoretical Physics		
2.3 Earth Science	• Physical Sciences	4 (50%)
2.3.1 Stream: Applied Earth Science	• Mathematics (Your mathematics mark will determine which subjects you may take at university)	5 (60%)
2.3.2 Stream: Geo-Environmental Science		OR
2.4 GeolInformatics		6 (70%)
3. PROGRAMME IN THE MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES		
3.1 Mathematical Sciences	• Mathematics	6 (70%)
3.1.1 Stream: Financial Mathematics		
3.1.2 Stream: Computer Science	• Physical Sciences (If you are going to take Physics or Chemistry at university)	4 (50%)
3.1.3 Stream: Applied Mathematics		
3.1.4 Stream: Mathematics		
3.1.5 Stream: Mathematical Statistics		
3.1.6 Stream: Operational Research		
3.1.7 Stream: Abstract Mathematics		
3.1.8 Stream: Biomathematics		

2.2 Table 2: The minimum admission requirements for mainstream programmes with international schoolleaving qualifications

(International school leaving qualifications have to meet the requirements for university exemption laid down by the Matriculation Board, HESA)

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS		Minimum admission requirements				
SELECTION: A minimum average selection mark of 65%; $(2 \times \text{mathematics} + \text{the marks of the other final school subjects} \div \text{number of subjects})$						
FINAL ADMISSION: A minimum average final mark of 65%						
A final mark of 50% in Afrikaans or English						
Programme	School subject	Namibian NSSC HL	AS-level	A-level	IB SL	IB HL
1. PROGRAMMES IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES						
1.1 Biodiversity and Ecology	Physical Sciences	3	D	E	4	4
1.2 Sport Science	Or Chemistry and					
1.3 Human Life Sciences	Physics (Not the school subject <i>Science</i>)					
1.3.1 Stream: Biology with Psychology	Mathematics	3	C	E	4	4
1.3.2 Stream: Biology	Physical Sciences	3	D	E	4	4
1.4 Molecular Biology and Biotechnology	OR Chemistry and Physics (Not the school subject <i>Science</i>)					
	Mathematics (Your Mathematics mark will determine which Physics and Mathematics you may take at university)	3 OR 2	C OR B	E OR D	4 OR 5	4 OR 4

Programme	School subject	Namibian NSSC HL	AS-level	A-level	IB SL	IB HL
PROGRAMMES IN THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES						
Chemistry 2.1.1 Stream: Chemistry and Polymer Science 2.1.2 Stream: Chemical Biology 2.1.3 Stream: Materials Technology Physics 2.2.1 Stream: Laser Physics (Physical), Nuclear Physics, Radiation and Health Physics 2.2.2 Stream: Laser Physics (Biological) 2.2.3 Stream: Theoretical Physics	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics (Not the school subject <i>Science</i>)	3	D	E	4	4
	Mathematics	2	B	D	5	4
2.3 Earth Science 2.3.1 Stream: Applied Earth Science 2.3.2 Stream: Geo-environmental Science 2.4 Geoinformatics	Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics (Not the school subject <i>Science</i>)	3	D	E	4	4
	Mathematics (Your Mathematics mark will determine which subjects you may take at university)	3 OR 2	C OR B	E OR D	4 OR 5	4 OR 4
3.1 Mathematical Sciences 3.1.1 Stream: Financial Mathematics 3.1.2 Stream: Computer Science 3.1.3 Stream: Applied Mathematics 3.1.4 Stream: Mathematics 3.1.5 Stream: Mathematical Statistics 3.1.6 Stream: Operational Research 3.1.7 Stream: Abstract Mathematics 3.1.8 Stream: Biomathematics	Mathematics	2	B	D	5	4
	(If you are going to take Physics or Chemistry at university): Physical Sciences OR Chemistry and Physics ((Not the school subject <i>Science</i>))	3	D	E	4	4

***Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics on IGSCE / GCSE / NSSC OL Gr 11 / NSSC OL Gr 12 level, does not qualify for admission.**

Apply with Grade 11 results (pre-final schoolleaving year). For selection and exemption purposes you have to supply:

- a list of the subjects (and levels) you will take in the final year of school (grade 12 /13),
- and the predicted results per subject (confirmed by the school).

However, applicants from the **Cambridge school system** do not have to provide the predicted results.

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

2.3 Table 3: Additional admission requirements for School of Tomorrow or other Home Schooling Systems

**School of Tomorrow or other Home Schooling Systems		
Applicants from these schooling systems can only obtain an university exemption certificate on recommendation of the faculty. Selection of these candidates is thus dependent on meeting the programme specific admission requirements, as well as performance in the NBTs (unless the candidate sits the NSC exams in which case these results will apply.)		
Programmes	Admission requirements	NBT

All programmes	As for NSC/IEB	Academic Literacy	60
		Quantitative Literacy	60
		Mathematics	55

3 Minimum admission requirements for extended degree programmes (EDP)

For detailed information see the 2019 Faculty of Science Calendar (part 5) p 29

Applicants who are provisionally admitted to mainstream programmes, but whose final results do not meet the minimum admission requirements of the specific mainstream programme, can direct a request for admission to a EDP.

Only applicants who have not been previously registered at SU or any other institution of higher education, will be considered.

Preference is given to candidates from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, who meet the minimum admission requirements of the specific EDP. Admission is also subject to the availability of places.

3.1 Table 4: Minimum admission requirements for extended degree programmes (EDP)

Programmes	Minimum admission requirements – National Senior Certificate (NSC) and International Examination Board (IEB)					
	A final mark of at least 4 (50%) in Afrikaans or English (Home Language or First Additional Language) AND Comply with one of the following three combinations					
	Combination 1 minimum requirements		Combination 2 minimum requirements		Combination 3 minimum requirements	
Biological Sciences	Mathematics	5 (60%)	Mathematics	4 (50%)	Mathematics	5 (60%)
	Physical Science	4 (50%)	Physical Science	4 (50%)	Physical Science	3 (40%)
	Average (without LO ¹)	≥55%	Average (without LO ¹)	≥65%	Average (without LO ¹)	≥65%
Physical and Mathematical Sciences	Mathematics	6 (70%)	Mathematics	5 (60%)	Mathematics	6 (70%)
	Physical Science	4 (50%)	Physical Science	4 (50%)	Physical Science	3 (40%)
	Average (without LO ¹)	≥55%	Average (without LO ¹)	≥65%	Average (without LO ¹)	≥65%

4 Selection

- Selection takes place on the basis of academic merit only.
- Meeting the minimum requirements of the programme applied for does NOT guarantee selection.
- Only fully completed applications, which include the required supporting documents, will be considered in the selection process. (Please keep proof of submission of supporting documents). Closing date for applications is **30 June** of the preceding year.
- Keep in mind that an applicant can only be granted provisional admission, or final admission (if grade 12 has already been completed successfully), into **one** programme applied for. E.g. if an applicant was initially accepted for his/her 2nd choice, this provisional admission (for the 2nd choice) lapses should the applicant's first choice be successful as well.
- **Grade 11 applicants**

Selection and provisional admission is based on the final grade 11 promotion marks. The selection mark for provisional admission is calculated as explained below (4.2).

¹ Life Orientation

- **Applicants who have already successfully completed their school leaving examinations**

The results of the final school leaving examination are used to calculate the selection mark as explained below (4.2). If the application is successful, final admission is immediately granted.

- **Applicants who better their grade 12 marks in the following year**

A limited number of applicants will be placed on a waiting list until the improved school leaving examination results are available. These improved school leaving examination results are subject to the same selection criteria as applicable to all applicants for the specific year. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit the improved marks to the Admissions Division (info@sun.ac.za) as soon as these marks are available, TOGETHER with the request for admission by completing the request form (see 5.4).

4.1 Selection committee

The selection of prospective students is done by a selection committee of the Faculty of Science as compiled by the dean of the faculty. All decisions regarding selection are approved by the dean prior to communication with the candidates and **decisions are therefore final**.

If you are provisionally admitted to a programme but wish to change programmes to another programme in the Faculty of Science, permission has to be obtained from the selection committee. Such requests will only be considered if there are places available in the specific programme. Direct the request to scienceadmin@sun.ac.za by 30 September of the preceding year.

4.2 Selection criteria

- A selection mark (SM) is calculated for each applicant as follows:
 - NSC and IEB: $[(2 \times \text{Mathematics mark} + \text{the marks of the other five subjects}^* \text{ (of which at least one must be English or Afrikaans; excluding Life Orientation)})] \div 7$
 - For selection with international school qualifications, see Table 2
- **Important:** The exact marks are used. Physical Sciences as school subject must be included in the abovementioned five school subjects if you want to follow a programme in the Physical or Biological Sciences.
- Applicants have to meet all the minimum admission requirements of the programme applying for.

4.3 Timeframe of the selection process

- Closing date for applications is 30 June of the preceding year.
- Selection will take place until the end of August. These applications are ranked based on the selection marks. Selection is done subject to the availability of places per specific programme, taking the diversity composition into account until the target for new student first year intake is met. Remaining eligible candidates could possibly still be considered, (potentially until after registration) should it become evident that the registration targets per specific programme will not be met.
- As soon as provisional admission is granted, the applicant will receive a letter in this regard. Please keep in mind that this letter of provisional acceptance lapses when the applicant receives provisional acceptance hereafter for another programme.

4.4 Selection for extended degree programmes (EDP)

4.4.1 Selection process

The selection process for these programmes aims to admit a maximum of 70 students, of which 75% should be diversity candidates, into these programmes.

Admission criteria for EDP:

- The final grade 12 marks do not comply with admission requirements for the mainstream programmes
AND
- The socio-economic status of applicant
AND
- The applicant must be a new first-year student (thus an applicant who have previously studied at another institution does not qualify).

4.4.2 Timeframe of the selection process (EDP)

- **Candidates who have been provisionally accepted for mainstream but their final grade 12 results do not meet the minimum requirements.**

Candidates can request admission to the EDP by completing the applicable form at the following link <http://bit.ly/VGPtoegang> as soon as the final NSC/grade 12 marks are available. The closing date for this request is **15 January** of the planned year of study. Selection takes place directly after this closing date and the status of the application will be available at <http://bit.ly/VGPOutcome> by 20 January. Applications received after 15 January will only be considered after first-year registration has been finalised (±26 January).

- **Candidates who have already obtained a final school-leaving certificate**

The closing date for applications is **30 June** of the year preceding the year of study. If the application is successful, final admission is then already granted.

5 Waiting list status

Applicants can obtain waiting list status in the following cases:

5.1 Improving schoolleaving marks

Only a limited number of applicants can be admitted. The selection requirements for mainstream programmes will apply as implemented in a specific year of study. If your improved mark comply with the minimum requirements, admission is **still not** guaranteed. The extent to which the marks are improved, will be used. Admission can only be finalised after final improved marks are made available.

5.2 Taking Mathematics and/or Physical Science (Chemistry and/or Physics) additionally as school subjects

Only a limited number applicants can be admitted. The selection requirements for mainstream programmes will apply as implemented in a specific year of study. Admission can only be finalised after final additional marks are made available.

5.3 Transfer from another academic institution

Only a limited number applicants can be admitted. The selection requirements for mainstream programmes will apply. Admission will only be finalised after the most recent final marks from the academic institution are made available. Should a student from this group be selected, he/she may only register for the programme if he/she have passed all the required modules in the previous academic year.

5.4 Finalisation of applications with waiting list status

- As soon as your final/improved marks are available, you have to complete the form at the following link <http://bit.ly/WaitSUScience> in order to confirm your request for final admission. The closing date for this request is **15 January** in the planned year of study.
- Only candidates who complete this form will be considered for final admission.
- After completion of the selection process, the status of this application will be available at <http://bit.ly/WaitSUScienceOutcome> by 20 January.

6 Requests to change a programme after grade 12 results are available

Applicants who want to change the programme he/she has been granted provisional admission, may request a programme change by completing the form at the following link by **15 January** <http://bit.ly/SUScienceChange>. This apply to the following cases:

- Applicant has provisional admission for a programme in the Science Faculty, but wants to change to another programme within the Science Faculty. The status of these requests will be available by approximately 20 January at <http://bit.ly/SUScienceChangeOutcome>; OR
- Applicant has provisional admission for a programme in another faculty and request to change to a programme in the Faculty of Science. The status of these requests will only be available after first-year registration has been finalized (approximately 30 January) at <http://bit.ly/SUScienceChangeOutcome>.

7 Requests for reconsideration after final grade 12 marks are available

Applicants who have **not** been provisionally accepted on the basis of their grade 11 marks, but whose final grade 12 marks meet the programme requirements, can request to be reconsidered for admission by completing the form at <http://bit.ly/SUScienceReconsider> by **15 January** in the planned year of study. The status of this request will be available at <http://bit.ly/SUScienceReconsiderOutcome> on 30 January in the planned year of study.

These requests will only be considered **after** first-year registration has been finalised and **if** places are available.

8 Final admission and registration

- Conditional admission status becomes final admission if the results of school leaving examination meet the admission requirements of the programme for which provisional admission was granted. Applicants are responsible to check whether they meet the admission requirements and are eligible to register as students.
- Registration can be done from middle January electronically or otherwise this must be done on the specific registration day in the registration venue.
- Applicants will only be allowed to register if proof of the school leaving qualification can be provided.
- **A limited number** of applicants on the waiting list will be considered for final admission as soon as outstanding marks are submitted to the selection committee and the applicant has confirmed the request for final admission as set out in 5.

Contact: scienceadmin@sun.ac.za or 021 808 3063