

## **Selection guidelines and admission policy for undergraduate programmes**

### **Faculty of AgriSciences**

### **2025 intake**

#### **PURPOSE**

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

#### **APPLICATION DUE DATES**

Applications close 31 July 2024 for the 2025 academic year.

#### **RESULTS USED FOR SELECTION**

##### **Current Grade 12 applicants**

If prospective students, at the time of their application, are in Grade 12, their final Grade 11 marks are used to decide whether they qualify for an offer from the Faculty of AgriSciences. This offer is conditional and subject to a candidate meeting the minimum requirements for the specific programme based on the applicant's Grade 12 results. If an applicant accepts the offer of the Faculty and meet the requirements of the particular programme based on their Grade 12 results, their conditional admission will be changed to final admission. If the applicants' Grade 12 results do not meet the admission requirements of the programme, the applicant can request to be considered for an Extended Degree Programme (EDP)

##### **Matriculated applicants**

If prospective students, at the time of application, have already completed Grade 12, their final Grade 12 results are used to determine their admission. If an applicant is selected and accepts the offer of the Faculty, final admission will be granted.

#### **FOREIGN EXAMINATIONS**

**'School of Tomorrow' applicants:** Admission of prospective students from the *School of Tomorrow* schooling system will be considered on the achievement of the following National Benchmark Test (NBT) results:

- Academic Literacy (AL) - 55%
- Quantitative Literacy (QL) - 55%
- Mathematics (MATHS) - 50%

**International qualifications:** Applicants with international school qualifications must pass Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics at a comparable standard to the required NSC (Grade 12) level. Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics at IGSCE/GCSE/NSSC OL/O-level does not qualify for admission. All queries concerning international qualifications should be directed to the SU International Office (Tel 0218082565, E-mail [interoff@sun.ac.za](mailto:interoff@sun.ac.za)).

**NATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS (NBT's):** It is only compulsory for applicants who are completing a "School of Tomorrow" curriculum to write the NBTs. All other applicants do not write the NBTs.

### **MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINSTREAM DEGREE PROGRAMMES**

For mainstream Degree Programmes only applicants who meet the following requirements will be considered for selection:

#### **Basic admission requirements to university study:**

- A National Senior Certificate (NSC) or Independent Examinations Board (IEB) school-leaving certificate as certified by Umalusi with admission to bachelor's degree studies.
- A university exemption certificate issued by the South African Matriculation Board to students with other school qualifications.
- The minimum academic requirement for a bachelor's degree is:
  - 30% for a South African Language of Learning and Teaching (English or Afrikaans) and
  - An achievement rating of 4 (50% - 59%) in four 20-credit subjects
- Writing of the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs) required if School of Tomorrow applicant

#### **Faculty specific requirements:**

- An average of at least 60% in the NSC, IEB or relevant final school examination. The average is calculated by taking your highest score in Language of Learning and Teaching subject (English or Afrikaans) + (5 x best results in 20-credit subjects excluding Life orientation and Mathematics 3). The total divided by 6 equals your NSC average.
- Afrikaans or English (Home Language or First Additional Language) 4 (50%)
- Mathematics 5 (60%)
- Physical Sciences (Physics and Chemistry) 4 (50%)

In addition to the minimum admission requirements, admission to the program **BScAgric (Plant and Soil Sciences) with Soil Science and Chemistry as major subjects** requires a minimum of:

- Mathematics 6 (70%)

In addition to the minimum admission requirements, admission to the program **BScFor (Wood and Wood Products Sciences)** requires a minimum of:

- Mathematics 6 (70%)
- Physical Sciences (Physics and Chemistry) 5 (60%)

For the **BAgric** program offered by Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute applicants need to meet the following requirements to be considered for selection:

- An average of at least 55% in the NSC, IEB or relevant final school examination. The average is calculated by taking your highest score in Language of Learning and Teaching subject (English or Afrikaans) + (5 x best results in 20-credit subjects excluding Life orientation and Mathematics 3). The total divided by 6 equals your NSC average.
- Afrikaans or English (Home Language or First Additional Language) 4 (50%)
- Mathematics 4 (50%) OR Mathematical Literacy 5 (60%)
- Physical Sciences (Physics and Chemistry) 4 (50%) OR
- Life Sciences 4 (50%) OR
- Agricultural Sciences 4 (50%)

Please note: The Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute does the selection of candidates to the BAgric programme and will communicate directly with applicants.

### **MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTENDED DEGREE PROGRAMMES (EDP)**

Any student who is admitted to a mainstream program may apply for admission to a relevant EDP. A student, based on school results may be advised or required by the Faculty to follow the EDP route. A maximum of 50 students per year are selected for the EDP programmes. Preference is given to applicants from disadvantaged socio-economic and schooling backgrounds.

Prospective students who received a conditional offer to mainstream programmes based on Grade 11 results, but whose final NSC or IEB results do not meet the minimum requirements of the relevant program, may submit a request for a transfer into an EDP if the applicant falls into one of the following categories:

	EDP in the programs leading to: BScAgric BScFor BScConsEcol BAgric (Agri-business Management):	EDP BScAgric (Plant and Soil Sciences) with Soil Science and Chemistry	EDP BScFor (Wood and Wood Products Sciences):
<b>CATEGORY 1</b>	Average $\geq 55\%$ (Excluding Life Orientation)	Average $\geq 55\%$ (Excluding Life Orientation)	Average $\geq 55\%$ (Excluding Life Orientation)
	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements
<b>CATEGORY 2</b>	Mathematics 4 (55% - 59.9%)	Mathematics 5 (60% - 69.9%)	Mathematics 5 (60% - 69.9%)
	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements
<b>CATEGORY 3</b>	Physical Science 3 (45% - 49.9%)	Physical Science 3 (45% - 49.9%)	Physical Science 4 (55% - 59.9%)
	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements	Meet <b>ALL</b> other admission requirements

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

The Faculty has a target to enrol 450 new first-years in 2023. The intake should by 2024 comprise of 40% diversity candidates. There are no set admission targets per programme but the intake of students over the 7 broader programmes offered in the Faculty will be managed carefully.

	Maximum number of offers (overbooking included)	Number of final registrations
Agricultural Economics	75	50
Animal Science	55	45
Conservation Ecology	55	45
Food Science	55	50
Forest and Wood Science	45	30
Plant & Soil Science	75	60
Viticulture & Oenology	50	40
Extended Degree program	50	50
BAgric (Eisenburg programme)	80	80

The principle of overbooking is applied to compensate for provisionally admitted applicants who do not take up the offer to register. The overbooking rate is reviewed annually to incorporate changing application and registration trends.

Selection takes place on the basis of academic merit only. Meeting the minimum requirements of the program applied for does NOT guarantee selection.

### 5. Selection Committee

Selection of prospective students is done by a selection committee, 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 final. All enquiries regarding the selection process will be managed by the Faculty Administrator, Mr Erik van Zyl ([erik@sun.ac.za](mailto:erik@sun.ac.za)).