

Navigating the Maze: A Comprehensive Guide to Undergraduate Admission Requirements in South Africa (2025/2026)

I. Introduction

- Purpose and Scope

This report serves as a comprehensive, expert-level guide to the multifaceted landscape of undergraduate admission prerequisites across South Africa's higher education institutions, with a specific focus on the 2025/2026 academic cycle. Its aim is to consolidate and clarify the requirements for prospective students navigating the application process. The scope encompasses the national baseline policies set forth by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), detailed requirements for a wide range of Public Universities, Private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges. Particular attention is given to admission criteria stemming from the National Senior Certificate (NSC), the National Certificate (Vocational) [NC(V)] Level 4, and the procedures for evaluating equivalent foreign qualifications.

- Overview of the South African Higher Education Landscape

South Africa's higher education system is diverse, comprising three main types of institutions operating within the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).¹ Public Universities offer a range of qualifications from Higher Certificates (NQF Level 5) through Diplomas (NQF Level 6) to Bachelor's (NQF Levels 7 & 8), Honours, Master's (NQF Level 9), and Doctoral degrees (NQF Level 10).¹ Private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), which must be registered with the DHET and have their programmes accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE)², offer a similar range of qualifications, often with specialized focuses like business or creative arts. Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges primarily focus on vocational and occupational training, offering the National Certificate (Vocational) (NCV) at NQF Levels 2-4 and NATED/Report 191 programmes (N1-N6 certificates leading potentially to NQF Level 6 Diplomas).⁶ Quality assurance is maintained by bodies such as Umalusi, which certifies the NSC and the Senior Certificate (Amended)¹⁰, the CHE, which accredits qualifications on the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) from NQF Levels 5 to 10², and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), which manages the overall NQF and is responsible for evaluating foreign qualifications.³

Given the limited number of places available at many institutions and the variety

of programmes and requirements, a thorough understanding of admission prerequisites is essential for prospective students.¹⁸ This report aims to provide that clarity.

- **Navigating the Report**

This guide is structured to provide a clear pathway through the complexities of South African undergraduate admissions. Section II details the national baseline requirements established by the DHET for entry via the NSC, NCV, and foreign qualifications. Sections III, IV, and V delve into the specific requirements of Public Universities, Private HEIs, and TVET Colleges respectively, using numerous institutional examples. Section VI offers a comparative analysis across these institutional types. Section VII explains additional selection criteria like National Benchmark Tests (NBTs). Finally, Section VIII provides concluding remarks and recommendations, followed by an Appendix listing key official sources.

II. National Baseline Admission Requirements (DHET)

- **Governing Policies and Frameworks**

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) is the governmental body responsible for establishing the overarching policies governing higher education in South Africa.¹⁰ The minimum admission requirements for higher education are legally grounded in the Higher Education Act, 1997, and the General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act.¹⁰ Historically, Universities South Africa (USAf), formerly HESA, played a significant role in setting these minimums, particularly for NCV qualifications.⁶

Crucially, these national policies define the *minimum* threshold for eligibility. Meeting these minimums does *not* guarantee admission to any higher education institution or specific programme.¹⁰ Individual institutions are empowered to set their own, often significantly higher, admission requirements based on programme-specific needs, academic rigour, and enrolment capacity.¹⁰ This distinction between minimum eligibility and institutional selection criteria is fundamental for applicants to understand.

- **National Senior Certificate (NSC) Pathways**

- **Overview:** Since 2008, the National Senior Certificate (NSC), a qualification at NQF Level 4 certified by Umalusi, serves as the primary school-leaving certificate for entry into higher education.¹⁰
- **Minimum Requirements for Qualification Types:** The DHET policy outlines the statutory minimum NSC results required for different levels of higher education study:
 - **Higher Certificate (NQF Level 5):** The minimum requirement is a pass in the National Senior Certificate (NSC). Institutions may specify additional

subject combinations or achievement levels pertinent to the programme (e.g., requiring Design at a certain level for a Higher Certificate in Architectural Design).¹⁰

- **Diploma (NQF Level 6):** The minimum requirement is an NSC with an achievement rating of 3 (Moderate Achievement, 40-49%) or better in four recognised 20-credit NSC subjects. Life Orientation is typically excluded from these four subjects as it is a 10-credit subject.²⁷ Institutions can stipulate specific subject requirements (e.g., Mathematics or Information Technology for a Diploma in Datametrics).¹⁰
- **Bachelor's Degree (NQF Level 7/8):** The minimum requirement is an NSC with an achievement rating of 4 (Adequate Achievement, 50-59%) or better in four subjects chosen from the *designated list* of recognised 20-credit NSC subjects. This requirement aims to balance the cognitive demands of degree study with the goals of equity and wider access.¹⁰
- **Designated Subject List for Bachelor's Degree Entry:** The DHET policy specifies a list of subjects deemed suitable for preparing students for the demands of degree-level study. Achieving a level 4 (50%+) in four subjects from this list is the minimum requirement for Bachelor's degree endorsement. The list includes ¹⁰:
 - Accounting
 - Agricultural Sciences
 - Business Studies
 - Dramatic Arts
 - Economics
 - Engineering Graphics and Design
 - Geography
 - History
 - Consumer Studies
 - Information Technology
 - Languages (one language of learning and teaching at a higher education institution and two other recognised language subjects)
 - Life Sciences
 - Mathematics
 - Mathematical Literacy
 - Music
 - Physical Sciences
 - Religion Studies
 - Visual Arts It is important to note that while this list forms the basis for minimum degree entry, institutions often require specific subjects from

this list (e.g., Mathematics and Physical Sciences for Science or Engineering degrees) and may demand achievement levels higher than the minimum 50%.¹⁰

- **Senior Certificate (Amended) (SC(a)):** An alternative pathway exists for adult learners (aged 21 and older) who did not complete or pass the previous Senior Certificate. The SC(a) uses the current CAPS curriculum subjects (excluding School-Based Assessment) and allows candidates to qualify for Higher Certificate, Diploma, or Bachelor's degree admission, provided they meet the relevant endorsement requirements.²⁹
- **National Certificate (Vocational) (NCV) Level 4 Pathways**
 - **Overview:** The NCV, offered primarily through TVET Colleges, provides an alternative route to higher education. The NCV Level 4 is a 130-credit qualification at NQF Level 4, considered equivalent to the NSC.⁶ It comprises three compulsory fundamental subjects (an official language as LoLT, Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy, and Life Orientation – totalling 50 credits) and four vocational subjects (totalling 80 credits) within a specific occupational field.⁶
 - **Minimum Requirements for Qualification Types (per DHET Policy Gazette 42092, Dec 2018):** The minimum requirements for NCV Level 4 holders to enter higher education are distinct and, in some cases, more stringent than the NSC minimums.⁶
 - **Higher Certificate:** Requires a NCV Level 4 certificate. Applicants must also meet the specific language requirements of the admitting institution.²⁰ (Note: An older policy cited 40% in LoLT, 30% in Maths/Lit, 40% in LO, and 50% in four vocational subjects³¹, but the 2018 Gazette²⁰ simply states NCV L4 plus institutional language requirements).
 - **Diploma:** Requires an NCV Level 4 certificate with achievement of at least 40% in three fundamental subjects (including the language of learning and teaching (LoLT) of the institution) AND at least 50% in three compulsory vocational subjects relevant to the diploma programme.²⁰
 - **Bachelor's Degree:** Requires an NCV Level 4 certificate with achievement of at least 50% in three fundamental subjects (including the LoLT) AND at least 60% in four compulsory vocational subjects chosen from the recognised NCV Level 4 subject list.²⁰ The fact that the minimum percentage requirements for NCV holders to access Diploma and Degree studies are often higher than the baseline NSC requirements (e.g., NCV degree entry needs 50% in fundamentals and 60% in four vocational subjects, while NSC degree entry needs 50% in four designated subjects) suggests a policy stance potentially reflecting perceived differences in

preparation or aiming to ensure NCV graduates are adequately equipped for higher education demands.⁶

- **Credit Transfer:** Policy allows for the recognition and transfer of credits for certain fundamental subjects (English, Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, Physical Sciences) passed in the NSC towards an NCV Level 4 qualification, provided specific minimum pass percentages are met.³⁵

- **Recognition of Foreign Qualifications**

- **Mandatory Evaluation:** Individuals holding qualifications obtained outside of South Africa must have them formally evaluated to determine their equivalence to South African NQF levels before they can be used for admission to higher education or for employment purposes.⁵
- **SAQA:** The primary body responsible for this evaluation is the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), through its Directorate of Foreign Qualifications Evaluation and Advisory Services (DFQEAS).⁵ The process involves verifying the authenticity of the qualification and the status of the awarding institution, and then comparing the foreign qualification's structure and outcomes to the South African NQF.¹⁴ Applicants typically apply online, submitting certified copies of their qualification certificates and transcripts (with sworn English translations if necessary), proof of identity, and the required fee. Processing times vary based on the service level chosen (normal, urgent, priority).¹³ The outcome is a SAQA Certificate of Evaluation, indicating the comparable NQF level.¹⁴ SAQA now issues these certificates electronically.¹⁴
- **USAf (Matriculation Board):** For admission specifically to *Bachelor's degree* programmes at South African universities, applicants holding foreign *school-leaving* certificates usually require a Certificate of Matriculation Exemption issued by the Matriculation Board, which falls under Universities South Africa (USAf).²⁸ This is a separate requirement from the SAQA evaluation. SAQA assesses the general NQF equivalence, while the Matriculation Board specifically determines eligibility for degree study at a university. This dual system requires international applicants targeting degree studies to potentially engage with both bodies, adding a layer of complexity that needs careful navigation.¹³
- **Institutional Requirements:** Higher education institutions frequently specify the need for these evaluations in their admission requirements. Often, a SAQA evaluation is required for entry into Higher Certificates and Diplomas based on foreign qualifications, while a USAf Matriculation Exemption certificate is mandatory for degree admission.³⁷

- **Alternative Pathways**

- **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):** The Higher Education Act and national policies mandate that institutional admission policies must provide for alternative routes of entry, including the assessment of an applicant's prior learning and experience through RPL.³ This is particularly relevant for adult learners who may lack formal qualifications but possess equivalent knowledge and skills gained through work and life experience. Institutions like Milpark Business School have specific RPL criteria for their MBA programme, typically involving age and extensive work experience requirements.⁴⁵ While RPL is a policy requirement, its application and accessibility for undergraduate entry can vary significantly between institutions.
- **Mature Age Exemption:** Related to RPL, provisions often exist for mature applicants (typically aged 23 or 45 and above) to gain admission, potentially without meeting standard entry requirements.¹² This may involve applying for conditional exemption through USAf's Matriculation Board or meeting specific institutional criteria.¹²
- **Key DHET/National Policy Considerations:**
The national framework establishes the minimum entry requirements, but the autonomy granted to institutions allows them to set significantly higher standards.¹⁰ This gap between minimum eligibility and the competitive reality of gaining admission, especially at sought-after universities and programmes, means applicants must research and meet the specific criteria of their chosen institutions, not just the DHET baseline. The distinct, and sometimes more demanding, minimum requirements for NCV holders compared to NSC holders for diploma and degree entry warrants attention, potentially reflecting differences in perceived preparedness or historical policy adjustments.⁶ Furthermore, the need for international applicants to potentially navigate both SAQA (for NQF equivalence) and USAf (for degree exemption) highlights the procedural complexities involved in evaluating foreign qualifications for different study levels.¹³
- **Table: DHET Minimum Admission Requirements Summary (2025)**

Qualification Type	Minimum NSC Requirement (NQF Level 4)	Minimum NCV Level 4 Requirement (NQF Level 4)
Higher Certificate (NQF Level 5)	Pass NSC ¹⁰	Pass NCV Level 4 + Meet Institutional Language Requirements ²⁰

Diploma (NQF Level 6)	Pass NSC with achievement rating of 3 (40-49%) or better in four recognised 20-credit subjects (excluding LO) ¹⁰	Pass NCV Level 4 with ≥40% in 3 fundamental subjects (incl. LoLT) AND ≥50% in 3 compulsory vocational subjects ²⁰
Bachelor's Degree (NQF Level 7/8)	Pass NSC with achievement rating of 4 (50-59%) or better in four recognised 20-credit subjects from the <i>designated list</i> (excluding LO) ¹⁰	Pass NCV Level 4 with ≥50% in 3 fundamental subjects (incl. LoLT) AND ≥60% in 4 compulsory vocational subjects from the recognised list ²⁰

Note: LoLT = Language of Learning and Teaching. These are minimums; institutions set their own, often higher, requirements.

III. Public University Admission Requirements

- General Admission Criteria and Trends

Public universities in South Africa operate within the framework of the DHET's minimum requirements but invariably set their own, more demanding, admission criteria. This is driven by the need to select students most likely to succeed in rigorous academic programmes and by the high demand for limited places, particularly in popular fields.¹⁰

A common tool used by most universities is the **Admission Point Score (APS)**, calculated from an applicant's NSC results. However, a significant challenge for applicants is the lack of a nationally standardized APS calculation method. Each university employs its own formula: some use the best six subjects excluding Life Orientation ¹⁸, others include Life Orientation in the best seven subjects ⁵⁵, some convert percentages directly to points ²⁷, while others use the 1-7 NSC achievement levels.¹⁸ Some institutions, like Wits, even award bonus points for high achievement in specific subjects like English and Mathematics.⁵⁵ This variability necessitates that applicants calculate their potential APS according to the specific rules of *each* university they apply to.

The **National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)**, assessing Academic Literacy (AL), Quantitative Literacy (QL), and Mathematics (MAT), are another layer of complexity. Their use varies widely: some universities or faculties mandate them

for admission and factor the scores into the selection process (e.g., UCT, Wits Health Sciences, Stellenbosch Law)²⁸; others require them primarily for placement or identifying academic support needs⁵⁴; and some, like the University of Johannesburg (UJ), explicitly state they do not require NBTs for admission.⁶² Deadlines for writing the NBTs also differ, often being earlier for highly competitive faculties like Health Sciences.⁵⁹

Language proficiency in the institution's Language of Learning and Teaching (LoLT), predominantly English, is a universal requirement. Universities typically specify a minimum NSC achievement level for English (often Level 4 or 5), and international applicants from non-English speaking backgrounds must provide proof of proficiency through standardized tests like TOEFL or IELTS.²⁸

Crucially, admission requirements are highly **faculty- and programme-specific**. Minimum APS scores, compulsory subjects (like Mathematics and Physical Sciences for Engineering or Health Sciences), required achievement levels, and the need for NBTs or other assessments (interviews, portfolios) can differ substantially even within the same university.²⁸ This underscores the necessity for applicants to consult the specific requirements for their exact programme of interest. The significant differences in selectivity between faculties, with fields like Health Sciences, Engineering, and Law often setting the highest bars, reflect both the academic demands of these fields and the intense competition for places.¹⁸ While DHET policy provides minimum entry routes for NCV Level 4 holders, university-specific guidelines for these applicants are often less detailed or prominent in general prospectuses compared to NSC requirements.¹⁸ Some institutions have dedicated NCV admission guidelines³¹, but others may require direct inquiry. This potential lack of clarity can create uncertainty for NCV graduates seeking university admission, suggesting that articulation from TVET colleges to universities, while possible, might not always be a seamless or uniformly applied process.³²

- **Detailed Profiles of Key Universities (Focus on 2025/2026)**

(Note: The following details are based on available 2025/2026 prospectus information or the most recent data found. Applicants MUST verify requirements directly with the university for the specific year of application.)

- 1. University of Cape Town (UCT)**

- **General Info:** www.uct.ac.za/students/applications-admission-requirements

²⁸

- **APS Calculation:** UCT uses a Faculty Points Score (FPS) system based on the sum of percentages achieved in six NSC subjects. This includes English (Home Language or First Additional Language), Mathematics (if required), any other required subjects for the programme, and the next best subjects (excluding

Life Orientation). Results below 40% are not scored. For some faculties/applicants, a Weighted Points Score (WPS) adjusts the FPS based on educational disadvantage factors.²⁸

- **Minimum APS/FPS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**
 - **Commerce (BCom):** FPS of 435+ for guaranteed admission (Band A) for most streams; Actuarial Science requires 500+. Requires Maths (level depends on specialisation).⁵⁴
 - **Engineering & Built Environment (BE&S):** FPS requirements vary by programme and admission band (e.g., Civil Eng FPS 500+ for Band A). Requires Maths and Physical Science (typically Level 6+).⁵⁴
 - **Health Sciences (MBChB):** APS calculated from 6 subjects (3 required + 3 best, excl LO), minimum 450/600. Requires English HL/FAL, Maths, Physical Sciences (all Level 5+).⁵⁴
 - **Humanities (BA/BSocSci):** Minimum FPS 380 for possible admission (Band C). Requires English HL/FAL (Level 5+), Maths/Maths Lit depends on major choice.⁵⁴
 - **Law (LLB - UG 4yr):** FPS 510+ for guaranteed admission (Band A). Requires English HL/FAL (Level 5+), Maths (Level 4+) or Maths Lit (Level 5+).⁵⁴
 - **Science (BSc):** Requires Maths (Level 7+) and Physical Science (Level 6+). FPS calculation doubles Maths and Physical Science scores.⁵⁴
- **Language Proficiency:** Minimum NSC English HL or FAL Level 5 for most degrees. International students need TOEFL (88+), IELTS (6.5+ with 6.0+ components), or PTE Academic (67+).²⁸
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Required for all SA residents/school leavers, and all Health Sciences applicants globally. Health Sciences requires AQL & MAT by 31 July 2024 for 2025 entry; other faculties require AQL (and MAT if Maths courses planned) by 12 Oct 2024. NBT scores contribute significantly to Health Sciences FPS.²⁸ Law requires AL (Proficient), QL (Intermediate+).⁵⁴ Commerce requires AL & QL (Upper Intermediate+).⁵⁴ EBE requires NBTs written but results not used for admission score.⁵⁴
 - **Other:** Health Sciences may use questionnaires.
- **NCV Applicants:** UCT's general admission info focuses on NSC. Specific NCV pathways are not detailed in primary snippets; direct faculty inquiry is advised.
- **Official Sources:**(<https://uct.ac.za/students/applications-admission-requirements/eligibility>)

bility-admission), [2025 UG Prospectus](#)⁵⁴, [2025 Applicant Directions](#).⁶³

2. University of the Witwatersrand (Wits)

- **General Info:** www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/entry-requirements/⁵⁵
- **APS Calculation:** Wits calculates APS based on the best seven subjects, **including Life Orientation**. It uses a points conversion scale (NSC Level 7=8 points, 6=7, 5=6, 4=5, 3=4, 2=3). Bonus points are added for English and Mathematics (e.g., 80%+ in Maths gives 8 + 2 = 10 points). Life Orientation points are capped (Level 7=4, 6=2, 5=1, 4&below=0). Further Studies (AP) subjects are included. Wits does not distinguish between designated/non-designated subjects.⁵⁵
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**
 - Minimum APS for degree programmes generally starts higher than the basic pass requirement (often 34/35+ for consideration in many fields).⁷⁶
 - **Commerce, Law & Management (BCom Acc Sci):** APS 43+ for guaranteed offer (English 6, Maths 6). Waitlisting possible from APS 39+.⁷⁶ (BCom Law): APS 43+ (English 6, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 6). Waitlisting from 40+.⁷⁶ (LLB 5yr): APS 43+ (English 6, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 6). Waitlisting from 40+.⁷⁶
 - **Engineering & Built Environment (BSc Eng - most branches):** APS 42+ (English 5, Maths 5, Physical Science 5). Level 6+ in these subjects increases chances.⁷⁶ (BAS Arch): APS 34+ (English 4, Maths 4) + portfolio/exercise/interview.⁷⁶
 - **Health Sciences (MBBCh):** APS not solely used; Composite Index (CI) combines academics (60%) and NBTs (40%). Requires English 5, Maths 5, Life Sci AND/OR Physical Sci 5.⁷⁵ (BPharm): CI used. Requires English 5, Maths 5, Life Sci AND/OR Physical Sci 5.³⁴ (BNurs): CI used. Requires English 4, Maths 4, Life Sci AND/OR Physical Sci 4.⁷⁵
 - **Humanities (BA):** APS 36+ (English 5). Specific majors may have higher Maths requirements.⁷⁶ (BA Speech-Lang Path / Audiology): APS 40+ (English 5, Maths 4) + NBTs.⁶⁰
 - **Science (BSc):** APS 40+ (English 5, Maths 5, Physical Science/Life Sci 5 depending on major) + NBTs.⁶⁰
- **Language Proficiency:** English HL or FAL required, typically Level 4 or 5 minimum, Level 6+ often preferred.⁵⁵
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Required for ALL Health Sciences applicants (in-person test by 18 Aug 2024 for 2025).⁵⁹ Required for Humanities (Speech-Lang Path/Audiology) by 18 Aug 2024.⁵⁹ Required for ALL Science (BSc) applicants by 31 Oct 2024.⁵⁹ NBT results contribute 40% to Health

Sciences CI.⁷⁵ NBT results valid for 3 years, only first attempt considered.⁶⁰

- **Other:** Architecture requires portfolio/exercise/interview.⁷⁶ Digital Arts requires questionnaire/portfolio.⁶⁰ Health Sciences requires Job Shadowing certificates for some programmes.⁶⁰ GEMP/GEPP require WAPT test.⁷⁹

- **NCV Applicants:** Wits has specific NCV guidelines. Requires NCV L4 with English (LoLT/FAL), Maths (Fundamental), and typically 70-79% (Rating 4) in all 7 subjects. Specific requirements vary by faculty (e.g., CLM needs 70% Maths; Health Sci needs 70% Maths, Life Sci/Physical Sci; Eng/Sci require interview).³⁴ Humanities does not consider NCV applicants.³⁴
- **Official Sources:** [Wits Admissions, 2025 Guide for Applicants](#)⁷⁹, (https://issuu.com/witsmarketing/docs/admission_requirements_for_2025)⁷⁶, (<https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/apply-to-wits/additional-requirements/>).⁶⁰

3. University of Pretoria (UP)

- **General Info:** www.up.ac.za/students/article/2749263/admission-information
80
- **APS Calculation:** UP calculates APS based on achievement levels (1-7) in six recognised 20-credit NSC subjects. **Life Orientation is excluded** from the calculation. The maximum APS is 42.¹⁸
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**
 - **Economic & Management Sciences (BCom Acc Sci):** APS 34 (English 5, Maths 6).¹⁸ (BCom): APS 30 (English 5, Maths 4).¹⁸
 - **Education (BEd):** APS 28 (English 4 or 5, Maths/Maths Lit requirements vary by specialisation).¹⁸
 - **Engineering, Built Env & IT (BEng - most branches):** APS 35 (English 5, Maths 6, Physical Science 6).¹⁸ (BSc Arch): APS 30 (English 5, Maths 5).¹⁸ (BSc IT): APS 30 (English 5, Maths 5).¹⁸
 - **Health Sciences (MBChB):** APS 35 (English 5, Maths 6, Physical Science 6) - Selection based on Grade 11.¹⁸ (BPhysio): APS 32 (English 5, Maths 5, Physical Science 5).¹⁸
 - **Humanities (BA):** APS 30 (English 5). Maths/Maths Lit required for some majors.¹⁸ (BSocSci PPE): APS 34 (English 6, Maths 5).¹⁸
 - **Law (LLB):** APS 35 (English 6, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 5).¹⁸
 - **Natural & Agricultural Sciences (BSc - most):** APS 32-36 (English 5, Maths 5 or 6, Physical Science 5 or 6).¹⁸
 - **Veterinary Science (BVSc):** APS 35 (English 6, Maths 6, Physical Science 6) - Selection based on Grade 11, early closing date (31 May).¹⁸
- **Language Proficiency:** English HL or FAL required, minimum Level 4-6

depending on programme.¹⁸

- **Additional Selection Criteria:**

- **NBTs:** Not explicitly mentioned as required in the 2025 prospectus.¹⁸ Applicants should verify with UP directly.
- **Other:** Selection tests/interviews/portfolios may be required for specific programmes (e.g., Health Sciences selection based on Grade 11, Veterinary Science selection, Humanities programmes like Fine Arts/Music).

- **NCV Applicants:** UP may consider NCV candidates if they meet exemption status and programme requirements.⁷⁷ Specific criteria not detailed in the main prospectus.

- **Official Sources:** [UP](#)

[Admissions, \(https://www.up.ac.za/media/shared/368/Faculty%20Brochures/2025/up_ug-prospectus-2025_nsc-ieb_devv5_web.zp246017.pdf\)](https://www.up.ac.za/media/shared/368/Faculty%20Brochures/2025/up_ug-prospectus-2025_nsc-ieb_devv5_web.zp246017.pdf).¹⁸

4. Stellenbosch University (SU)

- **General Info:** www.maties.com

- **APS Calculation:** SU primarily uses an **NSC aggregate percentage** (average of 6 best subjects, excluding Life Orientation) for admission, alongside specific subject requirements.⁵² Engineering uses a weighted selection mark formula: Maths% + Physical Sci% + (6 x Matric Average%).⁵² Science uses a selection mark: [(Maths x 2) + 5 other subjects (incl. Lang, excl. LO)] / 7.⁵²

- **Minimum Aggregate % & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**

- **AgriSciences (BScAgric/BAgric):** Aggregate 60%+ (ECP 55%+). English/Afrikaans 50%+, Maths 50-60%+, Physical Sci 50%+ (or Life Sci/Agric Sci for BAgric ECP).⁵²
- **Arts & Social Sciences (BA Humanities):** Aggregate 63%+ (ECP 55%+). Home Lang 50%+, FAL 40%+, Maths 50%/Maths Lit 70%+.⁵² Requirements vary for specific programmes like Music, Visual Arts, PPE, Social Work.
- **Economic & Management Sciences (BCom Mgmt Sci/Econ Sci/Ind Psych):** Aggregate 65%+ (ECP 60%+). English/Afrikaans 50/60%+, Maths 60%+ (ECP 50%+).⁵² Higher requirements for BAcc, BCom Actuarial Sci, BCom Mathematical Sci, BDatSci, BCom Int Business.
- **Engineering (BEng):** Aggregate 70%+. Selection mark used. English/Afrikaans 50%+, Maths 70%+, Physical Sci 60%+.⁵²
- **Law (LLB 4yr / BA Law / BCom Law):** Aggregate 70%+. English/Afrikaans HL 60% / FAL 70%+. Maths 60%+ (BCom Law) or Maths 50%/Maths Lit 60%+ (LLB/BA Law).⁵² NBTs required.
- **Medicine & Health Sciences (MBChB):** Aggregate 75%+. English/Afrikaans 50%+, Maths 70%+, Physical Sci 60%+, Life Sci 60%+.⁵²

(BSc Dietetics/OT/Physio/Speech): Aggregate 60%+. English/Afrikaans 50%+, Maths 60%+, Physical Sci 60%+, Life Sci 60%+. ⁵²

- **Science (BSc):** Aggregate 65%+. English/Afrikaans 50%+, Maths 60-70%+, Physical Sci 50-60%+ (depending on programme/major). ⁵²
- **Language Proficiency:** Minimum English OR Afrikaans (HL or FAL) 50% for most programmes. Higher requirements for Law, BEd, BCom Int Business, BCom Actuarial Sci, BDatSci. ⁵²
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Required ONLY for Faculty of Law applicants (AQL for LLB/BA Law; AQL & MAT for BCom Law/BAccLLB) by 31 July 2024 for 2025 entry. ⁵² Engineering uses NBT (AQL) results in selection. ⁵² Generally not required for other faculties for 2025. ⁵²
 - **Other:** Auditions/portfolios for Music/Visual Arts. Selection processes apply for high-demand programmes (e.g., Medicine, Law, Engineering, EMS programmes) often based on Grade 11 results for early offers. ⁶⁹
- **NCV Applicants:** Prospectus focuses on NSC. Direct faculty inquiry advised for NCV pathways.
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.sun.ac.za/english/maties/apply/admission-and-selection-requirements>), (<https://blogs.sun.ac.za/open-day/files/2024/06/2025-Admission-booklet-Eng.pdf>), (<https://blogs.sun.ac.za/open-day/files/2024/06/2025-Admission-booklet-Eng.pdf>)) ⁵², (https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/economy/Documents/homepage/2025_Selection_Process_For_distribution_edited.pdf). ⁶⁹

5. University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN)

- **General Info:** Apply via CAO. ⁸³ Selection procedure info: ww1.applications.ukzn.ac.za/selection-procedure/undergraduate-selection-procedure/ ⁵³
- **APS Calculation:** UKZN calculates APS by adding the performance levels (1-8, where 8 is 90-100%) for six NSC subjects: English (HL or FAL), Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy, and the best four other subjects (excluding Life Orientation and Maths Paper 3). The APS score may be adjusted if required subjects are not in the initial six. ⁵³
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**
 - Minimum APS scores vary by programme and are listed in specific qualification tabs (not in the provided general procedure document). ⁵³ Meeting minimums does not guarantee admission. ⁵³
 - **Agriculture, Engineering & Science (BSc Eng):** NSC-Deg, Maths 5 (65%+), Physical Sci 5 (65%+), English 4, LO 4. ⁷⁰

- **Health Sciences (MBChB):** NSC-Deg, English 5, Life Sci 5, Maths 5, Physical Sci 5, LO 4, with 65% aggregate. Selection based on average % score, not APS.⁵³ (BNursing): NSC-Deg, English 4, Maths 3, Life Sci 4.⁷⁰
- **Humanities (BA General):** NSC-Deg, English 4, one elective subject Level 5.⁷⁰ (BEd): NSC-Deg, Maths Lit 4 or Maths 3.⁷⁰
- **Law & Management Studies (LLB):** NSC-Deg, English HL 5 / FAL 6, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 5.⁷⁰ (BCom): NSC-Deg, Maths 4 (or 5 for Accounting).⁷⁰ (B Bus Sci): NSC-Deg, Maths 6.⁷⁰
- **Language Proficiency:** English requirements vary (Level 3 to 6 depending on programme).⁷⁰ International students need proof of proficiency.⁷⁰
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not mentioned as a requirement in the provided snippets.⁵³
 - **Other:** Auditions/portfolios for Music/Visual Art.⁷⁰ Selection considers Quintile 1/2 school background (minimum 15% quota).⁵³
- **NCV Applicants:** No specific information in provided snippets. Apply via CAO; direct inquiry recommended.
- **Official Sources:** [UKZN Admissions Procedure](#)⁵³, [CAO](#).

6. University of South Africa (UNISA)

- **General Info:** www.unisa.ac.za
- **APS Calculation:** UNISA typically uses an APS system based on NSC subject percentages. Specific calculation details should be verified on their official site. Life Orientation is usually excluded.
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements:** Varies significantly by qualification. Applicants need to check the specific requirements for their chosen programme on the UNISA website. A Bachelor's pass is required for degree studies.⁸⁴
- **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency is required as it is the primary language of instruction.
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Generally not required for admission to UNISA.
 - **Other:** Some programmes might have specific requirements or selection processes. Due to its distance education model, access to technology and internet connectivity are practical requirements.
- **NCV Applicants:** UNISA accepts NCV Level 4 for admission, subject to meeting specific programme requirements and endorsement levels (Higher Certificate, Diploma, or Degree).
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Apply-for-admission>), [2025/2026 Prospectus \(to be downloaded from website\)](#).⁸⁴ *Note: Snippets*

¹²⁴ refer to UniSA (University of South Australia), not UNISA (University of South Africa). Prospectus link ¹⁸ refers to UP, not UNISA. ¹²⁶ link was inaccessible.

7. Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

- **General Info:** www.cput.ac.za/study/apply ⁷³
- **APS Calculation:** CPUT uses APS calculated from NSC percentages. **Life Orientation is included.** There appear to be multiple calculation methods depending on the faculty/programme ⁵⁷:
 - Method 1: Sum of % for 6 highest subjects (incl. required ones, LO can be included if among highest), divided by 10.
 - Method 2 (e.g., Engineering): Double % for Maths & Physical Science, add % for English & next best subject (excl LO), divide by 10.
 - Method 3 (e.g., Accounting): Double % for Maths & Accounting, add % for English & 3 next best subjects (excl LO), divide by 10. Applicants must use the method specified for their chosen qualification. ⁵⁸
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements:** Varies by programme. Must meet both individual subject requirements AND the minimum APS using the correct calculation method. ⁸⁶ Examples:
 - **Nursing:** Requires NSC Bachelors pass, English 4, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 5, Life Sci 4. ⁸⁷ APS calculation method not specified in snippet.
- **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency required. Cambridge applicants need IGCSE A-C or HIGCSE 1-3. International students may need TOEFL (550) or IELTS (6.5). ³⁷
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not explicitly mentioned as required in the main admission snippets. ³⁷ Nursing snippet ⁸⁷ does not mention NBTs. Applicants should verify directly.
 - **Other:** Portfolios/auditions for Arts/Design. Specific health requirements/vaccinations for Nursing. ⁸⁷ Possible placement tests. ³⁷
- **NCV Applicants:** Accepted, subject to meeting specific programme requirements. Details not in primary snippets.
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.cput.ac.za/study/apply>), (<https://www.cput.ac.za/study/apply/step-1-choose-a-qualification>), (<https://www.cput.ac.za/study/apply/step-1-choose-a-qualification>)) ⁷³, (<https://www.cput.ac.za/preview/aps>). ⁹⁴

8. Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)

- **General Info:** www.tut.ac.za
- **APS Calculation:** TUT calculates APS based on the NSC achievement levels

(1-7) for the best seven subjects. **Life Orientation is included.** A level 1 (0-29%) is not considered. The conversion table maps NSC levels to APS points (e.g., NSC 7=7 APS, 6=6, etc.).⁷¹

- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025 - Faculty of Engineering & Built Environment):**
 - Minimum statutory requirements: Diplomas need 4 subjects at Level 3+; Degrees need 4 subjects at Level 4+.⁷¹
 - **BEngTech (Chemical/Civil/Industrial/Mechanical/Mechatronic/Electrical):** APS 28 (English 4, Maths/Tech Maths 5, Physical Sci/Tech Sci 5).⁷¹
 - **Diploma (Building Sci):** APS 26 (English 4, Maths/Tech Maths 3, Physical Sci/Tech Sci 3).⁷¹
 - **Diploma (Electrical Eng):** APS 26 (English 4, Maths/Tech Maths 4, Physical Sci/Tech Sci 4).⁷¹
 - **Higher Certificate (Construction/Electrical/Industrial/Mechanical Eng):** APS 20 (English 4, Maths/Tech Maths 4, Physical Sci/Tech Sci 4).⁷¹
- **Language Proficiency:** English HL or FAL required, typically Level 4 minimum.⁷¹
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not mentioned as required in the provided snippets.⁷¹
 - **Other:** Evaluation is required for all applicants. Acceptance subject to capacity (SEP).⁷¹
- **NCV Applicants:** NCV Level 4 is accepted for admission, subject to meeting specific programme APS and subject requirements, using TUT's conversion scale.⁷¹
- **Official Sources:**(<https://www.tut.ac.za/study-at-tut/i-want-to-study/admission-requirements>),(https://tut.ac.za/images/prospectus/Part4_FEBE_Prospectus_2025.pdf),(https://tut.ac.za/images/prospectus/Part4_FEBE_Prospectus_2025.pdf))⁷¹,(https://tut.ac.za/images/prospectus/Part6_ICT_Prospectus.pdf).⁹⁵

9. Durban University of Technology (DUT)

- **General Info:** Apply via CAO.⁹⁶ Website: www.dut.ac.za
- **APS Calculation:** DUT uses a points system based on NSC achievement levels (1-7). Specific calculation details (subjects included, LO treatment) are not explicitly stated in the provided snippets, but programme requirements list specific subject levels needed.⁷² CAO likely calculates a standard APS.
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**

Requirements are listed per programme, focusing on NSC subject levels rather than an overall APS score.

- **Accounting & Informatics (Dip Accounting):** NSC Dip pass, English HL 3/FAL 4, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 5 OR Acc 4.⁷² (B ICT): NSC Degree pass, English 4, Maths 4, + 3 designated subjects at 4.⁷²
- **Applied Sciences (Dip Analytical Chem):** NSC Dip pass, English 4, Maths 4, Physical Sci 3.⁷² (B App Sci Biotech): NSC Degree pass, English 4, Maths 4, Life Sci 4, Physical Sci 4.⁷²
- **Arts & Design (Dip Fashion):** NSC Dip pass, English 3, + 4 subjects at 3.⁷² (B Ed): NSC Degree pass, English 4, + subject requirements vary by specialisation.⁷²
- **Engineering & Built Env (Dip Eng Tech Civil):** NSC Dip pass, English 4, Maths 4, Physical Sci 4.⁷² (B Eng Tech Chemical): NSC Degree pass, English 4, Maths 4, Physical Sci 4.⁷²
- **Health Sciences (Dip Somatology):** NSC Dip pass, English HL/FAL 3, Life Sci 4, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 5.⁷² (BHSc Clinical Tech): NSC Degree pass, English 4, Maths 4, Life Sci 4, Physical Sci 4.⁷²
- **Management Sciences (Dip HR Mgmt):** NSC Dip pass, English HL 3/FAL 4, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 4.⁷²
- **Language Proficiency:** English HL or FAL required, level varies (typically 3 or 4 minimum).⁷²
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not mentioned as required in provided snippets.⁷²
 - **Other:** Selection courses (requiring auditions, portfolios, tests) exist for certain programmes (e.g., Arts, Design).⁹⁶
- **NCV Applicants:** No specific information in provided snippets. Apply via CAO; direct inquiry recommended.
- **Official Sources:**(<https://www.dut.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/STUDENT-COURSE-BROCHURE-2025.pdf>) ⁷², [CAO](#).

10. University of the Western Cape (UWC)

- **General Info:** www.uwc.ac.za
- **APS Calculation:** UWC uses a unique "UWC Points" system. Points are allocated for NSC achievement levels (1-7) in subjects, with different weightings for English, Maths/Maths Lit, Life Orientation, and other subjects. Maximum points per subject vary (e.g., English max 15, LO max 8, others max 15 at level 7). **Life Orientation is included** but weighted differently.⁷⁴
- **Minimum UWC Points & Subject Requirements (Examples for 2025):**
 - Minimum requirement is NSC Bachelors pass.⁷⁴ Minimum UWC points vary by faculty/programme.
 - **Arts & Humanities (BA/BTh/BLIS):** Min 35 UWC points. English 4 +

another subject 4. Maths 3 / Maths Lit 4 required for specific majors.⁷⁴

- **Community & Health Sciences (BSc Physio):** Min 39 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 6, Life Sci 4, Physical Sci 4.⁷⁴ (B Nursing): Min 30 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 4 / Maths Lit 6, Life Sci 4.⁷⁴
- **Dentistry (BDS):** Min 40 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 4, Physical Sci 4, Life Sci 4. Early closing date (31 Aug).⁷⁴
- **Economic & Management Sciences (BCom 3yr):** Min 30 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 4.⁷⁴ (BCom Acc 3yr): Min 30 UWC points, Maths 4 + Acc 5 OR Maths 5.⁷⁴
- **Education (BEd Foundation):** Min 33 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 4, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 5.⁷⁴ Other BEd streams have varying subject requirements.
- **Law (LLB 4yr):** Min 37 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 3 / Maths Lit 5.⁷⁴
- **Natural Sciences (BSc Computer Sci):** Min 33 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 5, Physical Sci/Life Sci/IT 4.⁷⁴ (B Pharmacy): Min 38 UWC points. English 4, Another Lang 3, Maths 4, Physical Sci 4, Life Sci 4.⁷⁴
- **Language Proficiency:** English HL or FAL Level 4 generally required. Some programmes need Level 5 or specific combinations with another language.⁷⁴
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not mentioned as required in the 2025 admission requirements document.⁷⁴
 - **Other:** Specific programme requirements apply.
- **NCV Applicants:** No specific information in provided snippets. Direct inquiry recommended.
- **Official Sources:** [UWC Admissions, \(https://uwc-za.b-cdn.net/files/files/Admission-Requirements-2025.pdf\)](https://uwc-za.b-cdn.net/files/files/Admission-Requirements-2025.pdf).⁷⁴

11. Walter Sisulu University (WSU)

- **General Info:** www.wsu.ac.za
- **APS Calculation:** WSU calculates APS based on the NSC achievement levels (1-8, where 8 is 90-100%). **Life Orientation is excluded** for most faculties but **included** for the Faculty of Education. The APS is the sum of points for the best six subjects (or seven for Education), typically including English, another language, and the four (or five for Education) next best subjects (must include required subjects).⁵⁶ An APS conversion table for NSC levels and old SC symbols (HG/SG) is provided.⁵⁶
- **Minimum APS & Subject Requirements:**

- Minimum statutory requirements: Diploma needs NSC Dip endorsement; Degree needs NSC Bach endorsement.⁵⁶
- Specific minimum APS scores per faculty/programme are **not provided** in the snippet.⁵⁶ Applicants need to consult faculty-specific information.
- **Language Proficiency:** Minimum 30% in the language of learning and teaching (assumed English) required for baseline eligibility.⁵⁶ Specific programme requirements likely higher.
- **Additional Selection Criteria:**
 - **NBTs:** Not mentioned as required in the provided snippet.⁵⁶
 - **Other:** Mature age endorsement considered.⁵⁶
- **NCV Applicants:** Accepted. Snippet directs users to a link for specific NC(V) requirements.⁵⁶
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.wsu.ac.za/index.php/en/study-with-us/undergraduate-programmes/new-students/admission-requirement>)⁵⁶, (<https://www.wsu.ac.za/media/attachments/2025/01/13/final--2025-wsu-regISTRATION-guide-website--2025.pdf>).⁹⁸

● **Table: Comparison of APS Calculation Methods at Key Public Universities (2025)**

University	Subjects Included in Calculation	Life Orientation Treatment	Calculation Basis (Points/Percentage)	Notes	Official Source Link (Example)
UCT	English + 5 best others (excl LO, AP; incl required subjects)	Excluded	Percentage Sum (FPS/WPS)	Results <40% not scored. WPS uses disadvantage factor.	(https://uct.ac.za/student-s/application-s-admission-requirements/eligibility-admission) ²⁸
Wits	Best 7 subjects	Included (Points awarded based on level, capped)	Points Conversion (NSC Level to Wits APS)	Bonus points for English & Maths. AP subjects included.	Wits Admissions ⁵⁵

UP	6 recognised 20-credit subjects	Excluded	Points Conversion (NSC Level 1-7)	Max APS is 42.	UP 2025 Prospectus ¹⁸
Stellenbosch	6 best subjects (excl LO)	Excluded	Aggregate Percentage	Engineering/ Science use specific weighted formulas.	(https://blog.s.sun.ac.za/open-day/files/2024/06/2025-Admission-booklet-Engineering.pdf) ⁵²
UKZN	English + Maths/Lit + 4 best others (excl LO, Maths P3)	Excluded	Points Conversion (NSC Level 1-8)	Score may be adjusted if required subjects not in initial 6.	(https://www1.applications.ukzn.ac.za/selection-procedure/undergraduate-selection-procedure/) ⁵³
CPUT	Varies (e.g., 6 highest; or weighted formula doubling Maths/Sci/Acc)	Included (Method 1) / Excluded (Methods 2 & 3)	Percentage Sum divided by 10	Multiple methods depending on programme.	(https://www.cput.ac.za/storage/study-at_cput/CPUT_prospectus.pdf) ⁵⁸
TUT	Best 7 subjects	Included	Points Conversion (NSC Level 2-7)	Level 1 subjects not considered.	(https://tut.ac.za/images/prospectus/Part4_FEBE_Prospectus_2025.pdf) ⁷¹
DUT	Not explicitly defined (uses NSC levels per subject)	Likely Excluded (based on programme reqs focusing on	NSC Subject Levels	APS not primary metric in snippets; focus on subject level	(https://www.dut.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/STUDENT-COURSE-BROCHURE-20

		6 subjects)		passes.	25.pdf) ⁷²
UWC	All subjects considered with specific weighting	Included (Weighted differently)	Points Conversion (Weighted UWC Points)	Unique weighting for Eng, Maths/Lit, LO, other subjects.	(https://uwc-za.b-cdn.net/files/files/Admission-Requirements-2025.pdf) ⁷⁴
WSU	Best 6 subjects (or 7 for Education)	Excluded (except for Education)	Points Conversion (NSC Level 1-8)	Includes Eng + 1 Lang + 4 best (or 5 for Edu incl LO).	(https://www.wsu.ac.za/index.php/en/study-with-us/undergraduate-programmes/new-students/admission-requirement) ⁵⁶

Note: This table summarizes calculation methods based on available snippets. Always verify with the official university source for the specific application year.

IV. Private Higher Education Institution Requirements

- Overview of Private HEIs

South Africa has a growing sector of private higher education institutions (HEIs) that operate alongside public universities and TVET colleges. These institutions must be registered with the DHET and have their qualifications accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and recorded on the NQF by SAQA to ensure quality and recognition.⁴⁶ The landscape is diverse, including large providers offering qualifications across multiple fields through various brands (like The Independent Institute of Education - IIE, encompassing Varsity College, Vega, Rosebank College, IIE MSA) ³⁸, established business schools focusing on management and commerce (like Milpark Business School, MANCOSA, Regent Business School, Regenesys Business School) ⁴⁵, specialized institutions targeting specific industries (like AFDA for the creative economy) ¹⁰⁶, and others like Boston City Campus offering a mix of higher education and occupational

programmes.¹⁰⁹

- **General Admission Trends**

For comparable qualification levels (Higher Certificates, Diplomas, Bachelor's Degrees), private HEIs generally align their minimum admission requirements with the national DHET standards based on the NSC or NCV Level 4.⁴¹ However, a notable characteristic of many private providers is a potentially greater emphasis on, and flexibility regarding, alternative admission pathways such as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and mature age exemption.⁴¹ This often caters to working adults or individuals seeking to formalise existing skills or re-enter education without traditional qualifications. Some institutions, particularly business schools or specialized providers, may utilize specific entrance examinations (like Milpark's admission test or Regenesys' RMAAT) ⁴⁵, interviews, or portfolio assessments (like AFDA) ¹⁰⁶ as part of their selection process, especially for postgraduate or specialized undergraduate programmes.

- **Detailed Profiles of Key Institutions (Focus on 2025/2026)**

(Note: Admission requirements can change. Verify directly with the institution.)

- 1. Milpark Education (including Milpark Business School)**

- **General Info:** www.milpark.ac.za

- **Admission Requirements (Examples):**

- **BCom (General):** NSC with Bachelor's pass, min 50% in four 20-credit subjects (incl. English), AND Maths 50% / Maths Lit 70%. Bridging course available if Maths requirement not met but strong performance in related subjects (Economics, Accounting, Science). Accepts relevant NQF 5/6 qualifications for entry/credit. Mature age (pre-2008 Matric) requires 24 Milpark points and specific Maths levels, or USAf exemption.¹⁰²
- **BBA:** Specific requirements not detailed in snippets, likely similar to BCom or accepts relevant Higher Certificates.¹⁰²
- **Higher Certificates (e.g., Management, Banking, Insurance):** Likely require NSC pass.¹¹⁶
- **MBA:** Requires NQF Level 8 qualification (Hons, PG Dip, 4yr Degree), 3-4 years relevant work experience, age 25+, acceptable admission test score (Milpark test, GMAT, GRE, NMAT, APIL), English proficiency, CV, essay, interview.⁴⁵ RPL entry possible for senior managers aged 40+ with 15-20 years experience (limited intake).⁴⁵

- **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency required. Proof may be needed for international students.⁴⁰

- **Additional Selection Criteria:** Admission test, essay, CV, interview required for MBA.⁴⁵ Bridging course for BCom if Maths requirement not met.¹⁰²

- **NCV Applicants:** Not explicitly mentioned for BCom/BBA in snippets.

RPL/equivalent qualifications considered.¹¹⁶

- **Foreign Qualifications:** SAQA Certificate of Equivalence required for postgraduate entry; USAf exemption needed for Bachelor's degree entry.⁴⁰
- **Official Sources:** [Milpark How to Apply](#)⁴⁰, (<https://www.milpark.ac.za/programmes/bachelor-of-commerce/>)¹⁰², (<https://www.milpark.ac.za/programmes/master-of-business-administration/>)¹¹⁴, [UG Prospectus](#).¹¹⁶

2. MANCOSA (Management College of Southern Africa)

- **General Info:** www.mancosa.co.za
- **Admission Requirements:**
 - **Higher Certificates (e.g., Accounting):** NSC or NCV with appropriate subject combinations and levels, or equivalent NQF Level 4 with English proficiency.⁴⁶
 - **Bachelor's Degrees (e.g., BCom, BBA):** NSC or NCV with Bachelor's pass endorsement and appropriate subjects.⁴⁶
 - **BEd:** NSC or NCV Level 4 with Bachelor's pass.¹¹⁸ Requires Police Clearance Certificate (PCC) and other checks for employability.¹¹⁸
- **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency required.⁴⁶
- **Additional Selection Criteria:** RPL / Mature Age Exemption possible for Higher Certificate/Degree entry (age 23+).⁴⁶ MBA entry requires Honours/PGDip/equivalent, age 25+, 3 years work experience, possible GMAT/NMAT/APIL.¹⁰¹
- **NCV Applicants:** Explicitly accepted for Higher Certificates and Degrees if meeting requirements.⁴⁶
- **Foreign Qualifications:** Assumed SAQA/USAf evaluation needed based on standard practice.
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.mancosa.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Mancosa-Undergrad-Prospectus-2025.pdf>)⁴⁶, (<https://www.mancosa.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Mancosa-School-of-Education-2025-LRes.pdf>).¹¹⁸

3. The Independent Institute of Education (IIE) (e.g., Varsity College, Vega School, Rosebank College, IIE MSA)

- **General Info:** IIE is the awarding body; brands are delivery sites. Standardised admission criteria apply across brands for the same IIE qualification.
www.iie.ac.za, www.varsitycollege.co.za, www.vegaschool.com,
www.rosebankcollege.co.za, www.iiemsa.co.za
- **Admission Requirements (Examples for IIE Degrees):**

- **NSC:** Bachelor's Degree pass. Minimum English typically 50% (some degrees like BA/LLB require 60%). Specific Maths/Maths Lit requirements vary (e.g., BCom needs Maths 30%/Lit 50%; BAcc needs Maths 50%/Lit 80%; BEng needs Maths 60-70% + Physical Sci 50-60%).⁴¹
- **NCV:** Bachelor's Degree pass. Minimum English typically 50% (aligned with NSC levels). Specific Maths/Maths Lit requirements apply similarly to NSC for relevant degrees.⁴¹
- **Higher Certificates:** NSC/NCV with Higher Certificate pass. Minimum English 30% (NSC) or 40% (NCV).⁴⁴
- **Articulation:** Cognate IIE Higher Certificates or Diplomas can provide admission to degree studies.⁴¹ Provision exists for admission with one module outstanding from a relevant HC.⁴³
- **Language Proficiency:** English requirements vary by qualification (Degree: 50-60%; HC: 30-40%). FAL requirements exist for BEd (40%).⁴¹ International students need USAf exemption and meet English requirements.⁴¹
- **Additional Selection Criteria:** Senate Discretionary Admission for mature applicants (23+) with NSC/NCV/SC(a) Degree pass but not meeting additional requirements, or SC endorsement.⁴¹ Mature Age Exemption (23+ with specific SC results, or 45+) requires USAf application.⁴¹ RPL considered.⁴² Proficiency tests may be required if language requirements aren't met.⁴¹
- **NCV Applicants:** Explicitly accepted for Degrees and Higher Certificates if meeting pass type and subject requirements.⁴¹
- **Foreign Qualifications:** USAf Exemption Certificate required for degree studies.⁴¹ SAQA evaluation likely needed for other levels or non-school qualifications.
- **Official Sources:** (<https://www.iiemsa.co.za/local-entry-requirements/>)⁴⁴, (<https://www.scribd.com/document/836676711/2025-lie-Degree-Admission-Requirements-Final>)⁴¹, [Vega Admissions FAQs](#)⁹⁹, Individual brand websites/prospectuses.

4. AFDA (The School for the Creative Economy)

- **General Info:** www.afda.co.za
- **Admission Requirements:**
 - **Higher Certificates (Film/TV/Entertainment Prod; Performing Arts; Radio/Podcasting):** NSC with Diploma/Higher Certificate pass, OR pass AFDA Entrance Exam.¹⁰⁶
 - **Bachelor's Degrees (BA Motion Picture Medium; BA Live Performance; BCom Business Innovation & Entrepreneurship; BCW Creative Writing):**
 - NSC with Bachelor's pass.¹⁰⁷

- Successful completion of AFDA Higher Certificate.¹⁰⁷
- NCV Level 4 with >60% in 3 fundamentals (incl. English) AND >70% in 4 vocational subjects.¹⁰⁶
- Technical N5 certificate with 4 subjects passed (incl. Maths & English).¹⁰⁶
- ACE School of Tomorrow equivalent to matric exemption.¹⁰⁷
- Completed first year (NQF 6/7) of accredited Diploma/Degree.¹⁰⁷
- Mature Age (23+) via HESA/USAf exemption.¹⁰⁷
- **Language Proficiency:** English proficiency assumed as medium of instruction.¹⁰⁸ NSC requires 30%+.¹⁰⁸
- **Additional Selection Criteria:** AFDA Entrance Exam for HC applicants without standard matric pass.¹⁰⁶ Potential interviews/portfolios implied for creative programmes.
- **NCV Applicants:** Accepted for Degree entry with specific high achievement levels.¹⁰⁶
- **Foreign Qualifications:** Standard SAQA/USAf evaluation likely required.
- **Official Sources:**(<https://staging.afda.co.za/admissions/entry-requirements/>).¹⁰⁷

5. Boston City Campus

- **General Info:** www.boston.ac.za¹¹³
- **Admission Requirements:**
 - Boston states they **do not use a points system (APS)**; the matriculation endorsement (Bachelor's, Diploma, Higher Certificate pass) is key.¹¹³
 - **Bachelor's Degrees (e.g., BSocSci, BCom Law):** NSC with Bachelor's pass endorsement and English passed; OR NCV with Bachelor's pass endorsement and English passed; OR pre-2009 SC with exemption and English passed.¹¹⁰ Accepts relevant NQF 5 HC or NQF 6 Diploma for admission/credit transfer.¹¹⁰
 - **Higher Certificates:** Likely require NSC/NCV with HC pass.¹⁰⁹
- **Language Proficiency:** English must be passed.¹¹⁰
- **Additional Selection Criteria:** No points system used.¹¹³ Focus on qualification endorsement.
- **NCV Applicants:** Explicitly accepted for Bachelor's degrees if meeting endorsement requirements.¹¹⁰
- **Foreign Qualifications:** Standard SAQA/USAf evaluation likely required.
- **Official Sources:**(<https://www.boston.ac.za/>)¹¹³,(<https://www.boston.ac.za/higher-education/bachelor-of-social-sciences/>)¹¹⁰,(<https://www.boston.ac.za/higher-education/bachelor-of-commerce-in-law>

/) ¹¹², [2025 Prospectus Links](#).¹²⁰

6. Regent Business School (South Africa)

- **General Info:** regent.ac.za
- **Admission Requirements (BBA):**
 - NSC with minimum Bachelor's Degree admission [S_

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