



Selection policy: School of Clinical Medicine 2024 Selection for the 2025 student intake BMedSc (Radiation Sciences)

General information

PLEASE NOTE: Admission to the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme is subject to selection. More information will be provided in this policy document.

- Any candidate can apply for admission to the first year of the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme if he/she complies with the minimum criteria as stipulated in this policy document:
 - Students and doctors are national assets, but students from certain areas in South Africa are regarded as the main responsibility of the UFS for possible selection (see paragraph 6.4.2 below for more detail).
 - A concerted effort is made to accommodate candidates from a previously disadvantaged academic background who demonstrate the necessary potential and a reasonable ability to attain success in their course and to address the provincial demographic distribution of the population.
 - Students will be informed via SMS and email by 1 September 2024 of the outcome of the first round of selection.

- A holistic approach is important in the selection process, which is based on a points system that includes academic achievement, international, national, and provincial non-academic achievements (including cultural activities and sports):
 - Selection of students for the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme in the Faculty of Health Sciences will be done using specific selection criteria as stipulated in this policy document.

- It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide the university with a full set of completed application and selection forms, additional documentation as stipulated as well as the official academic results as required. No applications will be processed while the fully completed forms, documentation and results are outstanding:
 - Students are required to produce a health questionnaire as part of the formal application process.
 - Applicants who have been selected for the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme may be required by the Selection Panel to provide a report on their medical conditions if indicated in the health questionnaire to the Selection Committee to determine whether there are students with such disabilities that would make them unfit for medical studies.
 - At its own discretion, the faculty reserves the right to require immunisation against diseases from time to time before admitting students to any further academic year or semester during their studies. As far as the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme is concerned, immunisation against Hepatitis B is required *beforehand*, and written proof needs to be provided at first admission and registration.
 - The faculty follows the guidelines for immunisation as contained in the latest approved official policy document. The full policy document is available at Undergraduate Student Administration, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State.
 - All students with pre-existing health conditions must be aware before taking up the selected places that they will be exposed to patients with infectious diseases during compulsory clinical rotations, which might affect their health. In these cases, it will be the student's responsibility to take the necessary precautions to prevent illness due to their

HIV positive status and exposure to infections. All students will be expected to fulfil all the rotation requirements of the programme.

General principles

- Mainly, South African students are selected for studies in the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme due to the high costs involved in the training of such students.
 - There will be strict enforcement of the closing date for applications (31 May of the preceding year) for the selection of all applicants.
 - A total of fifteen (15) students is set as a guideline (including students from SADC countries*).

Minimum selection criteria: School-leaving applicants (Matriculants)

Applications that do not adhere to the minimum requirements will not be considered for selection. Applicants should ensure that they meet the following minimum criteria before submitting their applications:

- A minimum **Admission Point (AP)** of 30
 - The **Admission Point (AP)** is calculated according to the four (4) compulsory subjects in the National Senior Certificate (NSC) assessment: (i) English or Language of Instruction (Please note that the UFS' language of instruction is English), (ii) Mathematics, (iii) Physical Sciences and (iv) Life Sciences, as well as the best of two (2) subjects on the designated list of school subjects passed. The subject Life Orientation with an achievement level of 5 or higher receives only one (1) point.

NSC Achievement level	UFS Admission Point
7 (90% - 100%)	8
7 (80% - 89%)	7
6 (70% - 79%)	6
5 (60% - 69%)	5
4 (50% - 59%)	4
3 (40% - 49%)	3
2 (30% - 39%)	2

- **Compulsory subjects and minimum average mark:** A minimum average mark at achievement level 5 (60%) is required for each of the following compulsory subjects:
 - English or Language of Instruction
 - Mathematics
 - Physical Sciences
 - Life Sciences

Minimum selection criteria: University-experienced applicants (Senior applicants)

Applicants with relevant university experience gained at a registered Higher Education Institution after completing their matric examinations (National Senior Certificate) should ensure that they meet the following minimum criteria before submitting their applications. Applications that do not adhere to the minimum requirements will not be considered for selection.

- General information
 - The Grade 12 marks attained by students who have already passed Grade 12 can be taken into account in addition to their post-school achievements at higher education institutions.
 - Only a limited number of applicants (as per set annual targets) will be selected for the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) programme from this category.

Applicants without a completed degree (any degree not yet obtained)

For the selection of candidates who have completed one or more years of a programme/degree at an accredited university that does not fall within the Health Sciences, the applicant must ensure that he/she complies with the following to qualify for selection:

- A senior student can apply for selection while studying for his/her 1st degree in the year of study. The applicant will be selected on his/her 1st-semester results during the course of the selection process with conditions. The applicant must have **completed at least one year** of a mainstream programme/course for a registered qualification. The applicant will be provisionally selected on his/her 1st-semester results during the course of the selection process with conditions. Therefore, candidates who are selected based on their 1st-semester results must submit their final marks for their 1st year completed to receive confirmed selection. If applicants who are selected do not comply with the conditions and do not maintain their academic level during selection, they will forfeit their selection position, and the Selection Committee will use the procedures as described in this policy document to select additional applications in those places.
- Students who are in extended programmes or bridging programmes will not be considered for selection.
- The applicant must obtain a **minimum average mark of at least 70% at a university** (75% if the applicant studied at a university of technology or other higher education institution) for all the completed year(s) of the current programme/course/degree for which he/she is registered.
- A candidate must be registered for at least the **minimum credits** (full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the programme) required to pass a year of any programme.
- *Applicants with a first degree already obtained*
Students who have already obtained a first degree but are not yet enrolled for another degree/programme must comply with the following:
 - The last programme should have been completed by the applicant in no longer than the allowed minimum period plus one year.
 - The applicant must obtain a **minimum average mark of at least 70% at a university** (75% if the applicant studied at a university of technology or other higher education institution) for all the modules/subjects he/she was registered for the mentioned degree.
 - A candidate must have been registered for at least the **minimum credits** (full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the programme).
- *Applicants with a first degree already obtained and currently enrolled for a following/another degree*
Students who have already obtained a degree and are currently enrolled for a following/another degree must comply with the following:
 - The last programme should have been completed by the applicant in no longer than the allowed minimum period plus one year.
 - The applicant must obtain a **minimum average mark of at least 70%** (75% if the applicant studied at a University of Technology or other Higher Education Institution) for all the current modules/subjects he/she is registered for, excluding those modules completed in the previous degree(s) obtained.
 - If marks for the current modules/subjects are not yet available, the candidate will be selected based on the paragraph above: "Applicants with the first degree already obtained".
 - A candidate must be registered for at least the **minimum credits** (full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the programme) required to pass a year of any programme.

The selection criteria

- **Target** - A total of fifteen (15) students is set as a guideline (including students from SADC countries*)
- **Selection of school-leaving and senior applicants** – A selection listing system (called the merit list) will be used to capture and organise the applicants' information for the selection process. Placement of applicants on the merit list will be based on the overall selection point (OSP) as calculated by applying the selection criteria as stipulated below:
 - Selection will be made separately for school-leaving and senior applicants according to the predetermined targets.
- The selection panel, when considering senior students, will consider the following:
 - Degree: completed degree/partially completed degree, e.g., bachelors, honours, master's, PhD
 - Institution
 - Marks
 - Programme, for example, Law, Agriculture, BSc, etc.
- The selection panel will be presented with anonymised data, and their decision will be final.
- For A-level students, the UFS selection criteria will be applied for conversion and will be presented to the selection panel.
- **Overall selection point (OSP)** – Specific selection criteria will be used to calculate the overall selection point. Thereafter, the OSP will be used to rate the applicants on the merit list:
 - The maximum OSP points that can be attained by an applicant is 118. The calculations are based on the academic achievement (100 points) and non-academic achievements in Grades 11 and 12 or achievements after obtaining the NSC (18 points).
 - Students will be selected by making use of the relevant merit list as described.

School-leaving students' overall selection point (OSP)

- The OSP (maximum of 118) is calculated as follows:
 - A maximum of 100 points is allocated for academic achievement.
 - A maximum of 8 points is allocated for non-academic achievements on an international, national, provincial, regional, and school level (see below for more details).
 - A maximum of 8 points is allocated for the region of origin and attendance of a rural school (see below for more detail).
 - A maximum of 2 points for children of current university staff (see below for more detail).
- The 100% allocated points for the NSC marks (as part of the maximum of 100 points allocated for academic achievement) are calculated as follows:
 - The average of the four (4) compulsory subjects, namely (i) English or Language of Instruction, (ii) Mathematics, (iii) Physical Sciences and (iv) Life Sciences, will contribute 80%. The marks in November Grade 11 and June Grade 12 will be used for selection.
 - The average of the marks obtained in the other best two (2) subjects and Life Orientation in the NSC will contribute 20%.

As far as the additional 18 points of the OSP (marks outside the 100 academic marks of the total of 118 marks) in the Overall Selection Point (OSP) are concerned, the following holds:

- A point is allocated for **non-academic achievements** to a maximum allocation of eight (8) points (in Grades 11 and 12). This point is based on achievements in the following categories:

- **Culture** (1-4) (differentiated between an international and national, provincial, regional, and school level)
- **Extracurricular activities** (1-4) (differentiated between participation at an international and national, provincial, regional, and school level).
- Points are allocated as follows:
 - 1 = School
 - 2 = Regional level
 - 3 = Provincial level
 - 4 = National and International level
- An additional point allocation with respect to the **region of origin and attendance of a rural school is done as follows** (maximum allocation of 8 points):
 - Free State: 6 points
 - Northern Cape: 3 points
 - Rest of regions in South Africa and outside South Africa: no points
 - Applicants from rural schools anywhere in South Africa earn an additional 2 points.
- An additional maximum point allocation of 2 points for children of **current University of the Free State staff members**.

Senior applicants without a completed degree (any degree not yet obtained)

Specific selection criteria of the senior applicants **without a completed degree (any degree not yet obtained)** will be used to calculate the overall selection point in to place candidates on the merit list for selection purposes. A total of 107 Overall Selection Points can be achieved with a maximum of 100 points for academic achievements and a maximum of 5 points for region of origin. An additional 2 points will be awarded to children of **current University of the Free State staff members**:

- The average mark of all enrolled modules.
- An additional non-academic point allocation in respect of **regions of origin** (based on the region of the current higher education institution) is done as follows (*maximum allocation of 5 points*):
 - From the Free State - additional 5 points
 - From the Northern Cape - additional 3 points
 - Other regions in South Africa and outside South Africa: no additional points

Specific selection criteria for senior applicants **with a completed degree (any degree already obtained)** will be used to calculate the overall selection point to place candidates on the merit list for selection purposes. A total of 107 Overall Selection Points can be achieved with a maximum of 100 points for academic achievements and a *maximum* of 5 points for region of origin. An additional 2 points will be awarded to children of **current University of the Free State staff members**:

- The average mark of all enrolled modules of current qualification.
- The average mark of all enrolled modules passed in the previous tertiary degree obtained **can** be considered.
- An additional non-academic point allocation in respect of **regions of origin** (based on the region of current higher education institution) is done as follows (maximum allocation of 5 points):
 - From the Free State - additional 5 points
 - From the Northern Cape - additional 3 points
 - Other regions in South Africa and outside South Africa: no additional points

The point system will be reviewed on an annual basis based on the previous year's selection process, outcomes, and experienced impact.

Additional marks that will be used during the selection process if a deadlock on the merit list is reached:

- **Academic Mark (AM)** is the average of the four (4) compulsory subjects, English or Language of Instruction, Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Life Sciences, and the best of two (2) subjects on the designated list of school subjects passed. The subject Life Orientation is not used in the calculation.
- **Science Mark (SM)** is calculated by the average of the following:
A minimum average mark on achievement level 5 (60%) is required for each of the following and is a compulsory prerequisite:
 - Mathematics
 - Physical Sciences
 - Life Sciences

Provisional selection

- The following rules apply to applicants selected prior to their final marks being available, whether NSC or completing the academic year as a senior student:
 - The minimum selection criteria must be met (after writing).
 - Marks must remain approximately the same: if marks dropped below the selected cohort, an applicant may be taken out of selection depending on the rest of the group.
 - All required documents must have been submitted.

Selection

- The Faculty of Health Sciences does not consider/select second-choice applications.
- Selected candidates who do not respond within the prescribed period will not be selected/taken out of selection.

The selection committee

- The Selection Committee for the BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) will consist of the following members:
 - Dean (1): Faculty of Health Sciences.
 - Heads (3): Schools of Clinical Medicine, Pathology and Biomedical Sciences.
 - Programme Director (1): BMedSc (Radiation Sciences) Programme.
 - Deputy Director: Faculty of Health Sciences.
 - Coopted members for the Undergraduate Student Administration Office (non-voting members).
 - MSA Student representative (non-voting members).