

National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)

Compulsory Academic and Quantitative Literacy Test and Mathematics Test

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Information is subject to change.

What are the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)?

National Benchmark Testing is a national initiative of Higher Education South Africa (HESA). The NBTs are used by several South African universities as part of their student placement processes. There are two tests of three hours' duration each. The first test is the Academic and Quantitative Literacy Test (AQL), and the second is the Mathematics Test (MAT).

Who must write the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs)?

All prospective students planning to participate in an undergraduate programme at the University of the Free State are required to write the Academic and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) Test.

Students applying to the following faculties must **also** write the Mathematics Test:

- Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (consult the prospectus to determine which courses also require the Maths test, as there are some exceptions)

For more detailed information on each test, please visit www.nbt.ac.za.

Prospective students who want to enrol in 2017 for the first time must write the NBT in 2016, or in their grade 12 year.

Why am I required to write the NBTs?

The academic reading and writing demands of university study differ from those at school level, and the development of academic reading and writing competence is a critical part of a university education. The UFS regards the quality of teaching and learning as a top priority, and is dedicated to helping students perform well academically. In order to manage this process, the UFS must have accurate information on a student's academic literacy, quantitative literacy and mathematics proficiency. The NBTs provide a measure of student competencies in these areas and assist the UFS in placing students into the most appropriate modules and programmes during the first year.

How does the UFS use the NBT results?

The NBTs are used as part of the selection process for the Faculty of Health Sciences (School of Medicine and School of Allied Health Professions). For students applying to all our other faculties (including Nursing), NBT results are used during the registration process, but not for admission decisions. NBT performance levels are used to place first-year students into appropriate developmental programmes or modules, if necessary. Students who did not perform at the required proficiency level in the NBT Academic Literacy Test and plan to study in English must register for an academic literacy development module in English, namely one of the following module codes: EALH/EALE/EALN/EALL 1508, depending on the faculty in which they register. Students who plan to study in Afrikaans (if allowed in the faculty involved) must register for the academic literacy development course in Afrikaans, namely one of the following module codes: AGAH/AGAM/AGAL/AGAN/AGAE 1508.

The aim of the academic literacy development course is to introduce students to the reading and writing skills required for university study. These are not *language* courses; they are *academic literacy* courses. This kind of reading and writing is not taught at school level, and the courses will teach students how to study, write and read in an academic environment. Therefore, the literacy course aims to provide students with the skills and confidence to read an academic text efficiently and critically, and to extract the main ideas and key details so that they can adequately demonstrate this knowledge in tests and examinations. The course also develops the ability of students to write essays and assignments.

Is it compulsory to take the NBTs?

Yes! It is compulsory for **ALL** prospective UFS undergraduate students to write these tests in order to be placed into the correct learning programmes/modules, if necessary. Your NBT results will be checked during the registration process.

In which languages can the NBTs be written?

It is important to remember that you should write the NBTs in the language in which you intend to study at the UFS. This language will depend on the new Language Policy of the UFS and might differ from faculty to faculty.

When and where can I write the NBTs?

The NBTs should be written during your grade 12 year. Please note that you only need to write the NBTs once, even if you are applying at more than one university in South Africa.

There are about 50 venues nationwide at which the NBTs can be written, and there are plenty of NBT test dates to accommodate your needs. **Please note that you need to register to take the tests. You must do so approximately three weeks before the test date.**



Test dates	Last day to register	Last day to pay fees	Results available
21/05/2016	01/05/2016	08/05/2016	20/06/2016
04/06/2016	15/05/2016	22/05/2016	04/07/2016
*05/06/2016	15/05/2016	22/05/2016	04/07/2016
18/06/2016	29/05/2016	05/06/2016	18/07/2016
*19/06/2016	29/05/2016	05/06/2016	18/07/2016
25/06/2016	05/06/2016	12/06/2016	25/07/2016
**01/07/2016	12/06/2016	19/06/2016	01/08/2016
02/07/2016	12/06/2016	19/06/2016	01/08/2016
16/07/2016	26/06/2016	03/07/2016	15/08/2016
*17/07/2016	26/06/2016	03/07/2016	15/08/2016
30/07/2016	10/07/2016	17/07/2016	29/08/2016
13/08/2016	24/07/2016	31/07/2016	12/09/2016
*14/08/2016	24/07/2016	31/08/2016	13/09/2016
27/08/2016	07/08/2016	14/08/2016	26/09/2016
10/09/2016	21/08/2016	28/08/2016	10/10/2016
17/09/2016	28/08/2016	04/09/2016	17/10/2016
01/10/2016	11/09/2016	18/09/2016	31/10/2016
08/10/2016	18/09/2016	25/09/2016	07/11/2016
09/10/2016	18/09/2016	25/09/2016	07/11/2016
15/10/2016	25/09/2016	02/10/2016	14/11/2016
26/11/2016	06/11/2016	13/11/2016	14/12/2016
03/12/2016	13/11/2016	20/11/2016	19/12/2016
*04/12/2016	13/11/2016	20/11/2016	19/12/2016
**06/01/2017	18/12/2016	18/12/2016	06/02/2017
07/01/2017	18/12/2016	18/12/2016	06/02/2017

** Friday test session/** Sunday test session

The last opportunity for all students to write the test is:

2 July 2016 for students who have applied to the Faculty of Health Sciences (School of Medicine or School of Allied Health Sciences).

3 December 2016 for all students who have applied to any of the other faculties at the UFS (Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa campuses).

TAKE NOTE: registration for all NBTs opens on **1 April 2016**.

How do I register to write the NBTs?

You can register online or by cell phone. We recommend that you register online.

To register online, you have to access the website www.nbt.ac.za. Read the instructions and then click on "Book a test" and follow the prompts.

You can also access the website www.nbt.ac.za/mobile via your cell phone and follow the prompts. This application is used in the same way as Mxit or Facebook.

What does it cost to write the NBTs?

Students who only write the AQL test will need to pay R80, and students who write both the AQL and the MAT tests will need to pay R160.

- Once you have registered to write the test(s), you will be provided with an EasyPay barcode.
- If you register online, this will be available for download immediately after you have clicked on "submit".
- Take the downloaded letter to any convenient EasyPay pay point to pay the test fee. The EasyPay pay points are listed on the EasyPay website, as well as on the letter. The EasyPay website address is: www.easy.co.za.

If you register via your cell phone, you can do one of the following to access your EasyPay letter:

- enter an e-mail address and the acknowledgement letter will be sent automatically; **or**
- log in to the NBT website and print the acknowledgement letter; **or**
- enter your cell phone number and you will receive only your EasyPay number (not the full letter).

The test fees are subject to change.

What do I need to write the tests?

On the morning of the tests, you should bring the following with you:

- Your ID book.
- Your receipt as proof that you have paid the test fee. The venue administrator will stamp the receipt and return it to you.
- An HB pencil and a black ballpoint pen (not a fibre-tipped pen).
- An eraser.
- A pencil sharpener.
- Something to eat/drink.
- Bus/taxi fare home, if required.

No calculators may be used.

Where can I access my NBT results?

Your NBT results can be accessed on the NBT website (www.nbt.ac.za). Click on "Registered user login" and provide your ID number and password. Once you are a registered student at the UFS, you will also be able to access your results via the UFS Student Portal.

What is the proficiency/pass score?

AL = 64%
QL = 70%
Maths = 68%

What arrangements can be made if I have special learning or educational needs?

Students with disabilities, or any special learning or educational needs, will be provided with the support they need to write the NBTs. Please contact the call centre (021 650 3523) well ahead of the test date to inform the UFS of your specific needs.

Where can I find additional information or make enquiries?

For general information about the NBTs, how to register, venues and what the tests cover, please visit www.nbt.ac.za, or phone the NBT call centre at 021 650 3523.

For information about the UFS's NBT requirements, or for assistance if you experience any difficulties registering for the tests, please contact **Ms Lerato Masisi** at nbt@ufs.ac.za, 051 401 2448 or www.ufs.ac.za/nbt.

Prospective students applying for admission to the Faculty of Health Sciences should contact **Mr Thula Miya** at 051 401 7517 or MiyaTB@ufs.ac.za.

Nasionale Normtoetse

(National Benchmark Tests, NBTs)

Verpligte Akademiese en Kwantitatiewe Geletterdheidstoets en Wiskundetoets

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Inligting is onderhewig aan verandering.

Wat is die Nasionale Normtoetse (National Benchmark Tests, NBTs)?

Die Nasionale Normtoetse is 'n nasionale inisiatief van Hoër Onderwys Suid-Afrika (HESA). Dit word deur verskeie Suid-Afrikaanse universiteite gebruik as deel van hul keurings- en plasingprosesse. Daar is twee toetse wat elk drie ure duur. Die eerste toets is die Akademiese en Kwantitatiewe Geletterdheidstoets (*Academic and Quantitative Literacy Test, AQL*), en die tweede is die Wiskundetoets (*Mathematics Test, MAT*).

Wie moet die Nasionale Normtoetse (NBTs) skryf?

Alle studente wat van voorneme is om vir 'n voorgraadse program aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat in te skryf, moet die AQL-toetse skryf.

Studente wat aansoek wil doen vir studie in die volgende fakulteite moet ook die Wiskundetoets skryf:

- Fakulteit Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe
- Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
- Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe (verwys na die prospektus om te bepaal watter kursusse die vereiste stel dat die Wiskundetoets geskryf moet word, aangesien daar uitsonderings is)

Vir meer inligting oor elke toets, besoek asseblief www.nbt.ac.za.

Toetse moet in 2016 of in die graad 12-jaar geskryf word.

Waarom is ek verplig om die NBTs te skryf?

Die vaardigheidsvlak van akademiese lees- en skryfwerk wat vir universiteitsstudie vereis word, verskil van die eise wat op skoolvlak gestel word. Die ontwikkeling van akademiese lees- en skryfvaardighede is 'n uiters belangrike deel van universiteitsopleiding. Die UV plaas baie klem op die kwaliteit van onderrig en leer, en op hulpverlening aan studente om hul studieprestasies te verbeter. Om hierdie proses te bestuur, het die UV akkurate inligting oor studente se akademiese geletterdheid, kwantitatiewe geletterdheid en wiskundige vaardighede nodig.

Die NBTs bied 'n maatstaf van studente se vaardighede in hierdie areas, en help die UV om studente tydens hul eerste studiejaar in die mees geskikte modules te plaas.

Hoe gebruik die UV die NBT-uitslae?

Die NBTs word gebruik as deel van die keuringsproses vir die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe (Skool vir Geneeskunde en Skool vir Aanvullende Gesondheidsberoep). Vir studente wat aansoek doen by al die ander fakulteite (insluitende Verpleegkunde) word die NBT-uitslae gebruik tydens die registrasieproses, maar nie vir toelatingsbesluite nie. NBT-prestasievlakke word gebruik om eerstejaarstudente in geskikte programme of modules te plaas. Studente wat nie die vereiste prestasievlak vir die NBT-toets vir Akademiese Geletterdheid behaal nie en in Afrikaans gaan studeer, moet hulle vir 'n kursus in die ontwikkeling van akademiese geletterdheid in Afrikaans registreer, naamlik een van die volgende modulekodes: AGAH/AGAM/AGAL/AGAE/AGAN 1508. Studente wat in Engels gaan studeer, moet hulle vir 'n kursus in die ontwikkeling van akademiese geletterdheid in Engels registreer, naamlik een van die volgende modulekodes: EALH/EALE/EALN/EALL 1508.

Die doel van die module in akademiese geletterdheid is om studente geleidelik bloot te stel aan die lees- en skryfvaardighede wat op universiteit vereis word. Dit is nie 'n taalkursus nie, maar 'n kursus in *akademiese geletterdheid*. Hierdie soort lees- en skryfwerk word nie op skoolvlak onderrig nie, en die kursus fokus op die studie-, lees- en skryfvaardighede wat in 'n akademiese omgewing benodig word. Die doel van die kursus is om studente toe te rus met die vaardighede en selfvertroue om akademiese tekste doeltreffend en krities te lees, en om die hoofidees en sleutelbesonderhede uit te lig sodat die student hierdie kennis op voldoende wyse in toetse en eksamens kan demonstreer. Die kursus ontwikkel ook die vermoë van studente om opstelle en opdragte te skryf.

Is dit verpligtend om die NBTs te skryf?

Ja! **ALLE** voornemende voorgraadse UV-studente is verplig om die toetse te skryf om in die korrekte leerprogramme/modules geplaas te word. Jou NBT-uitslae sal tydens die registrasieproses nagegaan word.

In watter tale kan die NBTs geskryf word?

Dit is belangrik om te onthou dat jy die NBTs in die taal waarin jy onderrig aan die UV gaan ontvang, moet skryf. Hierdie taal sal afhang van die UV se nuwe Taalbeleid en mag van fakulteit tot fakulteit verskil.

Waar en wanneer kan ek die NBTs skryf?

Die NBTs moet gedurende jou graad 12-jaar geskryf word. Neem asseblief kennis dat jy die NBTs slegs een keer hoef te skryf, selfs indien jy by meer as een universiteit in Suid-Afrika aansoek doen.

Daar is ongeveer 50 lokale landwyd waar die NBTs geskryf kan word, en daar is genoeg NBT- toetsdatums om jou te pas. **Onthou asseblief dat jy drie weke voor die beoogde toetsdatum daarvoor moet registreer.**



Toetsdatums	Laaste datum vir registrasie	Laaste datum om te betaal	Uitslae beskikbaar
21/05/2016	01/05/2016	08/05/2016	20/06/2016
04/06/2016	15/05/2016	22/05/2016	04/07/2016
*05/06/2016	15/05/2016	22/05/2016	04/07/2016
18/06/2016	29/05/2016	05/06/2016	18/07/2016
*19/06/2016	29/05/2016	05/06/2016	18/07/2016
25/06/2016	05/06/2016	12/06/2016	25/07/2016
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16/07/2016	26/06/2016	03/07/2016	15/08/2016
*17/07/2016	26/06/2016	03/07/2016	15/08/2016
30/07/2016	10/07/2016	17/07/2016	29/08/2016
13/08/2016	24/07/2016	31/07/2016	12/09/2016
*14/08/2016	24/07/2016	31/08/2016	13/09/2016
27/08/2016	07/08/2016	14/08/2016	26/09/2016
10/09/2016	21/08/2016	28/08/2016	10/10/2016
17/09/2016	28/08/2016	04/09/2016	17/10/2016
01/10/2016	11/09/2016	18/09/2016	31/10/2016
08/10/2016	18/09/2016	25/09/2016	07/11/2016
09/10/2016	18/09/2016	25/09/2016	07/11/2016
15/10/2016	25/09/2016	02/10/2016	14/11/2016
26/11/2016	06/11/2016	13/11/2016	14/12/2016
03/12/2016	13/11/2016	20/11/2016	19/12/2016
*04/12/2016	13/11/2016	20/11/2016	19/12/2016
**06/01/2017	18/12/2016	18/12/2016	06/02/2017
07/01/2017	18/12/2016	18/12/2016	06/02/2017

**Toetssessie op Vrydag / *Toetssessie op Sondag

Die laaste geleentheid om die NBTs te skryf, is soos volg:

2 Julie 2016 vir studente wat aansoek doen by die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe (die Skool vir Geneeskunde of die Skool vir Aanvullende Gesondheidsberoep).

3 Desember 2016 vir alle ander voornemende UV-studente (Bloemfontein- en Qwaqwa-kampusse).

Registrasie vir alle NBTs begin op **1 April 2016**.

Hoe registreer ek om die NBTs te skryf?

Jy kan aanlyn of per selfoon registreer. Ons beveel aan dat jy aanlyn registreer.

Om aanlyn te registreer, moet jy die webblad www.nbt.ac.za besoek. Lees die aanwysings en klik dan op "Book a test" en volg die instruksies.

Jy kan die webblad www.nbt.ac.za/mobile ook per selfoon besoek en die instruksies volg. Hierdie toepassing word net soos Mxit of Facebook gebruik.

Hoeveel kos dit om die NBTs te skryf?

Studente wat slegs die AQL-toets skryf, betaal R80 en studente wat beide die AQL- en MAT-toetse skryf, betaal R160.

- Sodra jy geregistreer het om die toets te skryf, sal jy 'n EasyPay-staafkode ontvang.
- Indien jy aanlyn registreer, sal jy dadelik 'n brief met die staafkode kan aflaai wanneer jy op die "submit"-knoppie klik.
- Neem die brief na enige EasyPay-betalpunt naby jou om die toetsgeld te betaal. Die EasyPay-betalpunte is op die EasyPay-webblad gelys, en verskyn ook op die brief. Die EasyPay-webadres is: www.easypay.co.za.

Indien jy op jou selfoon registreer, kan jy die EasyPay-brief op die volgende manier verkry:

- Verskaf 'n e-posadres en die erkenningsbrief sal outomaties aan jou gestuur word; of
- Teken in op die NBT-webblad en druk jou erkenningsbrief uit; of
- Tik jou selfoonnommer in en ontvang slegs die EasyPay-verwysingsnommer (nie die volledige brief nie).

Die toetskoste is onderhewig aan verandering.

Wat het ek nodig om die toetse te skryf?

Bring die volgende items saam op die oggend van die toetse:

- Jou ID-boekie.
- Jou kwitansie as bewys van betaling van die toetsgeld. Die toetsbeampte sal die kwitansie stempel en aan jou teruggee.
- 'n HB-potlood en 'n swart balpuntpen (nie 'n viltpuntpen nie).
- 'n Uitveër.
- 'n Potloodskerpemaker.
- Iets om te eet/drink.
- Busgeld/taxigeld huis toe, indien benodig.

GEEN sakrekenaars mag gebruik word nie.

Waar kan ek my NBT-uitslae kry?

Jou NBT-uitslae sal op die NBT-webblad (www.nbt.ac.za) beskikbaar wees. Klik op "Registered user login" en verskaf jou ID-nommer en wagwoord. Wanneer jy 'n geregistreerde student van die UV is, sal jy ook toegang tot jou uitslae hê via die UV-studenteportaal.

Wat is die vaardigheids-/slaagtelling?

AL = 64%
QL = 70%
Wiskunde (Maths) = 68%

Watter reëlins kan getref word indien ek spesiale leer- of onderrigbehoefte het?

Studente met gestremdhede of enige spesiale leer- of onderrigbehoefte sal die nodige ondersteuning ontvang om die NBTs te kan skryf. Skakel die oproepsentrum (021 650 3523) asseblief vroegtydig om die UV oor jou spesifieke behoeftes in te lig.

Waar kan ek bykomende inligting vind of navraag doen?

Vir algemene navrae oor die NBTs, hoe om te registreer, toetslokale en wat die toetse dek, besoek asseblief www.nbt.ac.za of skakel die NBT-oproepsentrum by 021 650 3523.

Vir meer inligting oor die UV se NBT-vereistes of indien jy sukkel om vir die toets te registreer, kontak asseblief vir me Lerato Masisi by nbt@ufs.ac.za, 051 401 2448 of www.ufs.ac.za/nbt.

Voornemende studente wat aansoek doen om toelating tot die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe kan mnr Thula Miya by 051 401 7517 of MiyaTB@ufs.ac.za kontak.