

UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

POLICY AND ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS IN JUNIOR RESIDENCES, MAIN CAMPUS

1. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

- 1.1 To align the vision, mission and values of the University and the Institutional Charter with the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) in order to create a feeling of unity and cooperation based on integrity, mutual respect and fairness, within the context of the constitutional values of non-racism, non-sexism and non-discrimination.
- 1.2 To follow an educational approach to diversity in residences.
- 1.3 To facilitate and manage interaction and mutual learning among students from different racial, cultural, economic and historical backgrounds (among other dimensions of diversity) in UFS accommodation facilities.
- 1.4 To pursue innovation with regard to equity, justice and fairness in dealing with diversity.
- 1.5 To reflect diversity in a balanced and respectful manner.
- 1.6 To create essential and sufficient multilingualism.
- 1.7 To strive to prevent dominance and marginalisation of any group and to proactively protect the interests of minority groups.
- 1.8 To promote an all-permeating academic culture and intellectually stimulating environment.
- 1.9 To create a sense of belonging.

2. APPLICATION OF THE POLICY

- 2.1 Only full-time registered students of the University are accommodated in ordinary residences and residences operating as associations incorporated under section 21.
- 2.2 Students participating in the Career Preparation Programme (CPP) are not accommodated in UFS residences.
- 2.3 First-year students are selected according to a differentiated approach (see par 3.4).
- 2.4 No students from other tertiary institutions (exchange students excluded) are accommodated in UFS residences.
- 2.5 The first-year student capacity of each residence is fixed at 40% of the total capacity of the residence.
- 2.6 The application date and residence choice will serve as guidelines in the application of the criteria.
- 2.7 The application point for each applying student will be calculated as follows: The sum total of the admission point (carrying a weight of 2/3) and the general admission point (carrying a weight of 1/3).
- 2.8 Continuous selection by means of percentage intervals will take place on the basis of an application point.
- 2.9 Residences that fail to achieve the overall racial diversity objective (see paragraph 3.1.1) by February will be subject to corrective measures with a view to the placements for the next year.
- 2.10 This policy will be implemented by the Housing and Residence Affairs Division.

3. PROVISIONS OF THE POLICY

3.1 Diversity

- 3.1.1 A general racial diversity target of 50:50 within a 40% - 60% interval is set in respect of the total capacity of a residence.
- 3.1.2 In order to achieve the above-mentioned objective, first-year students are placed according to a diversity ratio of 50:50 within a 40% - 60% interval.

3.2 Academic admission requirements

- 3.2.1 A minimum Grade 12 admission point of 30 is required for admission to a residence.
- 3.2.2 The academic merit of an applicant is determined on the basis of the most recent admission point, as calculated by the University (whether it be the Grade 11 or Grade 12 point).

- 3.2.3 If a student was admitted to a residence on the basis of the Grade 11 point and the Grade 12 point is less than 30, the student's admission to a residence will be cancelled.
- 3.2.4 An applicant with an admission point of less than 30 may apply for residence accommodation. Should the final Grade 12 admission point be 30 or more, the applicant will qualify for admission to a residence.
- 3.2.5 Students in the Career Preparation Programme will qualify for admission to a residence if they obtain a 100% pass rate in all their modules.
- 3.2.6 A student who was registered at the UFS or another tertiary institution for the second or subsequent years must already have passed at least 120 credits in order to qualify for admission to a residence. Current first-year students will qualify for admission to a residence on the basis of their Grade 12 admission point.

3.3 General admission requirements

- 3.3.1 In order to place well-balanced students in residences, the highest level of achievement in respect of leadership, culture and sport is taken into account and calculated as follows:
 - School level = 4 points
 - Provincial = 8 points
 - National = 12 points
 - International = 16 points
- 3.3.2 In order to give recognition to alumni and/or donors, four points are awarded.
- 3.3.3 The application point is calculated by obtaining the sum total of the admission point (weighted at 2/3) and general admission point (weighted at 1/3).

3.4 Differentiated approach to the composition of first-year students in every residence.

Apportionment of the first-year capacity is granted to the following interest groups:

- 3.4.1 7% by the University Management (including the Dean: Student Affairs)
- 3.4.2 3% by the Director: Housing and Residence Affairs
- 3.4.3 10% by residence management bodies
- 3.4.4 5% to holders of accommodation bursaries
- 3.4.5 1% to students with disabilities
- 3.4.6 74% by Housing and Residence Affairs on the basis of a random selection

NOTE:

- The selection by interest groups must also take into account the diversity objective and the academic and general admission requirements as defined in paragraphs 3.1 - 3.3.
- Should an interest group not make a selection, this interest group's allocation will revert to Housing and Residence Affairs.
- Particulars of prospective students selected by the University Management must reach Housing and Residence Affairs not later than 15 January of the subsequent year.
- Particulars of prospective students selected by residence management bodies must reach Housing and Residence Affairs not later than 30 November of the current year.

4. GENERAL

- 4.1 The impact and implementation of the policy must be monitored continuously.
- 4.2 No pattern of 'black' or 'white' areas or floors or groups of rooms is allowed.
- 4.3 Alignment with other policies related to the management of diversity must be monitored carefully.