



**SCHOOL FOR ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Department of Physiotherapy and
Department of Occupational Therapy**

SELECTION POLICY: 2018/19

1. PREMISES

The present selection policy can be summarised as follows:

- (i) Any candidate may apply for admission to the first year of the following qualifications: BSc Physiotherapy and B Occupational Therapy (i.e. matriculants, school leavers, graduates and diplomates, as well as persons already studying for a degree).
- (ii) A holistic approach is important in the selection process, which is based on a points system that includes academic achievement, National Benchmark Test (NBT), cultural activities and sport.
- (iii) A definite effort is made to accommodate applicants from a disadvantaged educational background who display the necessary potential and a reasonable ability to attain success in their course, and to strive to be sensitive towards gender distribution in selection.
- (iv) Mainly South African students are selected for studies in Health Sciences due to the high costs involved in the training of students. Students enrolled in the School for Allied Health Professions are excluded from the Department of Health's policy agreement.
- (v) The following numbers serve as guideline for selection in order to achieve the final student numbers as indicated:

	SELECTED	ENVISIONED IN CLASS
Occupational Therapy	55	50
Physiotherapy	55	50

2. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- (i) A medical report to be completed by a medical practitioner, as well as the completion of a health questionnaire, are required from students.
- (ii) Immunisation requirements

The Faculty reserves the right to require further immunisation against illnesses at own discretion, before the student may be allowed to any academic year or semester during the course of his/her studies. Regarding the qualifications Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy, immunisation against Hepatitis B will take place during training and it is thus not necessary for the student to be immunised beforehand.

The School for Allied Health Professions follows the guidelines for immunisation as contained in the latest approved official policy document. The complete policy document is available from Undergraduate Student Administration, Faculty of Health Sciences.

(iii) HIV status

On behalf of the Faculty of Health Sciences the Faculty Management wishes to inform each student that, should his/her HIV status be positive, he/she should be aware before he/she takes up his/her selected position, that he/she will be exposed to patients with infective diseases, which could have an influence on his/her physical condition or status. In such cases, he/she will then be responsible for taking precautionary measures so that he/she does not become ill due to his/her positive status and exposure. It will be expected of all students to meet all rotation requirements of the qualification.

The medical reports of selected students will be sent to the various departments to ensure that the health condition of students does not withhold them from education and practising of the occupation for which they have been selected.

(iv) National Benchmark Tests (NBT)

It will be required of all new applicants, (excluding senior students.) in the Faculty of Health Sciences to write the above tests.

The NBT as set out under point 5, will constitute a total of 30% of the selection mark.

(v) Occupational Therapy

It is a prerequisite for selection to Occupational Therapy that prospective students must give proof of a visit with a registered occupational therapist with the purpose of gaining knowledge about the profession.

(vi) Physiotherapy

Voluntary visits with a registered professional in the relevant field will be a recommendation for selection.

3. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection of all candidates

Is based on the following:

- (a) Admission mark (TP)*; (Minimum of 36)
- (b) Academic mark (AP)*;
- (c) Sciences mark (WP)*;
- (d) NBT tests and if necessary any other approved questionnaires and tests; (NBT tests only a recommendation for senior students)
- (e) Selection mark (KP)*; and
- (f) Language of instruction (LP)*.

**Abbreviations as used in the selection process documents*

Additional approved questionnaires and tests can also be used to identify candidates with the necessary potential. If necessary, a panel from within the Faculty can conduct interviews with students in a further attempt to assess potential and personalities.

- (a) **Admission Mark (TP)** is calculated according to the compulsory subjects, i.e. language of instruction, Mathematics, Physical Sciences and* Life Sciences (*and/or for Occupational Therapy), and the best of the other subjects from the "designated list" of school subjects passed. The subject Life Orientation with an achievement level of 5 or higher receives only one (1) TP point. A minimum TP of 36 is required.

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

- (b) **Academic mark (AP)** is the average of the compulsory subjects i.e. language of instruction, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Life Sciences for **Physiotherapy** and Physical Sciences and/or Life Sciences for Occupational Therapy, and the best of the other subjects from the "designated list" of school subjects passed. The subject Life Orientation is not used in the calculation.
- (c) **Science Mark (WP)** is calculated on the average of the following:

B Occupational Therapy

AP = 36

- Mathematics = Achievement level 5 (60%)
- and at least one of the following:
- Life Sciences = Achievement level 5 (60%)
 - Physical Sciences = Achievement level 5 (60%)

BSc Physiotherapy

AP = 36

- Mathematics = Achievement level 5 (60%)
- Physical Sciences = Achievement level 5 (60%)
- Life Sciences = Achievement level 5 (60%)

- (d) **Selection mark (KP):** The maximum points to be attained by a student is 118 (academic achievement and non-academic activities in Grade 11 and 12). Of these points, 100 are allocated for academic achievement, a maximum of 8 for non-academic activities, a maximum of 8 for region of origin, and 2 points for children of University staff or alumni.

As far as the additional 18 points are concerned, the following holds:

- (e) **Non-academic achievements**
- (i) A point is allocated for **non-academic achievements**, to a maximum allocation of eight (8) points (in Grade 11 and 12).

This point is based on achievements in the following categories:

- **Culture** (1-4) (differentiated between participation at school, provincial and national level);
- **Extracurricular activities** (1-4) (differentiated between participation at school, provincial and national level).

POINTS ARE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 = School
- 2 = Regional level
- 3 = Provincial level
- 4 = National and International level

- (ii) An additional point allocation in respect of **region of origin and attendance of a rural school** is done as follows (maximum allocation of 8 points):
- Free State: 6 points
 - Northern Cape and Eastern 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
- (iii) An additional maximum point allocation of 2 points for children of **alumni or current University of the Free State staff members**.

- (f) **NBT tests are compulsory for all applicants as set out under point 5, except for senior students it is a recommendation only.**

4. SELECTION OF LEARNERS WHO HAVE ALREADY PASSED GRADE 12 AND ARE STUDYING AT A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, AND GRADUATES

The Grade 12 marks attained by students who have already passed Grade 12 will be taken into account in addition to their post-school achievements at higher education institutions

Limited positions will be available for selection in this category.

NBT tests are compulsory for all applications, except for senior students NBT tests are a recommendation only Students' potential in maths and sciences will be tested by the NBT.

To be considered for selection, all prospective students, except senior students must fulfil the NBT requirements as set out under point 5.

Senior students have to maintain the minimum average academic mark as they were selected on.

4.1 University students

4.1.1 Degree not yet obtained

For the selection of candidates who have completed one or more years of a qualification that does not fall within the Health Sciences, the following apply:

- (i) A candidate will qualify for selection if he/she obtains a minimum average of 65% for the completed year. A student/candidate need to complete a full academic main stream year to be considered/finally selected.
- (ii) A candidate must have the minimum credits (a full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the qualification) required to pass a year of any qualification.
- (iii) Preference will be given to students with an appropriate study field.
- (iv) Students must fulfil the NBT requirements as set out under point 5.

4.1.2 Degree already obtained

Selection of students who have already obtained a degree will take place as follows:

- (i) Preference will be given to students with appropriate subjects with a minimum average of 65%.
- (ii) A candidate must have the minimum credits (a full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the qualification) required to pass a year of any qualification.
- (iii) The qualification must have been completed in no longer than the allowed minimum period plus one year.
- (v) Students (excluding senior students) must fulfil the NBT requirements as set out under point 5.

4.2 University of Technology and other higher education institutions

4.2.1 Degree/diploma not yet obtained

Selection of students from Universities of Technology and other higher education institutions will be done as follows:

- (i) A minimum average of 80% is required for completed modules.
- (ii) A candidate must have the minimum credits (a full curriculum as set out in the regulations of the qualification) required to pass a year of any qualification.
- (iii) Preference will be given to students with an appropriate study field.
- (iv) Students must fulfil the NBT requirements as set out under 5

4.2.2 Degree/diploma already obtained

- (i) A minimum average of 70% is required for candidates with a B.Tech. degree, and a minimum average of 80% is required for other applicable diplomas.
- (ii) Preference will be given to students with an appropriate study field.
- (iii) The NBT tests as set out under point 5 are a recommendation only.

5. NATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS (NBT)

It will be required of all new applicants, except senior students in the Faculty of Health Sciences to write the above tests.

The NBT will be considered during selection and will constitute a total of 30% of the selection mark.

NBT tests are compulsory for all applicants, except senior students.

To be considered for selection, the following apply for a prospective student:

- (i) A minimum average mark of 60% in respect of the language of instruction (Afrikaans or English) must be obtained. If the average mark is not obtained, students must enrol for the compulsory language module
- (ii) Achieve a minimum of 50% for each of the individual components of the NBT.
- (iii) Only under special exceptional circumstances will applicants be considered for selection if they failed only one component of the NBT (excluding the Language component). In the latter case the overall average NBT mark should be equal to or more than 55%. (In Department of Occupational Therapy a pass mark of 40% for the Mathematics component is required.
- (iv) The NBT tests are valid for three years, but students are allowed to write only twice in each new year before or on the first Saturday of July. The second NBT test must be written in total and all marks be resubmitted together with a motivation.
- (v) Only the latest set of NBT results of each year will be accepted.

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTORS	
Code	
Name	2018 SAHP Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy Selection Policy
Status	Approved by Rectorate 10 May 2017
Contact(s)	Ronette Lategang-Potgieter
Cross references	
DOCUMENT APPROVAL	
By	Faculty Management Committee, EXCO SAHP
Issue date	April 2017
Place of publication	UFS, FoHS
DOCUMENT REVIEW	
Date last amended	Document as revised on 27 February 2017
Date for next review	March 2022
DOCUMENT ARCHIVING	
Master copy	Deputy Director: Faculty of Health Sciences
Electronic copy	Intranet: Pdf CD