



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

Academic merit awards for postgraduate students

The University reserves the right to amend the regulations and award values and/or conditions applicable to the allocation of awards without prior notice.

Honours

An academic merit award for postgraduate students is automatically allocated based on the candidate's achievement during study for an honours degree and is associated with the tuition fees applicable to the course in question. Students will be considered for the academic merit award after an honours degree has been obtained. No academic merit awards are allocated for achievements in postgraduate diplomas or certificates or MBA degrees.

The award is made on condition that the candidate obtains an average total examination mark of at least 75% in all the modules he or she is registered for regarding the specific honours study, and that the person enrolls for further degree studies.

The awards are calculated according to the following formula:

Total tuition fees for a full-time instructional programme (honours) as applicable during the previous year x total examination mark (75% or more)/100 x calculation factor, for example total cost for BAcc Hons = R3 000 x 75/100 x 0,5 (the factor is currently 0,5 and is subject to change) = R1 125.00.

Should a student take longer than the minimum prescribed period of one year to complete his/her honours studies, the award amount will be reduced by 0.25% for each six (6) months of study after the minimum prescribed period.

Master's

Since 2002, academic merit awards to the amount of R10 000 are automatically allocated to registered doctoral students at this university who have obtained their master's degrees with distinction. These students will receive the award in two instalments, namely R5 000 during the first year of doctoral study, and R5 000 during the second year.

Doctoral studies

Academic merit awards of R10 000 will automatically be allocated to students who obtained their master's degrees with distinction and who register for doctoral study at the UFS. These students will receive the award in two instalments, namely R5 000 during the first year of doctoral study, and R5 000 during the second year.

- **Students from other universities**

Academic merit awards will only be considered after submission of a written application to the Financial Aid Office, accompanied by a certified copy of the study record and proof of fees paid for the specific modules/course.



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

- **Interruption of studies**

To qualify for an academic merit award, a student must register at the University as a student again. If there is an interruption of more than five (5) years between the last examination (matriculation or university) and the year in which the award must be allocated, the student does not qualify for an award.

- **Discontinuation of study**

- If a student discontinues his/her course before 31 March, the full award will be reversed and 50% of the award for cancellations after 31 March, irrespective of the account balance.
-
- In cases where a student discontinues their studies and the bursary is cancelled in full, the student may contact the Financial Aid Office upon re-registration, provided this occurs within the five-year period specified in the bursary rules.

- **Final-year students**

Students qualifying for the academic merit award at the end of their final year of study need to register for a degree at the UFS within five (5) years. If a student does not register within five (5) years from their final year of study, the academic merit award will be forfeited.

- **Payment of academic merit awards**

Students who qualify for an academic merit award will have the award amount credited to their class-fee account after registration at the UFS.

- **Undertaking**

The student undertakes to complete his/her degree studies at this university. If he/she does not complete the course, Council reserves the right to claim back the entire award or the part thereof which may already have been paid out to him/her. However, each case will be treated on merit.

An award may be withdrawn at any time if the behaviour, diligence or progress of the student is found to be unsatisfactory. If the examination results of a qualifying student are such that he/she will have to repeat the studies of a full year/semester, the award will be regarded as a study loan, and it will have to be paid back.

- **Occasional studies**

Students who register for occasional studies do not qualify for merit awards based on their academic achievement of the previous year or academic achievements during their occasional studies.

- **BML (Baccalaureus in Management Leadership)**

Students who register for BML studies do not qualify for merit awards based on academic achievements during their BML studies.



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

- **Diploma and Certificate Studies**

Students who register for Diploma or Certificate studies do not qualify for merit awards based on academic achievements during their Diploma or Certificate studies.

- **Short Courses/Business School Students**

Students who register for short courses and students who register to study at the Business School do not qualify for merit awards based on their academic achievement of the previous year or academic achievements during their short course studies or their studies at the Business School.

Terms and conditions apply.