



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

Academic merit awards for senior undergraduate 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.

An academic merit award is based on the achievement of a student in a particular course and is associated with the tuition fees that are applicable to that course. An academic merit award is automatically allocated based on the academic achievements of a student during the previous year.

The award is made with the provision that a student achieves an average total examination mark of at least 80% at the end of a calendar year. All modules taken by the student are considered in the calculation of the average of 80%, in other words, also modules that were failed, discontinued, or did not receive admission to write examination. This award will only apply if a student registers for a degree.

The following formula is used to calculate the value of the award:

Tuition fees of each module in which 80% is achieved x mark achieved for the specific module/100 x calculation factor, for example:

80% obtained in Module XYZ and module cost is R4000 = $R4000 \times 80/100 \times 0.5$ (the factor is currently 0.5 and is subject to change) = R1600.00.

- **Students from the University Access Programmes**

Academic merit awards will be allocated to qualifying students registered for one of the following:

- The University Preparation Programmes
- Extended Programmes
- The Higher Certificate in Humanities
- The Higher Certificate in BCom
- The Higher Certificate in BAdmin

The calculation for the above-mentioned merit awards only apply to the courses offered by this University.

- **Varsity College Students**

UFS Varsity College LLB students are eligible for academic merit awards to the value of 50% of an award of a Bloemfontein Campus student. All other terms and conditions also apply to these students.

- **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.



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- **First-year students who first registered at other higher-education institutions**

First-time entering first-year students, who first registered at other higher education institutions, discontinued their studies, and then register at this university, will not qualify for academic merit awards during their first year of study.

- **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.
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- 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.

- **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.