

Are you a top achiever in academics, sport, culture, and leadership?

The University of the Free State has been hosting the prestigious Matriculant of the Year competition for more than 40 years. The competition celebrates high-performing and well-rounded learners.

Enter now to follow in the footsteps of great leaders who have entered the Matriculant of the Year competition.

Matriculant of the year 2026

The top 25 entries receive bursaries from the University of the Free State, while the top 14 finalists are invited to a final two-day adjudication event, which includes a gala evening.

Applications will be open from 1 April 2026 to 1 August 2026. Contact Linda Greyling at +27 51 401 3384 or greylinl@ufs.ac.za

PLEASE NOTE: to enter the competition, learners must have applied to study at the University of the Free State in 2027.



Pictured: front row from the left: Laura Andrade de Ponte (High School for Girls, Potchefstroom), Christiaan Kotzé (Hoërskool Fichardtspark, Bloemfontein), Burgert van Heerden (Hoër Landbouskool Marlow, Cradock), Emile Dawson (William Pescod High School, Kimberley), Liam-Lloyd Doman (Hoërskool Voortrekker, Bethlehem), Vindry Horne (Hoërskool Uitenhage, Uitenhage), and Michelle Jacobs (Hoërskool Labori, Paarl); back row: Marné Koen (Hoërskool Die Brandwag, Uitenhage), Kiara Subramanian (Eunice High School, Bloemfontein), Samantha Mynhardt (Hoërskool Trio, Kroonstad), Jenni Muller (Hoërskool Wilgerivier, Frankfort), Jané de Villiers (Hoërskool Witteberg, Bethlehem), Megan Johnson (Hoërskool Menlopark, Pretoria), and Amoné Verwey (Hoërskool Jim Fouché, Bloemfontein).