

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

The University of the Free State and Netwerk24 have 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 2025

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 2025 to 1 August 2025. 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 2026.



Pictured: front row from the left: Linda Mei (Bloemfontein High School), Annika Serfontein (Trio High School, Kroonstad), Elseri Venter (Jim Fouché High School, Bloemfontein), Zanri Venter (Curro Hazeldean, Pretoria), Susan Bender (Voortrekker High School, Bethlehem), Karla Marais (Fichardt High School, Bloemfontein), Leah Parry (Durban Girls' College), and Basetsana Mofokeng (Sand du Plessis High School, Bloemfontein); back row: Nkosinathi Mthimkulu (Gen. Smuts High School, Vereeniging), Ethan Burger (Fichardt High School, Bloemfontein), Chris Goosen (Grey College, Bloemfontein), Jurie Blignaut (Rustenburg High School), Immanuel Fumba (Bloemfontein High School), and Jayden Leech (Grey College, Bloemfontein).