
FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

2027 Intake: Selection Criteria and Process

(Last updated: 13 March 2026. The current online version on the faculty's website replaces all previous versions and is effective for the 2027 intake only.)

The Stellenbosch University (SU) Council determines intake targets in line with its commitment to academic excellence, diversity and inclusivity. Faculties are responsible for selecting prospective undergraduate students to meet these targets and to ensure that enrolments remain within available capacity.

All degree programmes are subject to a selection process based on minimum admission requirements, selection criteria, and the number of students that can be accommodated in each programme.

- Admission requirements are the minimum standards an applicant must meet to be considered for admission.
- Selection criteria are set at higher thresholds, depending on the number of applications received, and are used to make final selection decisions.

1. Application and selection process

1.1. Application due dates

Applications open on 1 April and close on 31 July of the year preceding the intended year of study. Applicants who apply while in Grade 12 must use their final Grade 11 results. Applicants who have already completed Grade 12 — including those transferring from other universities or SU faculties — must apply through the standard application process using their final Grade 12 results.

Please note: Late applications will not be considered.

1.2. Conditional offers

Applicants who are in Grade 12 at the time of application will be assessed based on their final Grade 11 results. Conditional offers are made to applicants who meet both the minimum admission requirements AND the selection criteria for their chosen programme (see Table 1).

Conditional offers must be accepted within the timeframe stated in the official SU offer letter sent via e-mail. If not accepted in time, the offer will expire. Only applicants who accept a conditional offer will be considered for a final offer. Once accepted, the applicant's status will change to "Final Offer Pending" until final evaluation is completed.

1.3. Final offers

Applicants who applied using Grade 11 results will receive final offers only once their Grade 12 results are released (in January of the following year; i.e. the intended year of study). **A final offer will be made only if the applicant's Grade 12 results meet both the minimum admission requirements AND the selection criteria for the programme for which a conditional offer was accepted.**

Once issued, the applicant's status will change from "Final Offer Pending" to "Final Offer Issued". After the final Grade 12 results have been released, applicants should monitor the application portal regularly and accept the final offer within the specified timeframe.

Applicants who apply using their final Grade 12 results and meet all requirements, will receive a final offer directly (without a conditional offer). Their status will immediately reflect "Final Offer Issued."

Please note: The acceptance period for final offers is limited to allow the faculty to manage enrolment numbers effectively.

1.4. Waiting lists

An applicant's status will show as "Waitlisted" while the faculty reviews applications within a specific pool. This applies to:

- Applicants who applied with Grade 12 results but later improved their

marks. These applicants remain waitlisted until their updated results are submitted for evaluation.

- Applicants currently enrolled at another institution who meet the minimum admission requirements AND selection criteria (as outlined in Table 1). These applicants remain waitlisted until their final results for the current academic year are submitted for evaluation.
- Applicants who meet the minimum admission requirements but do not meet the selection criteria for the BCom (International Business) programme.

2. Minimum admission requirements and selection criteria

2.1. National Senior Certificate and other examination boards

This document applies primarily to applicants from the following examination boards: the National Senior Certificate (NSC), SACAI and the Independent Examination Board (IEB).

Applicants from other curricula – such as HIGCSE, Namibian NSSC, Cambridge AS and A Levels, International Baccalaureate (Higher and Standard Level), School of Tomorrow, the American High School Diploma, the IEB International Secondary Certificate, and all online schooling systems – should refer to this document > [su-international-booklet.pdf](#)

Applicants from the following groups are required to write the National Benchmark Tests (NBTs) or SATs to be considered for a conditional offer:

- American High School Diploma applicants,
- IEB International Secondary Certificate applicants,
- School of Tomorrow applicants,
- Applicants from all online schooling systems.

(Final offers are subject to applicants meeting all requirements, including: final academic results, matriculation exemption, and Senate's discretionary admission criteria.)

2.2. How selection criteria are determined and applied

To receive a conditional and/or final offer, applicants must meet both the minimum admission requirements and the selection criteria outlined in Table 1. Selection criteria are reviewed annually and adjusted based on the application pool for that intake year. For the 2027 application cycle, the criteria in Table 1 represent the highest (most stringent) thresholds that will be applied.

If, at the final offer stage, the faculty has not yet reached its intake or diversity targets, the selection criteria may be lowered. Adjustments will first be made to meet diversity targets, and thereafter to meet overall intake targets if necessary. All applicants must still meet the minimum admission requirements in every case.

2.3. Articulation/change of programmes within the faculty

EMS students who are registered in a programme and wish to transfer to another programme within the faculty should note the following:

- a) No transfers are permitted *during* an academic year.
- b) Transfers to programmes with higher admission requirements (at the start of the next academic year) will only be considered if:
 - The student meets the minimum admission requirements of the new programme based on their Grade 12 results (selection criteria do not apply);
 - The student has passed all modules registered for in the previous academic year; and
 - Any additional programme-specific requirements are met in the case of BCom (Actuarial Science), BAccounting, and the Extended Curriculum Programme (ECP). Students should contact the relevant programme leader or department for detailed transfer requirements.
- c) Transfers to programmes with lower admission requirements and selection criteria (at the start of the next academic year) will only be considered if:
 - The student meets the minimum admission requirements of the new programme based on their Grade 12 results; and
 - The student has permission from both Stellenbosch University and the faculty to continue their studies. Students who have passed fewer than 50% of their module credits and were not readmitted

through the formal readmission appeals process may not continue their studies in any programme within the faculty.

2.4. Additional criteria for non-EMS transferring applicants

Applicants transferring from another faculty or another university to the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences will be placed on a waiting list until their final academic results and record of conduct are available. The selection criteria in Table 1 will apply to these applicants. In addition, applicants must:

- a) submit a satisfactory record of conduct from their previous institution;
- b) apply through the formal readmission process if they were academically excluded from another institution or from another SU faculty; and
- c) have passed at least 70% of the credits for which they were previously registered.

Applicants who apply based on their Grade 11 results must meet the minimum admission requirements and selection criteria with both their Grade 11 and Grade 12 results. Applicants who apply based on their Grade 12 results must meet both the minimum admission requirements and selection criteria with their Grade 12 results.

TABLE 1: Summary of admission requirements and selection criteria

Programme	Minimum admission requirements	Selection criteria
BCom (Management Sciences) BCom (Economic Sciences) BCom (Industrial Psychology) BCom (Financial Accounting) BCom (Management Accounting)	NSC Average 65% Mathematics 60% Minimum EMS Language Admission Requirements* <i>BCom (Economic Sciences) requires 70% in Mathematics (not 63%) for both Econometrics and Financial Sector focal areas</i>	NSC Average 70% Mathematics 63%
BCom (Mathematical Sciences)	NSC Average 70% Mathematics 75% Minimum EMS Language Admission Requirements*	NSC Average 75% Mathematics 80%
BAcc	NSC Average 70%	NSC Average 73%

	Mathematics 70% OR Mathematics 60% and Accounting 70% Minimum EMS Language Admission Requirements*	Mathematics 73% without Accounting OR Mathematics 63% and Accounting 70%
BDatSci	NSC Average 80% Mathematics 80% English or Afrikaans Home Language 60% OR English or Afrikaans Additional Language 75%	No additional selection criteria
BCom (International Business)	NSC Average 80% Mathematics 70% English Home Language 70% OR English First Additional Language 80%	NSC Average 85% Mathematics 70%
BCom (Actuarial Science)	NSC Average 80% Mathematics 80% Home Language 60% (If English is not the home language, then English First Additional Language 75%)	NSC Average 85% Mathematics 85%
BCom (Management Sciences) Extended Curriculum Programme (ECP)	NSC Average 60% Mathematics 50% Minimum EMS Language Admission Requirements*	Socio-economic Status (SES) ¹ of 2 or more

¹ Socio-economic Status (SES) is a reflection of the current socio-economic disadvantages an applicant has had to overcome. The SES-factor is determined through the information provided during the application process and considers three indicators: educational disadvantage, economic disadvantage and first-generation student status.

BCom (Law) BAccLLB	The selection for these programmes is done by the Faculty of Law and is therefore not covered in this document. For more information, please consult the Faculty of Law's website at https://blogs.sun.ac.za/law .
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***Minimum EMS language admission requirements:**

- English Home Language 50% *or*
- Afrikaans Home Language 50% *or*
- English First Additional Language 70% *or*
- Afrikaans First Additional Language 70%.