

GUIDELINES: 2027 APPLICATIONS

1. General application information

- Applications open on **13 April 2026**.
- It is of utmost importance that you provide your personal cellphone number, email and postal addresses to enable the University to communicate with you directly.
- Applicants are advised to complete both a first and second choice on the online application.
- Once your online application has been processed, you will receive a student number and pin.
- You can track your application status on the Nelson Mandela University Student Admission Tracking dashboard ([Log in: Nelson Mandela University](#)) and reset your pin in case you forgot it.
- **Receiving a student number does NOT imply that you have been accepted by the University yet.** Admission is a separate process.

2. Closing date for applications

In order to ensure adequate time for application and processing by the university, online applications for early admission in **2027** should be submitted by:

- **30 June 2026** for **Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB)**, Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm), & Bachelor of Radiography (BRad) applications.
- **03 August 2026** for early applications (*excluding MBChB, BPharm & BRad*).
- **30 September 2026** for late applications (*excluding MBChB, BPharm & BRad*).
- **30 September 2026** for international student applications.
- **30 September 2026** for **ALL** student housing applications.

Please note, places in some qualifications are limited, and it is therefore in your best interest to submit your online application and **ALL** supporting documentation timeously. A Faculty or Head of Department reserves the right to close a program once application capacity is reached.

3. Important documentation

In order for the university to finalise your application you are required to upload the following documentation as part of the online application:

Copy of your identity document	ID document compulsory for SA Citizens – your application cannot be processed without a certified copy of your ID. You may also provide your birth certificate should you still be waiting for your ID Document to be issued
Copy of your latest school results	Grade 11 final or grade 12 June or September results or final school leaving results (e.g. if you are currently at school and apply in August

	submit your June results). No Grade 12 March results.
Declaration by your parent / legal guardian / surety	If you are a dependent or currently at school or studying at a tertiary institution or have recently left school and do/will not have permanent employment when applying or studying at the university
A copy of the identity document of parent / legal guardian / surety	If you are a dependent or currently at school or studying at a tertiary institution or have recently left school and do/will not have permanent employment when applying or studying at the university.
Transferring applicants	Full official academic record(s) and certificate(s) of conduct from previous institution
If applicable:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A copy of your marriage certificate 	

4. Qualification specific compulsory documentation

Qualification	Detail	Document
Diploma Sports Management	Upload proof of current sport participation	Letter from School or Provincial Body
Bachelor of Human Movement Sciences	The Medical Report can be found on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Medical Report
Biokinetics	The Medical Report can be found on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Medical Report
Adv Diploma Quality Management	Upload a CV as proof of employment in the relevant field	CV
Adv Dip Operations Management	Upload a CV as proof of employment in the relevant field	CV
Adv Dip TVET	Part Time: Proof of employment as a lecturer in TVET	Proof of Employment
B Mus General		Audition video
B Mus General Ext		Audition video
Dip Music (Curr 1 & 2)		Audition video
Higher Certificate Human Settlement	Upload proof of employment	Proof of employment
PGCE (FET)	Upload proof of qualification or registration: BA, BCom or BSc degree	Degree certificate or proof of registration final year
PGCE (SP & FET)	Upload proof of qualification or	Degree certificate

	registration: BA, BCom or BSc degree	or proof of registration final year
Adv Dip Monitoring & Evaluation	CV indicating working experience	CV
Adv Dip Financial Planning	Upload academic record confirming Finance as a major at final year level of a corresponding Diploma	Academic record
Bachelor of Architectural Design	Qualifying applicants will be required to prepare a prescribed portfolio and online interview. Portfolio requirements available on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Portfolio of Evidence
Dip Architectural Technology	Qualifying applicants will be required to prepare a prescribed portfolio and online interview. Portfolio requirements available on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Portfolio of Evidence
Dip Interior Design	Qualifying applicants will be required to prepare a prescribed portfolio and online interview. Portfolio requirements available on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Portfolio of Evidence
Bachelor of Visual Arts	Qualifying applicants will be required to prepare a prescribed portfolio and online interview. Portfolio requirements available on the Apply: Undergraduate webpage https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate	Portfolio of Evidence
Higher Certificate EMC	Submit proof of employment in the Emergency Medical Field	Medical Fitness Report

5. Selection of undergraduate candidates:

Submission of a completed online application form does not mean that you have been accepted as a student, or that you may register. All prospective students are selected in accordance with the admissions policy. Selection is merit-based.

Merit-based selection

Meeting the minimum admission criteria per selected qualification is the first step in the process to secure your place of study for the 2027 academic year and is based on the results you have submitted. Please note that meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee your final acceptance.

The second step is your final acceptance to your programme which will take place in January 2027 and is subject to selection. Final acceptance to your programme will be determined by your Applicant Score, subject requirements, and availability of spaces. Applicants with the highest Applicant Score will receive priority until all spaces are filled.

If you are currently in Grade 12 you are encouraged to work hard so that you achieve above the minimum admission requirements.

Please note that there are limits to the number of applicants that can be admitted to each programme. If a programme is full, you may not be admitted even though you meet the minimum admission requirements.

What to expect January 2027

Final selection happens January 2027, once the final NSC, SACAI, IEB results are released. Here is how the final selection works:

- Applicants with the highest Applicant Scores (AS) for a programme are prioritised for final selection - also called a firm offer - until all spaces are taken.
- Certain programmes have extra requirements like portfolios or interviews, in addition to the applicant scores.
- This selection process does not apply to international applicants.
- If you do not get a firm offer because spaces are full, you may be placed on a waiting list. You will be contacted if a place opens up.
- If you receive a firm offer, you will need to confirm your acceptance or decline within three days. If you do not respond we will assume that you are no longer interested, and the offer will go to someone on the waiting list.
- Final selection outcomes will be sent by sms text, followed by an e-mail to the address you gave us during your application.

NB: Acceptance as a student does not mean that you have also been accepted to one of the residences or that you will automatically qualify for a bursary / loan.

6. PGCE Application

Please note: The Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) is not considered a postgraduate qualification, but rather a professional teaching qualification aimed at graduates interested in teaching as a career, **after completion of their initial undergraduate qualifications (a BA, BCom or BSc degree)**. Therefore, the PGCE qualification is listed under the 'Undergraduate' tab on the online application system and not under the Postgraduate tab.

7. Students from other tertiary institutions

Please note that limited spaces are available for transferring students. If you were previously registered at other tertiary education institutions, you need to submit an **official full academic record and certificate of conduct issued** by each institution at which you were registered. This statement must indicate all courses passed and failed and modules for

which you are currently registered. Students, who studied at the Port Elizabeth campus of the former Vista University before 2004, must obtain an academic record and a certificate of conduct from UNISA. (Tel: 086 167 0411 or email: undergrad@unisa.ac.za)

8. Financial assistance

Nelson Mandela University offers financial assistance to full-time students in the form of bursaries, merit awards, scholarships and study loans. Assistance is based on financial need as well as academic excellence and sporting achievements. These awards will not necessarily cover all costs and cannot be granted to all candidates who apply. Nelson Mandela University also provides financial assistance in collaboration with the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) for financially needy students. More detailed information can be obtained from: **Financial Aid & Bursaries** - <https://finaid.mandela.ac.za/>

NSFAS

Applications for NSFAS funding must be made directly on the NSFAS website. The closing date for NSFAS funds is advertised on their website. Further information can be obtained from the NSFAS website - www.nsfas.org.za

9. Students with disabilities

Nelson Mandela University strives to ensure that all campus facilities are accessible to students with disabilities. Every reasonable attempt will be made to provide students with the assistance they require. Disability status is confidential, however if the university is not aware of the disability, we will not be in a position nor obliged to offer reasonable support. If the disability is not self-evident, the university may require the applicant to disclose sufficient information to confirm the disability or to ensure that reasonable consideration is granted.

For more information on accessibility and how your particular disability can be accommodated, you are advised to contact the Universal Accessibility & Disability Services (UADS), on 041-504 2313/4756/2562 or disability@mandela.ac.za as early as possible. Early enquiries during the year preceding application are encouraged, to ensure that requests can be reasonably accommodated.

10. Residence accommodation

To apply for residence please click on the link: <https://studenthousing.mandela.ac.za/Apply-for-Admission>

- a. Please note that indicating that you require residence accommodation does not guarantee you a place in the residences.
- b. A selection process has to take place and priority will be given to applicants who have obtained good academic results.
- c. No student will be admitted to residence until she/he has been academically admitted to a university programme or before the appropriate fees have been paid.
- d. Also note that residence accommodation is limited and preference will be given to applications received before the end of September.

11. Student number

Please use your student number when corresponding with the university. This student number will appear in all future correspondence that you receive from the university. Quote your student number in the heading of any e-mail correspondence.

12. Medium of instruction and academic activities

Tuition at Nelson Mandela University is presented mainly in English. Academic activities take place from Monday to Friday and when necessary, on Saturdays.

13. Assistance / Contact details

You may contact our Contact Centre at 041 5041111 or use our **AI Chatbot** which is available via the Apply: Undergraduate webpage <https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela/Application/Apply-Undergraduate>

Apply: Undergraduate

Prospective undergraduate, postgraduate and international students who wish to join Nelson Mandela University in 2027 invited to apply online as from 13 April 2026.



Welcome to Nelson Mandela University 🌟 I'm here to help answer your questions.



14. Foreign School leaving certificate

Candidates who wrote a foreign school leaving qualification require a letter and/or certificate from the Universities South Africa (USAf) before the application can be considered. The letter and/or certificate you receive from USAf need to be submitted to the Student Access and Enrolment Office with all your required documents in order to be considered for a qualification. For more information visit the USAf website (<https://mb.usaf.ac.za>) or contact them via e-mail at applications@usaf.ac.za.