



## ADMISSIONS POLICY

<b>Reference number</b>	7P/7.1
<b>Accountable executive manager</b>	Registrar
<b>Policy owner</b>	Registrar
<b>Responsible division</b>	Registrar
<b>Status</b>	Approved
<b>Approved by</b>	Council
<b>Date of approval</b>	18 March 2019
<b>Amendments</b>	AMENDMENTS TO GIVE EFFECT TO NATIONAL DIRECTIVES PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT GAZETTES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018
<b>Review date</b>	2021
<b>Procedures in terms of this policy</b>	None
<b>Web address of this policy</b>	<a href="http://www.nwu.ac.za/gov_man/policy/index.html">http://www.nwu.ac.za/gov_man/policy/index.html</a>
<b>Address on the policy data base</b>	(10935746) H:\HSC\2. Management\2.1.3 Policy management\Beleide\Raad Maart 2019\7P/7.1_Admissions Policy_e.docm

## ADMISSIONS POLICY

Against the background of the dream to be an internationally recognised university in Africa, distinguished for engaged scholarship, social responsiveness and an ethic of care, the Council of the North-West University (NWU) has, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the NWU, adopted this Admissions Policy on 18 March 2019.

### 1 Interpretation and application

This policy must be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the –

- 1.1 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996;
- 1.2 Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 (“HE Act”);
- 1.3 National Qualification Framework Act 67 of 2008;
- 1.4 Statute of the North-West University (2017) (“the Statute”);
- 1.5 General Academic Rules of the NWU, and all
- 1.6 related policies of the NWU, in particular the Teaching-Learning Policy, and
- 1.7 government policies and directions regarding admissions listed in the appendices to this policy, which the registrar must keep current.

### 2 Scope of application

- 2.1 This policy provides boundary admission conditions and rules in regard to the types of qualifications contemplated in paragraphs 8 and 9 below which are part of the officially approved PQM of the NWU and to which prospective students might seek admission.
- 2.2 Owing to capacity constraints, requirements by professional and statutory bodies and similar reasons, the NWU reserves the right to select candidates for admission to certain qualifications even where such applicants do meet the minimum admission requirements.
- 2.3 Taking into consideration the reasons referred to in 2.2, prospective students who comply with the minimum requirements may be refused admission to the qualifications in question.
- 2.4 The NWU reserves the right to set out appropriate measures in its five-year strategic plan and annual performance plans, as well as other relevant policies and rules as a means to further the redress of past inequalities and to ensure that access to the university is broadened.

### 3 Policy statement

- 3.1 With reference to the considerations referred to in paragraph 2 above, the NWU reserves the right to subject students to a selection process before admission to specific qualifications and related programmes.
- 3.2 It is the policy of the NWU to provide a set of guidelines and requirements consistent with the regulatory framework contemplated in 1 above for determining admission to the qualifications and their related programmes offered by the university.
- 3.3 The university wishes to ensure the creation of an environment that pursues social justice and the advancement of access, that promotes the objectives of the HE Act and that is consistent with national directives in regard of the enhancement of access to higher education.

## 4 Governance and management of the implementation of the policy

The ongoing management of the admission of prospective students to qualifications offered by the university takes place in accordance with an aligned set of business processes as implemented in a synergised manner across all faculties and in respect of the different modes of delivery at the university.

## 5 Policy objectives

This policy is intended to achieve the following objectives:

- 5.1 To provide clear guidelines according to which the NWU exercises its decision-making powers to admit students to its approved and registered contact and distance qualifications in line with the admission requirements as prescribed in the HEQSF documentation, as well as within the overall national drive towards the advancement of redress, equity and quality in higher education.
- 5.2 To provide for a framework to enable access for eligible candidates with National Certificates (Vocational) (NC(V)) and to those presenting Senior Certificates, while accepting that the National Senior Certificate (NSC) is regarded the primary gateway to qualifications offered by the NWU.
- 5.3 To set the boundaries to allow for alternative routes of entry that are to be viewed as equivalent to the prescribed standard of the NSC or NC(V), and to set stipulations regarding other forms of prior learning for entry to, or granting advanced standing according to which admission to any qualification is to be managed in accordance with the equivalence setting under the guidance of the designated equivalence-setting bodies, namely Umalusi and Universities South Africa's (USAf) Matriculation Board function.
- 5.5 To provide for a distinction between the general admission requirements to a qualification, and more specific additional admission requirements relevant to admission to a particular programme of a qualification.
- 5.6 To ensure adherence to faculty-specific admission requirements as contained in the respective faculty yearbooks.

## 6 Recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation transfer

- 6.1 Recognition of prior learning (RPL) involves duly approved principles and processes as contained in faculty yearbooks.
- 6.2 The principles and processes referred to in 6.1 aim to make visible, to mediate and to assess prior learning and skills of prospective students.
- 6.3 The aim of RPL is not only to provide alternative routes of access and admission to qualifications, but also to establish clear and unambiguous measures to allocate credits towards RPL.
- 6.5 Prior learning is made explicit through valid, reliable and equitable assessment methods that reveal the evidence needed to demonstrate the required knowledge and skills to be admitted to a particular programme.
- 6.6 Faculty yearbooks must contain the principles and processes according to which advanced standing for the sake of admission to particular programmes is managed.
- 6.4 In regard to credit transfer, a clear and unambiguous process for the establishment of credible methods to manage supplementary work by prospective students must be provided for in faculty yearbooks.

## 7 Principles for admission to undergraduate programmes

### 7.1 Applicant Score (AS) system

- 7.1.1 For refinement of the application process, the Applicant Score (AS) system that assigns points to performance is utilised.
- 7.1.2 The purpose of the AS is to determine a base score in regard to calculating the three compulsory 20-credit NSC subjects and the performance in the next best three 20-credit NCS subjects.
- 7.1.3 The calculation of an applicant's AS score is done in accordance with Table 1 contained in Appendix 2.
- 7.1.4 Applications of international students<sup>1</sup> are dealt with in accordance with the so-called conditional process prescribed by Government Gazette 31674 (December 2008) and amendments thereof as described in Table 5.1 contained in Appendix 3.

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<sup>1</sup> An international student is defined as a person who lives and studies in South Africa for the purpose of acquiring a qualification, after having complied with all relevant legislative requirements, amongst others Regulation 12 of the Immigration Act (2002) as per Government Gazette 37679, 22 May 2014.

## **7.2 Faculty-specific admission requirements**

In addition to the admission requirements for undergraduate studies as provided for in paragraph 8 below, and for postgraduate studies as provided for in paragraph 9 below, admission to the qualifications and their programmes is subject to duly approved faculty-specific admission requirements.

## **8 Admission requirements for undergraduate qualifications**

- 8.1 The requirements of the Council of Higher Education's Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) for undergraduate study, the latest version of which is set out in Appendix 4, must serve as the point of departure for considering an application to the NWU for admission as a prospective undergraduate student.
- 8.2 Subject to faculty-specific requirements regarding admission to the qualifications and programmes offered by the NWU, the minimum requirements set out in Tables 2, 3 and 4 contained in Appendix 2 apply to an application made by a prospective undergraduate student.

## **9 Admission requirements for postgraduate qualifications**

- 9.1 The requirements of the Council of Higher Education's Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) for postgraduate study, the latest version of which is set out in Appendix 5, must serve as the point of departure for considering an application to the NWU for admission as a prospective postgraduate student.
- 9.2 Subject to faculty-specific requirements regarding admission to the postgraduate qualifications and programmes offered by the NWU as set out in the faculty yearbooks, the minimum requirements set out in Appendix 5 apply to an application made by a prospective student.

## Government Policies applicable to admissions

Government policies currently applicable to admissions with which the NWU must comply, are the following:

- *Policy for the National Senior Certificate – A qualification at level 4 on the National Qualifications framework published in Government Gazette 27819, 20 July 2005*
- *Higher Education Qualifications Framework published in Government Gazette 30353, 5 October 2007*
- *Minimum admission requirements for Higher Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor's Degree Programmes requiring a National Senior Certificate published in Government Gazette 31231, 11 July 2008 as amended by Government Gazette 42068, 30 November 2018*
- *Requirements and Conditions for Matriculation Endorsement and Issuing of Certificates of Exemption for Admission to Bachelor's Degree Studies published in Government Gazette 31674, 5 December 2008*
- *Minimum Admission Requirements for Higher Certificate, Diploma and Degree Programmes requiring a National Certificate (Vocational) at Level 4 of the National Qualifications Framework published in Government Gazette 32743, 26 November 2009, revised and supplemented by Government Gazette 42092, 7 December 2018*
- *Publication of the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework and Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework of the National Qualifications Framework published in Government Gazette 36721, 2 August 2013*
- *Policy for Credit Accumulation and Transfer within the National Qualifications Framework published in Government Gazette 38275, 2 December 2014*
- *Revised Policy on the minimum requirements for teacher education qualifications published in Government Gazette 38487, 19 February 2015 (by means of which the Policy on the Minimum Requirements for Teacher Education Qualifications published in GG 34467 of 15 July 2011 had been repealed).*
- *Determination of minimum Outcomes and Standards and a national Process and Procedures for the Assessment of Learner Achievement as stipulated in the Policy Document, National Policy pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12, published in Government Gazette 39405, 13 November 2015*
- *Approval of the Amendments to the Policy Document, a Resume of Subjects for the Senior Certificate, Report 550 regarding the Promotion Requirements based on the Combination of Credits obtained in different Qualifications, published in Government Gazette 37902, 4 March 2016.*
- *Recognition of Prior Learning Policy, published in Government Gazette, 39876, 31 March 2016*
- *Articulation Policy for the post-school education and training system of South Africa published in Government Gazette 40545, 13 January 2017*
- *Minimum admission requirements for Higher Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor's Degree programmes for holders of the Senior Certificate (amended) and the revocation of designated list of subjects published in Government Gazette 41473, 2 March 2018*
- *Minimum admission requirements for higher certificate, diploma and Bachelor's degree programmes requiring National Senior Certificate: amendment of the minimum admission requirements for entry into Bachelor's degree programmes for holders of the National Senior Certificate published in Government Gazette 42068, 30 November 2018*
- *Notice of amendment of minimum admission requirements for higher certificate, diploma and degree programmes requiring a National Certificate (Vocational) at Level 4 of the National Qualifications Framework published in Government Gazette 42092, 7 December 2018*

## Applicant Score (AS) and National Senior Certificate (NSC) Requirements

**Table 1: Calculating the Applicant Score (AS)**

<b>NSC rating</b>	<b>AS Score</b>
8 (90-100%)	AS= sum of the decimal of the three compulsory 20-credit NSC subjects PLUS the next best three 20-credit NSC subjects.
7 (80-89%)	
6 (70-79%)	Decimal of the actual performance in the relevant subject, e.g. 77% performance to be indicated as 7.7 for purposes of the AS
5 (60-69%)	
4 (50-59%)	
3 (40-49%)	Total=60
2 (30-39%)	
1 (0-29%)	

The calculation of the Applicant Score takes place in the following way:

- The results of six (6) 20-credit NSC subjects are used to determine the AS.
- While achievement in Life Orientation (LO) – a 10-credit NSC subject - is not utilised in calculating the ASS, a minimum achievement at Level 3 in LO is required to obtain an NSC. An achievement at level 5 and higher in LO will be regarded as a recommendation for admission in boundary cases and to certain programmes.
- A prospective student who achieves two AS points less than required for admission to a specific qualification may, at the discretion of Senate and in line with Paragraph 31 of GG 31674 (2008), be admitted conditionally to study at the NWU.
- A prospective student who obtains discretionary exemption may be admitted to certain qualifications or related programmes on certain conditions.

**Table 2: Minimum admission requirements as per NSC requirements**

<p><b>NSC requirements</b></p> <p>An achievement of “3” (40-49%) in three subjects (one of which is an official language at Home Language level) and a “2” (30-39%) in three other subjects, provided that a portfolio of evidence in the school-based assessment (CASS) component is submitted in the (seventh) subject failed.</p>
<p><b>Higher Certificate requirements</b></p> <p>An NSC certified by Umalusi with an achievement of at least “2” (30-39%) in the language of learning and teaching of the HEI concerned, in addition to requirements particular to the specific programme.</p>
<p><b>Diploma requirements:</b></p> <p>An NSC certified by Umalusi with an achievement of at least “3” (40-49%) in at least four recognised 20-credit subjects.</p>
<p><b>B degree requirements:</b></p> <p>A National Senior Certificate (NSC) certified by Umalusi with an achievement of “4” (50-59%) or better in at least four 20-credit subjects.</p>

**Table 3: NSC subjects**

Compulsory subjects
Two official languages (an achievement of “4” in the language of education at HL or FAL level).
Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy.
Life Orientation (not taken in account for AS purposes)

Subjects (Obtain a “4” (50-59%) in at least four of these subjects)				
Accounting	Agricultural Management Practices	Agricultural Sciences	Agricultural Technology	Business Studies
Civil Technology	Computer Application Technology	Consumer Studies	Dance studies	Design
Dramatic Arts	Economics	Electrical Technology	Engineering Graphics and Design	Geography
History	Hospitality Studies	Information Technology	Languages ( <i>Official languages within 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> additional and non-official languages list</i> )	Life Sciences
Mathematical Literacy	Mathematics	Mechanical Technology	Music	Physical Sciences
Religion Studies	Technical Mathematics <sup>2</sup>	Technical Science <sup>3</sup>	Tourism	Visual Arts

**Table 4: List with official and non-official languages**

*List of official languages		
Afrikaans	English	IsiNdebele
IsiXhosa	IsiZulu	Sepedi
Sesotho	Setswana	South African Sign Language (SASL)
Siswati	Tshivenda	Xitsonga

** List of non-official languages		
Arabic	French	German (HL)
Gujurati (HL)	Hebrew	Hindi (HL)
Italian	Latin	Portuguese (HL)
Spanish	Tamil (HL)	Telegu (HL)
Urdu (HL)		

Only one language from each of the following groups may be offered:

- a) IsiNdebele, SiSwati, IsiXhosa or IsiZulu
- b) Sepedi, Sesotho or Setswana

<sup>2</sup> Only to be considered if applicant offering this subject was taught at a Technical School.

<sup>3</sup> Only to be considered if applicant offering this subject was taught at a Technical School.

## CERTIFICATES OF CONDITIONAL EXEMPTION

***Table 5.1: Conditional exemption as per the Requirements and Conditions for Matriculation Endorsement and Issuing of Certificates of Exemption for Admission to Bachelor's Degree Studies (GG 31674, 5 December 2008)***

Type of certificate of conditional exemption to be issued to persons intending to enrolling for B degrees at a SA university	Pre-requisites to be complied with by candidates qualifying for conditional exemption certificates
Certificate of conditional exemption to an applicant who, in an examination for the senior certificate of the Council, met the requirements as contained in paragraph 24 of GG 31674	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At one and same sitting for Full Time and two for Part Time, sat in examinations in not less than 6 subjects chosen in accordance with paragraphs 3(a) and 3(a) and 4 in the instance of immigrants.</li> <li>○ Passed in at least 5 subjects, obtained an aggregate of 950 marks.</li> <li>○ Lacks only one of certain requirements for as SC with matriculation endorsement: *a pass in a language; *a pass in a subject that involves grouping requirements; *pass in Maths or Nat Sciences; * pass in one of two subjects on HG; *20% subminimum in 6<sup>th</sup> subject.</li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of a combination of subjects passed in technical and other examinations (paragraph 25 of GG 31674)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Person who passed in a combination of technical and other N5 standard or SC language subjects, and who               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Passed 4 technical and other N5 standard subjects incl Maths and other subject with HG deemed equivalent</li> <li>○ Passed in both languages but did not obtain pass in Maths or other subject with HG equivalence as one of the four subjects</li> <li>○ Passed in both languages but did not obtain pass in one of the four subjects at N5 standard</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of passing the Advanced and Ordinary level or IGCSE examinations of examining bodies mentioned in Annexure I, as referred to in paragraph 26 of GG 31674, and included from p 28 onwards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Person who obtained a pass towards qualification mentioned in Annexure 1 of four ordinary level and advanced level subjects, provided that               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The pass is in 5 different subjects, one of which is an advanced level subject and in which requirements have been met</li> <li>○ Passed in at least two approved advanced level subjects and subject from each of two of the three groups</li> <li>○ Passed in at least two approved advanced level subjects and in a subject from each of the three prescribed groups, but lacks a pass in a 5<sup>th</sup> subject as required.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of Advanced Subsidiary and Ordinary level examinations conducted by examining bodies mentioned in Annexure I (see p 28 onwards of GG 31674), or HIGCSE and IGCSE level examinations of Cambridge International Examination and/or the Namibian Ministry of Education in collaboration with Cambridge International Examination and/or the Higher and Ordinary Level examinations of the Namibian Ministry of Education (paragraph 27, GG 31674).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Person who offered a minimum of 4 advanced subsidiary and or HIGCSE and/or higher level subjects and one ordinary or IGCSE level subject in an examination conducted by examining bodies mentioned in Annex 1 and/or Namibian Ministry of Education in collaboration with Cambridge and who lacks one of the mentioned criteria.</li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption to applicants from foreign countries as listed in Annexure II (paragraph 28, GG 31674)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Holding a certificate entitling the candidate unconditional admission to a degree or equivalent qualification at a foreign institution as approved by the Committee of Principals, in the country where the candidate has obtained the qualification. Proviso: that admission to such a foreign institution on grounds of mature age or any other special condition shall not be regarded as unconditional admission to degree studies.</li> </ul>



Certificate of conditional exemption to immigrants (paragraph 29, GG 31674)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o At one and same sitting for Full Time and two for Part Time, sat in examinations and passed a university language of instruction under certain circumstances as explained in para 29.</li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of mature age (paragraph 30, GG 31674)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A statement from senate stating that the applicant, in the view of senate, may reasonably be expected to complete the curriculum, provided that the applicant has <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o attained the age of 23 before or during the year of enrolment for a B degree with the minimum prescribed full-time of three years, for which a matriculation endorsement or certificate of exemption is a prerequisite.</li> <li>o before the date of validity of the certificate to be issued, passed with at least 40% in at least 4 higher grade/standard grade subjects, at least three of which shall have been passed simultaneously, and one of which shall be a recognised subject on the higher grade.</li> <li>o Further, 40% achievement in an official language, Second Language HG; and offering other subjects that would satisfy Principals' Committee.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Certificate issued after statement of senate's recommendation that candidate has reasonable expectation to complete curriculum. Proviso: applicant has attained age of 45 before or during year in which admission is sought to a B degree to be completed in the minimum prescribed full-time duration of three years.</li> </ul>
Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of a certificate issued by the senate of a university (paragraph 31, GG 31674)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Certificate issued to someone who, in the opinion of senate, has demonstrated in a selection process approved by that senate that (s)he is suitable for admission to Bachelor studies, which certificate would only be valid for that university.</li> <li>o Where proof is given that a full credit of instructional offering (one year) has been completed, a certificate of full exemption will be issued, dated on the first date of the month of the period of academic residence in which the first degree credit was obtained.</li> <li>o Where senate of second university requests, in respect of the student transferring there, the certificate of first university will be amended to be valid for admission to second university.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 3 (continued)

**Table 5.2: Recognised subjects offered by prospective students from the Cambridge International Examination environment for exemption purposes**

Group I subjects	Group II subjects	Group III subjects	Group IV subjects	Group V subjects	Ungrouped but recognised subjects
English Language	Afrikaans	3 <sup>rd</sup> language (if not offered as part of Group II requirement)	Art and Design	Accounting	Literature in English
English Language and Literature	Arabic	Biology	Biology	Business Studies	Consumer Studies
Any other recognised First Language	Chinese	Botany	Chemistry	Computer Studies	Tourism
	Czech	Chemistry	Economics	Computing (last exam 2016)	Hospitality Studies
	Dutch	Combined Science	Environmental Management	Computer Science (from 2105)	Civil Technology
	French	Co-ordinated Science	Geography	Design and Technology	Electrical Technology
	German	Mathematics	History	Divinity	Engineering Graphics and Design
	Greek	Physics	Mathematics	Further Mathematics	Mechanical Technology
	Hindi	Physics-with-Chemistry	Music	Information Technology	Dance Studies
	IsiZulu	Physical Science	Physics	Religious Studies	Dramatic Arts
	Italian	Zoology	Physical Science		Visual Arts
	Japanese				Agricultural Management Practices
	Korean				Agricultural Science
	Latin				Agricultural Technology
	Malay				
	Marathi				
	Nepali				
	Portuguese				
	Russian				
	Swahili				

## Requirements for admission to undergraduate qualifications in terms of the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF)<sup>4</sup>

### 1 Higher Certificate

*(NQF Exit level=5; Minimum total credits=120; Minimum credits at level 5=120)*

To qualify for admission to a higher certificate, an applicant must, subject to faculty-specific requirements specified in the faculty yearbook, be in possession of:

- 1.1 National Senior Certificate with a minimum of 30% in the Language of Learning and Teaching (“LoLT”), OR
- 1.2 Senior Certificate issued under the August 2014 regulations with a minimum of 30% in the LoLT in the case of the Senior Certificate (amended) (“SC(a)”), or 33.3% in the LoLT for the Senior Certificate (“SC”).

### 2 Advanced Certificate

*(NQF Exit level=6; Minimum total credits=120; Minimum credits at level 6=120)*

To qualify for admission to an advanced certificate, an applicant must, subject to faculty-specific requirements specified in the faculty yearbook, be in possession of a higher certificate in the appropriate field.

### 3 Diploma

*(NQF Exit level=6; Minimum total credits=240 or 360; Minimum credits at level 6=120)*

To qualify for admission to a diploma, an applicant must, subject to faculty-specific requirements as specified in the faculty yearbook, be in possession of:

- 3.1 A National Senior Certificate (NSC) with endorsement for diploma studies and with appropriate subject combinations and levels of achievement as per Government Gazette 31231 (2008), OR
- 3.2 A National Certificate (Vocational) [NC(V)] exit level 4 issued by the Council for General and Further Education and Training, and with appropriate subject combinations and levels of achievement as per Government Gazette 42092. The prescribed achievement in the NC(V) is at least 40% in three fundamental subjects including the language of learning and teaching of the Higher Education Institution, and at least 50% in the three compulsory vocational subjects from the recognised list; OR
- 3.3 A Senior Certificate published under the August 2014 stipulations with a minimum of 30% in the LoLT in the case of the SC(a); or 33.3% for the SC under the stipulations of Report 550, coupled with
  - an achievement rating of 3 (40% or more) in four NSC/SC(a) subjects if the candidate has offered six NSC/SC(a) 20-credit subjects, OR
  - an achievement rating of 3 (40% or more) in the instance where a mix of SC (Report 550), NSC and SC(a) 20-credit subjects in at least four subjects is offered, and provided that a candidate may have completed on standard grade subject at 50% or more to be offered instead of one higher grade subject 40% or more.
- 3.4 A higher certificate or advanced certificate in a cognate field, recognised by Senate as equivalent.

<sup>4</sup> As per the prescripts of GG 36721, 2 August 2013

### 4 Advanced Diploma

*(NQF Exit level=7; Minimum total credits=120; Minimum credits at level 7=120)*

To qualify for admission to a diploma, an applicant must, subject to faculty-specific requirements as specified in the faculty yearbook, be in possession of an appropriate diploma or bachelor's degree.

### 5 Bachelor's Degree

*(NQF Exit level=7; Minimum total credits=360; Minimum credits at level 7=120) (NQF Exit level=8; Minimum total credits=480; Minimum credits at level 8=120)*

To qualify for admission to a bachelor's degree, an applicant must, subject to faculty-specific requirements as specified in the faculty yearbook, be in possession of:

- 5.1 A National Senior Certificate with endorsement for Bachelor's studies and with appropriate subject combinations and levels of achievement as per Government Gazette 31231 (2008), OR
- 5.2 A National Certificate (Vocational) Level 4 issued by the Council for General and Further Education and Training, and with appropriate subject combinations and levels of achievement as per Government Gazette 42092. The prescribed achievement in the NC(V) is at least 50% in three fundamental subjects including the language of learning and teaching of the Higher Education Institution, and at least 60% in four compulsory vocational subjects. from the recognised list, OR
- 5.3 A Senior Certificate with complete or conditional matriculation endorsement/exemption as contained in Government Gazette 41473; OR  

A Senior Certificate issued under the August 2014 stipulations with a minimum of 30% in the LoLT in the case of NSC/SC(a), or 33.3% in the case of an SC issued under the stipulations of Report 550, coupled with an achievement rating of 4 (50% or more) in four NSC/SC(a) subjects if the candidate has offered six NSC/SC(a) 20-credit subjects, OR
- 5.4 An achievement rating of 4 (50% or more) in the instance where a mix of SC (Report 550), NSC and SC(a) 20-credit subjects in at least four subjects is offered, and provided that these subjects are higher grade in the case of the Senior Certificate, or subjects of the NSC and the Senior Certificate (amended). An applicant in possession of a matriculation exemption certificate but who obtained two (2) points less than the required minimum points on the Applicant Score system, may be considered for admission to the University by passing an admissions test as approved by Senate, provided that the general admission requirements are otherwise satisfied; OR
- 5.5 Certificates of conditional exemption<sup>5</sup> may be issued to applicants who comply with the following requirements as contained in Government Gazette 31674 (2008):
  - 5.5.1 Certificate of conditional exemption to an applicant who, in an examination for the senior certificate of the Council, met the requirements as per paragraph<sup>6</sup> 24<sup>3</sup>
  - 5.5.2 Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of a combination of subjects passed in technical and other examinations, and as per paragraph 25.
  - 5.5.3 Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of passing the examinations in regard to the advanced-level subjects, advanced-subsidary subjects, the ordinary-level subjects and the IGCSE-level subjects of the examining bodies mentioned in Annexure 1, and as per paragraph 26.
  - 5.5.4 Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of Advanced Subsidiary and Ordinary level examinations conducted by examining bodies mentioned in Annexure I; or HIGCSE and IGCSE level examinations of Cambridge International Examination and/or the Namibian Ministry of Education in collaboration with Cambridge International Examination and/or the Higher and Ordinary Level examinations of the Namibian Ministry of Education, and as per paragraph 27.7.1.5.6.5.

<sup>5</sup> A certificate issued by the Committee of Principals in terms of the provisions of Sections 7(1)(e) of the HE Act, admitting a candidate to bachelor's degree study at a South African university, subject to specified conditions and for a specific period. (See Table 5.1 in Appendix 1 for detail information).

<sup>6</sup> All references to paragraphs correspond with the paragraph numbers in the relevant Government Gazette 31674.

Prospective students offering the Cambridge International Examinations (“CIE”) for conditional exemption purposes need to note that the list of acceptable subjects for admission purposes also include all 20-credit NSC subjects. (See Table 5.2 for the complete list.)

Also note that NWU faculties reserve the right to set minimum performance requirements in regard to the levels of achievement for admission purposes into NWU qualifications and programmes.

- 5.5.5 Certificate of conditional exemption to applicants from foreign countries as listed in Annexure II, and as per paragraph 28.
- 5.5.6 Certificate of conditional exemption to immigrants, as per paragraph 29.
- 5.5.7 Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of mature age, as per paragraph 30.
- 5.5.8 Certificate of conditional exemption by virtue of a certificate issued by Senate, as per paragraph 31.

## Requirements for admission to postgraduate qualifications in terms of the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF)<sup>7</sup>

### 1 Postgraduate diploma

*(NQF Exit level=8. Minimum total credits=120; Minimum credits at level 8=120)*

To qualify for admission to a postgraduate diploma, a prospective student needs to be in possession of an appropriate bachelor's degree (exit level 7) or an appropriate advanced diploma (exit level 7); or the equivalent of these as approved by Senate. In addition, a prospective student must comply with all other requirements as prescribed in the rules of the faculty offering the qualification, and as contained in the faculty yearbook.

A faculty may refuse admission to a particular qualification in instances where the standard of competence demonstrated by a prospective student in previous achievements in the qualification(s) in which the student wishes to pursue further study, does not comply with the faculty-specific requirements.

### 2 Honours Degree

*(NQF Exit level=8. Minimum total credits=120; Minimum credits at level 8=120)*

To qualify for admission to an honours qualification, a prospective student needs to be in possession of an appropriate bachelor's degree (level 7) or an appropriate advanced diploma (level 7); or the equivalent of these as approved by Senate. In addition, a prospective student must comply with all other requirements as prescribed in the rules of the faculty offering the qualification, and as contained in the faculty yearbook.

A faculty may refuse admission to a particular qualification in instances where the standard of competence demonstrated by a prospective student in previous achievements in the qualification(s) in which the student wishes to pursue further study, does not comply with the faculty-specific requirements.

### 3 Master's Degree<sup>8</sup>

*(NQF Exit level=9. Minimum total credits=180; Minimum credits at level 9=120)*

To qualify for admission to a master's programme, a student must be in possession of a relevant honours degree or a relevant postgraduate diploma at level 8 in an appropriate field, or the equivalent of these as approved by Senate. In addition, a prospective student must comply with all other requirements as prescribed in the rules of the faculty offering the qualification, and as contained in the faculty yearbook.

Under circumstances as explained in the faculty yearbook after approval by Senate, a prospective student with a four-year undergraduate degree at exit level 8 may be considered for admission to a cognate Master's Degree

A faculty may refuse admission to a particular qualification in instances where the standard of competence demonstrated by a prospective student in previous achievements in the modules or specialisation of qualification(s) in which the student wishes to pursue further study, does not comply with the requirements.

<sup>7</sup> As per the prescripts of GG 36721, 2 August 2013

<sup>8</sup> The requirements are applicable to the following Master's programmes: Research Master's; Taught Master's; Professional Master's

### 4 Doctoral Degree<sup>9</sup>

*(NQF Exit level=10. Minim total credits=360; Minimum credits at level 10=360)*

To qualify for admission to a Doctoral degree, a prospective student must be in possession of an appropriate Master's degree or its equivalent as approved by Senate, and as contained in the faculty yearbook.

Admission to all doctoral degrees offered by the University shall be subject to approval by the relevant faculty structure on the recommendation of the concerned research director in consultation with the concerned school director. In light hereof, it is expected of prospective doctoral students to consult with the concerned research director on their intended research proposals and the nature of their supervision prior to admission being sought to a doctoral qualification (see the NWU Manual for Master's and Doctoral Studies). In addition, a prospective student must comply with all other requirements as prescribed in the rules of the faculty offering the qualification, and as contained in the faculty yearbook.

A faculty may refuse admission to a particular curriculum in instances where the standard of competence demonstrated by a prospective student in previous achievements in the qualification(s) in which the student wishes to pursue further study, does not comply with the requirements.

Original details: (10935746) H:\HSC\2. Management\2.1.3 Policy management\Beleide\Raad Maart 2019\7P-7.1\_Admissions Policy\_e.docm  
8 April 2019

File reference: 7P/7.1

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<sup>9</sup> The requirements are applicable to both the Research Doctoral and Professional Doctoral programmes.