

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

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Undergraduate Student Merit Awards 2025

Policy

- All students registered for an undergraduate degree or diploma may qualify for a Student Merit Bursary if their academic performance continues to be of a high standard.
- If the set Standard is achieved in year n , a qualifying student will receive a merit bursary in year $n+1$. (For example, if a student received a Scholar Merit Bursary in the first year and continues to perform very well every year, he/she may qualify for Student Merit Bursary for the second and further years of their first tertiary qualification.
- A Student merit bursary is regarded as a first payment towards fees.
- No Application is required as students are identified by using the Applicable Rules/Criteria.
- The student must achieve a Weighted Average academic performance which is determine per faculty:
 - Faculty of Humanities – 75%
 - Faculty of Education – 75%
 - Faculty of Business and Economic Science – 75%
 - Faculty of Science – 70%
 - Faculty of Health Sciences – 70%
 - Faculty of EBEIT – 70%
 - Faculty of Law – 70%



CALCULATION OF WEIGHTED AVERAGE

Weighted average = Total Mark X RCW divided by Total RCW e.g. $70.782 \div 1.018 = 69.53\%$

NB: Averages ARE NOT rounded up.

See examples below:

	Mark		RCW	Mark x RCW
F101	61	P	0.125	7.625
FME102	64	P	0.125	8.000
MAS1122	74	P	0.083	6.142
MATH101	71	P	0.067	4.757
MATH102	71	P	0.067	4.757
MATH103	75	PD	0.067	5.025
MATH105	75	PD	0.067	5.025
MET2111	65	P	0.083	5.395
MEW101	64	P	0.133	8.512
MSE1111	80	PD	0.067	5.360
MSE1122	76	PD	0.067	5.092
MWS1000		P		0
WRSC101	76	PD	0.067	5.092
Totals:			1.018	70.782
Weighted Average				69.530%

	Mark		RCW	Mark x RCW
CCM1222	63	P	0.041	2.583
CCM1420		FC	0	0
MCD1312	87	PD	0.083	7.221
MEC1111	79	PD	0.083	6.557
MED1111	93	PD	0.083	7.719
MEM1111	66	P	0.083	5.478
MET1111	72	P	0.083	5.976
MFL2212	78	PD	0.083	6.474
MNE1111	78	PD	0.083	6.474
MSM2212	89	PD	0.083	7.387
MTH2212	66	P	0.083	5.478
WIS1111	80	PD	0.083	6.640
WIS2112	82	PD	0.083	6.806
Totals:			0.954	74.793
Weighted Average				78.399%

Applicable Rules/Criteria:

- Students qualify for the Student Merit Award only in respect of their first undergraduate qualification.
- These bursaries will be allocated for one year at a time; a student must qualify anew for the bursary every year.
- Students must register for the full academic year for the degree or diploma in the year for which the award is made, including the year in which experiential learning takes place, otherwise the bursary will be forfeited.
 - if a student cancels his/her registration in the 1st semester the full award will be forfeited; if a student cancels in the 2nd semester, 50% of the award will be forfeited;
- The student must have been registered for modules with a total credit value of not less than 96 credits (or a relative course weight (RCW) of not less than 0.8), irrespective of whether the

student was registered part-time or full-time. (Exempted modules are not counted for total credit value or RCW purposes.)

- Relative Course Weight (RCW) – The credit values of all the modules per year of study is set to 1. Thus, each module registered in that year of study is represented as a fraction of 1 to determine RCW per module. The RCW assigned to a module should give a rough indication of the amount of effort necessary to pass the subject, relative to other subjects in the same study year of a particular qualification.
- The student must have passed all the registered modules at the first attempt; a pass after a re-examination would be a disqualification.
- Occasional students do not qualify for this bursary.
- The rand value of the award will be determined annually in the light of the available budget and in terms of a sliding scale.
- The award cannot be carried forward to a next study period.
- Should the student be funded through NSFAS (National Student Financial Aid Scheme), then the student merit award is not allocated
- These bursaries are available to South African as well as International students.

“Information contained in this document was correct at the time of publishing. The University reserves the right to amend the policy with regards to the bursary, and may in its sole discretion, decide to implement such amendments retrospectively”.

