

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG

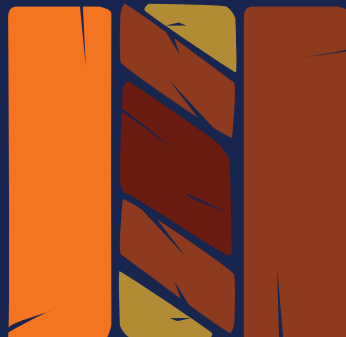




# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HANDBOOK



2026





# Discover the Wits Anglo American Digital Dome

Step into the future with Joburg's new Wits Anglo American Digital Dome.

Get ready for a jaw-dropping 360° immersive experience where science, art, technology, and innovation collide. From cosmic journeys to wild migrations, every show will captivate and inspire.

A landmark for learning, exploration, and wonder — don't miss out!

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## WELCOME NOTE

03

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE (ISO)

04

## THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

05

## WITS, A WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITY

06

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STATISTICS 2024

07

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

08

- Getting to Wits from the airport.....08
- Drivers license in South Africa.....08

## GENERAL INFORMATION

09

- Language.....09
- Electricity.....09
- Time zone.....09
- Climate.....09
- Telecommunication.....09
- Banking.....10

## AVERAGE LIVING COSTS

11

## IMMIGRATION

13

- How to apply for a study visa.....13
- Refugees.....15
- Asylum seekers.....15
- Diplomats.....15

## MEDICAL AID

15

## SAFETY

19

- Johannesburg and in Braamfontein.....19
- Safety on campus.....19

## STUDENT SUPPORT

21

- Dean of Students.....21
- Campus Housing and Residence Life (CHRL).....21
- Campus Health and Wellness Centre (CHWC).....22
- Centre for Student Development (CSD).....23
- Wits Citizenship and Community Outreach (WCCO).....23
- Development and Leadership Unit (DLU).....24
- Counselling and Careers Development Unit (CCDU).....25
- Wits Sports.....26
- Disability Rights Unit.....26
- Library Services.....27

- Service Centre.....27
- Student Representative Council (SRC).....27
- The Postgraduate Association (PGA).....27
- International Students Sub Council (ISSC).....28
- Student Clubs and Societies (SCS).....28
- The Matrix Student Centre.....28
- Gender Equity Office.....28

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

29

- Categories that pay international fees.....29
- Fee structure for international students.....30
- Undergraduate.....60
- Postgraduate.....31
- Refugees.....31
- Asylum Seekers.....31
- Diplomats.....31
- Study abroad.....32
- International Wits employees & their dependents.....32

## FEES AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

32

- How to pay Wits.....32
- Financial aid.....33

## ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

34

## CREDIT CONVERSION - A GUIDELINE BASED ON THE WITS SYSTEM

35

## INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

37

- Matriculation Exemption - Undergraduate Study.....37
- South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Evaluation - Postgraduate Study.....38

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS ON CAMPUS

40

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS OFF CAMPUS

42

## CHECK LIST: APPLICATION AND PRE-DEPARTURE

43

- Undergraduate.....43
- Postgraduate.....43

## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

44

- Full-time.....44
- Diplomat.....44
- Refugee.....44
- Asylum Seeker.....44
- Part-time.....45
- Block Release.....45
- Out of Seat.....45

## MAPS OF THE CAMPUSES

46

# WELCOME NOTE



## Welcome to Wits University!

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the University of the Witwatersrand, one of Africa's leading institutions of higher learning, located in the heart of Johannesburg—a city known for its rich history, vibrant culture, and dynamic spirit.

As an international student, you are now part of a diverse academic community that spans continents, languages, and traditions. Your presence at Wits contributes to our global outlook and strengthens the multicultural fabric of our campus.

We understand that studying in a new country can be both exciting and challenging. Please know that you are not alone—our faculty, staff, and fellow students are here to support you every step of the way. From academic guidance to cultural integration and personal well-being, our campus resources are designed to help you thrive.

At Wits, you'll not only gain a world-class education, but also have the opportunity to engage with critical ideas, take part in research that matters, and explore a country rich in natural beauty and cultural diversity.

As you begin this new chapter, we encourage you to make the most of your time here—get involved, ask questions, share your story, and build lifelong connections.

Once again, welcome to Wits your new home away from home. We are honoured to be part of your journey and look forward to seeing all that you will accomplish.

Warm regards,

**THE TEAM**

International Students Office



The International Students Office supports international students at Wits University with a wide range of services including general enquiries from prospective students, immigration advice and advocacy, assistance with matric exemptions, advice on safety, and general advice about your stay at Wits.

To this extent, we seek to complement the services provided by faculties and departments and have strong relations with service providers within and outside Wits.

#### ISO STRIVES TO ENSURE THAT:

- Wits remains the preferred study destination for international students
- Through our integration programmes, students from diverse cultures and backgrounds get high-quality academic and life-changing experience
- Wits remains a highly sought after university for international academic partnerships

In cooperation with the Internationalisation and Strategic Partnerships Office (ISPO), the International Students Office also facilitates the Semester Study Abroad Programme as well as other programmes creating opportunities for Wits students to study/conduct research at partner universities abroad.

#### Physical Address

International Students Office | Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House | East Campus | Jorissen Street | Braamfontein | Johannesburg | Gauteng | South Africa

#### Postal Address

International Students Office | University of the Witwatersrand | Private Bag X3 | WITS | 2050 | Johannesburg | Gauteng | South Africa

#### Telephone:

+27 (0)11 717 1054

#### General Enquiries and Letter of Undertaking:

StudySA.International@wits.ac.za

#### Pre-registration:

Clearance.International@wits.ac.za

#### Study Abroad:

Exchange.International@wits.ac.za

#### For more information visit:

 [www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/](http://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/)





The history of the University is inextricably linked with mining, academic excellence, quality research and political, social and civic activism - associations built on strong foundations which still hold today. The origins of Wits lie in the South African School of Mines, which was established in Kimberley in 1896 and transferred to Johannesburg. Full university status was granted in 1922, incorporating the College as the University of the Witwatersrand.

Wits proudly celebrated its centenary in 2022.

Today, Wits is an urban university located in the 'City of Gold', Johannesburg. Its vast campuses are spread over 440 hectares in Braamfontein and Parktown. Wits has 18 residences, which accommodate about one fifth of the student population. A world-class residence, which caters largely for postgraduate and postdoctoral students, the Wits Junction, was opened in 2012.

#### **WITS IS:**

- Internationally recognised for its academic and research excellence
- A first choice for postgraduate studies, offering internationally accredited programmes
- An active social leader that takes a stand on social issues affecting communities, the country and globe
- An engaged university committed to local transformation and the advancement of the public good

- The intellectual hub of the continent, with over 40 major projects running throughout Africa
- A leader in the Evolutionary Sciences and is a curator of priceless faunal, floral and hominid collections including the Taung Child (Australopithecus africanus), Mrs Ples, Little foot, Australopithecus Sediba and the Homo Naledi fossils
- Wits is a recognised leader in artificial intelligence on the African continent, with deep research capability and a strong track record of training future focused talent. Through MIND, the Machine Intelligence and Neural Discovery Institute, the University is shaping responsible, world class AI solutions that respond to Africa's priorities and influence the global agenda.
- Proud of the four Nobel Laureates and the more than 91 Rhodes Scholars that have emanated from the University
- Located in the economic hub of Africa
- Proud of the wide diversity of our student body



Wits is a remarkable university that is internationally distinguished for its excellent research, high academic standards and commitment to social justice. We advance innovations borne from world-class research and publications, connecting researchers, faculties, and enabling partners to drive innovation at Wits and the continent.

In 2026, Wits will be approaching 104 years of academic and research excellence, social justice and the advancement of the public good. Our history is inextricably linked to that of mining, the City, and civic and political activism.

Wits is a leading African university that is ranked in the **TOP 1%** of universities in the world.

Top **20** in Canada and Australia

Top **80** in the EU & US

Top **35** in the UK

### Located in the Economic Hub of Africa

- **400** buildings, **7** campuses, including the Wits Rural Facility
- **12** libraries, **14** residences, **2** commercial companies: Wits Health Consortium **and** Wits Enterprise

### Developing Employable Graduates

About **10 000** highly employable students graduate annually



Of those employed, **96%** find jobs within **6 months** of graduating



**+200 000** graduates in **103** years

### Postgraduate students

now make up almost

**40%** of Wits students

**26** **A-rated** researchers

Recognised by peers internationally as global leaders in their field

**6**

### DSI/NRF Centres of Excellence

Highest of all SA universities

**97%**

of our research is published in internationally competitive journals

### Ranked

**98<sup>th</sup>**

in the world for Alumni Employability (CWUR)

## Wits is No. 1 in Sub-Saharan Africa for Innovation

(Industry Engagement & International Outlook - Global Innovation Index 2025)

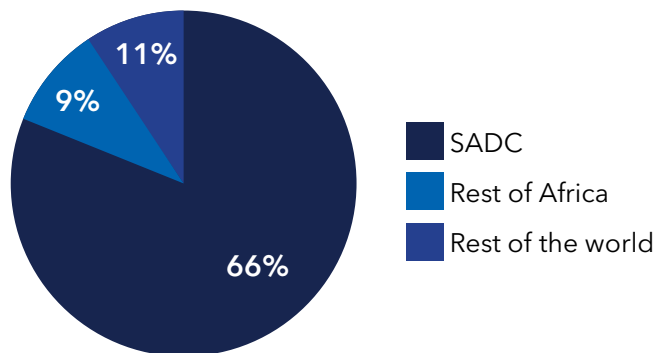
Wits administers **R1.5 BILLION**

in student financial aid, scholarships and bursaries annually. There are numerous services available for students.

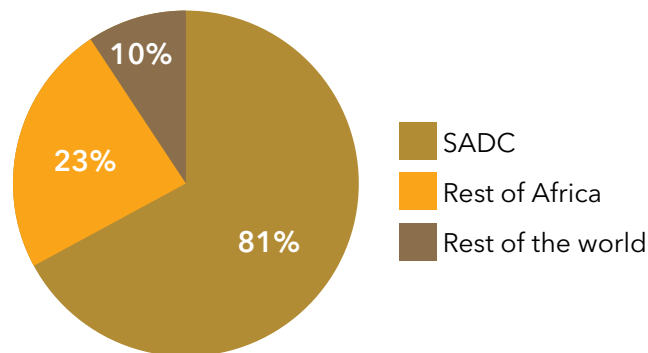


## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY REGION

### Undergraduate

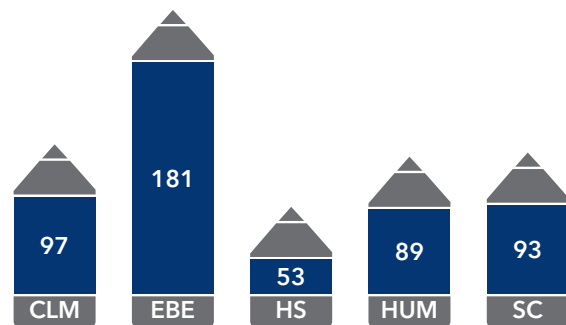


### Postgraduate

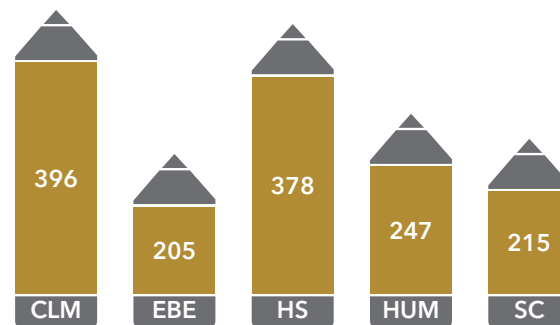


## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY FACULTY

### Undergraduate



### Postgraduate



### GETTING TO WITS FROM THE AIRPORT

- Arrangements can be made by the International Students Office for a transfer from OR Tambo International Airport (ORTIA) to the University. This will be for the account of the student. If this service is required, please email the transfer form to [studysa.international@wits.ac.za](mailto:studysa.international@wits.ac.za) at least two weeks before date of departure.
- The Gautrain System is an integrated transport system, linking three (3) metropolitan areas - Johannesburg, Pretoria and Ekurhuleni. It provides passengers with fast, efficient and safe transportation. For more information go to <http://www.gautrain.co.za/>

### DRIVERS LICENSE IN SOUTH AFRICA

- It is best to organise an international driver's license applicable to South Africa in your home country. Such a license must be issued in English by an authorised licensing department and be shown in your passport.
- An international driver's license is valid for one year. Information about renewal of such a license should be obtained in the country of origin before coming to South Africa. Licenses issued in a language other than English must be accompanied by a certificate of authenticity (in English) issued by the Foreign Office (e.g. Embassy or Consulate of the bearer's country of origin).

It is law in South Africa to carry your driver's license with you whenever you are driving, and you could face a fine if you are found by the traffic authorities without one.



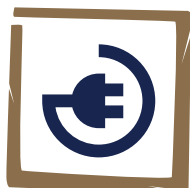
# GENERAL INFORMATION – GOOD TO KNOW



## LANGUAGE

South Africa is a nation of diversity and a variety of cultures, languages and religious beliefs.

South Africa has eleven (11) official languages. English is the most spoken language in official and commercial public life - but only the fifth most spoken home language.



## ELECTRICITY

The South African electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC 50 HZ.

Most plugs are 15-amp 3-prong or 5-amp 2-prong, with round pins. If an adaptor is called for, consider bringing one with you, although they can be purchased locally.



## TIME ZONE

UTC (+02:00)



## CLIMATE

Variable; warm temperate climate overall. Dry, sunny winters (April-October), summer rains (November-March) except in the southwest, where rain falls year-round.



## TELECOMMUNICATION

Telecommunications in South Africa also includes a well-established mobile (cellular) phone network. Four mobile service providers - Vodacom, Telkom, MTN and Cell C - ensure countrywide

coverage and reception is generally good in urban areas. Mobile phones can be hired at all international airports and prepaid airtime can be purchased at most retail outlets.

### Useful information on dialing codes:

For outgoing international calls, dial 00 plus the country and area codes of the destination concerned.

In Johannesburg, dialling 10903 connects you to Telkom's international call center, which provides 24-hour assistance for international calls, and directory information. This service is available to anyone needing help with international communication.

For incoming international calls to a number in Johannesburg, South Africa, dial the international country code (+27), the area code (11 for Johannesburg) and then the local phone number.

08 numbers are free to the caller; 0860 numbers are charged at local rates; 0861 numbers are charged at a flat rate.

### Important local city dialing codes:

011 - Johannesburg  
012 - Pretoria  
021 - Cape Town  
031 - Durban  
041 - Port Elizabeth



### BANKING

The South African currency is "ZAR", and the Rand is denoted by the symbol 'R'.

All the major banks have ATMs on campus at the Matrix. To open a bank account, visit any of the banks. There is a cost to open a bank account, and this varies from bank to bank.

### ABSA

- Savings Account
- Proof of registration or student card
- Proof of residence/accommodation in South Africa
- Passport and valid study visa

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK (FNB)

- Student Account
- Proof of registration or student card
- Passport and valid study visa

- Proof of residence/accommodation in South Africa

### STANDARD BANK

- Student Account (maximum age 26)
- Proof of registration or student card
- Passport and valid study visa
- Proof of residence/accommodation in South Africa

### CREDIT CARDS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY

- Most major credit cards are accepted in South Africa, which includes Mastercard, Visa and American Express.
- Foreign currency may be converted into local currency in South Africa provided the currency is accepted in South Africa. Local banks and the *Bureau de Change* are some of the institutions that will assist in converting the foreign currency.





Here is an overview of the average living costs for student in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The average rate is around

**\$1** = R17.00 – R19.00

**The figures are to be used as guidelines only.**

*Please note that prices are correct at the time of going to print.*

Value Added Tax (VAT) is levied on most goods and services in South Africa. The current rate is 15% which is usually included in the marked price.

Non-South African citizens or non-residents of South Africa may claim back VAT, for further information, visit the [South African Revenue Services \(SARS\)](#) website.

## ACCOMMODATION (Monthly)

- Shared apartment (off-campus): R3,000 – R6,500
- Private 1-bedroom apartment: R6,000 – R9,000

Tip: Most students choose shared housing or university residences to reduce costs.

## FOOD AND GROCERIES (Monthly)

- Groceries (home cooking): R2,000 – R3,000
- Eating out occasionally: Add R500 – R1,000

## TRANSPORT (Monthly)

- Public transport (bus, minibus taxi): R500 – R1,000
- Bolt/Uber occasionally: R200 – R600
- Student with a car (fuel/parking): R1,500 – R2,500

## STUDY MATERIALS (Monthly Average)

- Books, printing, stationery, internet data: R500 – R1,000



### PHONE AND INTERNET (Monthly)

- Mobile data + call time: R200 - R500
- Home Wi-Fi (shared): R300 - R600

### ENTERTAINMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS (Monthly)

- Gyms, movies, clubs, shopping, etc.: R500 - R1,500

### ESTIMATED TOTAL MONTHLY COST

- Low Budget: R6,000 - R8,000
- Average Budget: R8,000 - R12,000
- Comfortable Lifestyle: R12,000 - R16,000+

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### LIVING COSTS (USD APPROXIMATION)

Category	ZAR Range	USD Equivalent (÷ 17.8)
<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>		
- Shared apartment	R3,000-R6,500	\$170-\$365
- Private 1 bed apt	R6,000-R9,000	\$340-\$505
<b>GROCERIES</b>	R2,000-R3,000	\$110-\$170
<b>EATING OUT</b> (occasional)	+R500-R1,000	+\$30-\$55
<b>TRANSPORT</b>		
- Public transport	R500-R1,000	\$30-\$55
- Rideshare (Bolt/Uber)	R200-R600	\$11-\$34
- Car (fuel/parking)	R1,500-R2,500	\$85-\$140
<b>STUDY MATERIALS</b>	R500-R1,000	\$30-\$55
<b>PHONE + INTERNET</b>	R200-R500	\$11-\$28
Home Wi Fi (shared)	R300-R600	\$17-\$34
<b>ENTERTAINMENT/MISC.</b>	R500-R1,500	\$30-\$85

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A STUDY VISA

### OUTSIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA

The University is not permitted to register you until you have produced your VALID Study Visa. It could take at least 6 to 8 weeks for your Study Visa application to be processed. It is also important for you to note that your Study Visa is issued to study at one institution and you would have to apply for a change of conditions, should you want to change institutions.

You are required to apply for a Study Visa at the South African High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Trade Mission in your country of residence. If there is no South African representative in that country, you must apply at the nearest South African High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Trade Mission.

The following are the current requirements to be submitted to the South African Embassy/Consulate in your country to obtain your Study Visa:

- A passport valid for not less than 30 days after intended studies.
- Payment of the prescribed administrative fee.
- Full Birth Certificate.
- Proof of South African medical cover renewed annually for the period of study with a medical scheme registered in terms of the SA Medical Schemes Act
- An official letter from the Institution confirming provisional or acceptance of that learning institute and the duration of the course.
- Undertaking from the Registrar or Principal of the learning institution with the Institutions official stamp to undertake to notify the Director-General: -
  - » To provide proof of registration as contemplated in the relevant legislation within 60 (sixty) days of registration; or
  - » In the event of failure to register by the closing date, provide a notification of failure to register within 7 (seven) days of the closing date of registration;
  - » Within 30 (thirty) days, that the applicant is no longer registered with such institution; and
  - » Within 30 (thirty) days, when the applicant has completed his or her studies or requires to extend such period of study.
  - » The International Students Office facilitates the undertaking letter.
  - » Medical Report (less than six months old)
  - » Yellow Fever vaccination certificate, where applicable
  - » Details regarding arranged accommodation while in South Africa
  - » Proof of sufficient funds to cover tuition fees, subsistence and incidental costs. Bank statements date stamped by the bank, for a period of three months or bursary. If sponsored, written undertakings from the sponsor, with an official company stamp.

- » Proof of educational qualifications, academic results for the previous years (certified copies).
- » Police clearance certificates: Original PCC for country of residence in the last five years before the application for the visa to South Africa is required.

#### Study Visa 13.4:

A study visa issued in terms of the Act shall **automatically lapse** if the holder thereof **fails to register or is de-registered** with the learning institution at any time during the period for which his or her visa has been issued or, if any of the **undertakings referred to in sub-regulation (1)(b) are not met**.

IMMIGRATION ACT NO. 13 OF 2002, INCORPORATING 2007 AND 2010

You are advised to submit the documentation as soon as possible to the South African High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Trade Mission - DO NOT send the documentation to Wits University. We, however, advise that you keep a copy of your submission and all receipts safely. **NB. All copies are to be certified.**

#### INSIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA

If you are in South Africa, visa applications are submitted to DHA through VFS Global <https://vfsglobal.com/southafrica/>.

You are permitted to apply for the following:

1. Renewal of existing visa
2. Change of conditions of visa. **This is not applicable to Visitor's Visas.**

Applications must be submitted 60 days prior to expiry of current visa. Please make sure that you have all your documents when submitting to the VFS office.

Any international person on a Visitor's Visa Section 11(1) and Port of Entry Stamps (PoE) **will not be permitted** to change the visa type and conditions unless in exceptional circumstances

1. In the case of an emergency lifesaving treatment for longer than three months
2. Is an accompanying spouse or child of a holder of the business or work visa who wishes to apply for a study or work visa

**May conduct work for a period not exceeding 20 hours per week.**

IMMIGRATION AMENDMENT ACT 2011, ACT NO. 13 OF 2011



PASSPORT

## REFUGEES

A Refugee is a foreign national who has refugee status accorded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), has a South African identity book, which is stamped as refugee status, and is normally valid for two years until permanent status is awarded. If not, accorded status reverts to 'Asylum Seeker'. The Refugee Act, Act No. 130 of 1998 (Section 27) provides refugee students with the right to study without a Study Visa. No medical aid cover is legally required; however, it is recommended.

## ASYLUM SEEKERS

An Asylum Seeker is a person in possession of a valid Section 22 permit, commonly known as an Asylum Seeker Permit. This permit temporarily legalises the stay of the individual in the country while the application for Refugee status is being processed. No medical aid cover is legally required; however, it is recommended.

## DIPLOMATS

Children of diplomatic staff under the age of 23 years are exempt from a Study Visa. Spouses of diplomatic staff do not automatically qualify for exemptions from a Study Visa. DIRCO (Department of International Relations and Co-operation) will consider each application with its merits.

These concessions are only for the period the Diplomat is in office in the Republic of South Africa. **These benefits are not transferable.** Once the Diplomat's service ends in South Africa, the student automatically reverts to regular international student status as per their citizenship for which all relevant international fees will be applicable.



In terms of the *Immigration Act No. 13 of 2002 (as amended)* and its Regulations, all prospective and current international students entering or residing in the Republic of South Africa are required to provide proof of medical cover with a medical scheme registered in accordance with the Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act No. 131 of 1998).

Although you may be able to secure a study visa using other types of medical products - whether South African or international - the University of the Witwatersrand accepts **only South African Medical Aid products**. The medical aid must provide comprehensive coverage, including doctor's visits, private hospitalisation, medication, and emergency treatments. Please note that **WITS University does NOT accept Makoti Medical Aid.**

To comply with the regulations, the University requires a **continuous membership certificate** as proof of full medical aid cover with a South African registered medical scheme for the **entire calendar year, (until 31 December)**.

To avoid unnecessary complications, please make the required financial arrangements with the medical aid provider. If you are sponsored, ensure that your sponsor is informed of this requirement as soon as your sponsorship or admission is confirmed. The medical aid cover fee must be paid **directly to the medical aid company**, separate from tuition fees.

International students will **not receive International Clearance to Register** unless they present a valid membership certificate confirming comprehensive medical aid cover for the duration of the academic



year (until 31 December). Without clearance from the International Students Office, an international student **cannot register** at Wits University.

International students who are members or dependents under a South African-based parent, guardian, spouse, or employer's medical aid must also present a **recent membership certificate** at the time of registration. The certificate must confirm **active membership for the current year**.

#### **MEDICAL AID PROVIDERS THAT CONSULT ON WITS CAMPUS:**

##### **CompCare Medical Scheme**

**W:** [www.studentplan.co.za](http://www.studentplan.co.za)  
**E:** [student@universal.co.za](mailto:student@universal.co.za)  
**T:** 0860 73 53 63  
**T:** +27 (0)11 867 4450

##### **Momentum Medical Scheme**

**W:** [www.studenthealthcare.co.za](http://www.studenthealthcare.co.za)  
**E:** [studenthealth@momentum.co.za](mailto:studenthealth@momentum.co.za)  
**T:** 0860 102 493  
**T:** +27 (0)12 671 8511  
**WhatsApp Chat:** +27 (0)860 10 24 93

The above service providers have confirmed that cancellation of coverage will not be refunded without written confirmation from the International Students Office verifying the student's deregistration or completion status.

For other SA Medical Aid Products to be considered, the certificate or letter confirming membership must be valid for the current year.

#### **For more details about all Medical Aid providers in South Africa, contact:**

##### **SA Medical Scheme Council**

**W:** [www.medicalschemes.com](http://www.medicalschemes.com)  
**T:** 0861 123 267  
**T:** +27 (0)12 431 0500





# Umbono

/ Plus

## New Continent, New Adventure.

You've got enough to juggle — visas, classes, new friends.  
Get a medical plan that's always on your side, a wingman that's there 24/7.

From **R625** p/m

### Medical aid cover built for student life:



Unlimited  
hospitalisation



Unlimited  
doctors' visits



Cover for professional  
and adventure sports



Preventative care  
benefits up to R6 240



Emergency  
assistance & airlifts



Mental health support  
(counselling & treatment)



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TO SIGN UP  
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**CompCare**  
Medical Scheme

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for more students

for less

SA's No. 1  
medical aid choice  
for more than  
1 million students  
over 35 years

From  
**R645pm**  
Income of less than  
R1 550pm



International student  
For students from outside of South Africa

2026

Scan this QR code  
to join



Scan this QR code  
to get a quote



### Want to join?



0860 102 493 *WhatsApp*



studenthealthcare.co.za



studenthealth@momentum.co.za



0860 102 493 *Customer care*



WhatsApp us on +27860102493 or go to  
studenthealthcare.co.za and click on the  
help icon to use our web chat facility

### Momentum Medical Scheme's Ingwe Option provides:

- ✓ **Unlimited** access to **any** private hospitals
- ✓ **Unlimited** access to any doctor on our Ingwe Active network
- ✓ Cover for **medication, dentistry** and **optometry**
- ✓ **Emergency/trauma** and **specialist** benefits
- ✓ **3 Virtual GP consultations** per year
- ✓ **Unlimited emergency** medical transport via Netcare 911
- ✓ Preventive care benefits: **FREE health assessment** and **R500 preventative dental care**
- ✓ **HPV PCR screening benefit** for female members aged 21 to 65



Plus **FREE** complementary lifestyle benefits from Momentum. Download\* the Momentum App now to enjoy access to your Scheme benefits and Multiply, at your fingertips  
\*Age 18 and above



Visit [studenthealthcare.co.za](http://studenthealthcare.co.za) for more information

**momentum**  
medical scheme

+ Momentum Medical Scheme members may choose to make use of additional products available from Momentum Group Limited and its subsidiaries as well as Momentum Multiply (herein collectively referred to as Momentum). Momentum is not a medical scheme and is a separate entity to Momentum Medical Scheme. Momentum products are not medical scheme benefits. You may be a member of Momentum Medical Scheme without taking any of the products offered by Momentum.



## JOHANNESBURG AND IN BRAAMFONTEIN

Personal vigilance is key to remaining safe in Johannesburg. Like any other big city throughout the world, Johannesburg has its share of crime.

South Africa is experiencing rapid political, social and economic change. The impact of such changes in any urban city is the same as everywhere in the world; so, there is an undesirable incidence of crime, particularly petty and opportunistic crime. While statistics show a reduction in crime it is also a place where guns and other weapons are as prevalent as in other parts of the world.

Braamfontein is a lively precinct with strong security infrastructure—but it still experiences crime (petty theft, muggings, occasional violent incidents), especially after dark. By using Wits' security services proactively, staying vigilant, and choosing living areas with safer reputations, you can significantly reduce your risk and feel more confident navigating both campus and Braamfontein.

## SAFETY ON CAMPUS

The Campus Control Division is responsible for the prevention of crime, the detection and apprehension of offenders, the reservation of peace and the protection of students, staff and University property.

Security officers patrol the entire campus 24 hours a day. Services offered by Wits Campus Control include a 24-

hour escort service (on campus) for all students and staff, especially those working late in libraries or computer labs.

### WITS CAMPUS SAFETY MEASURES

- **24/7 security and CCTV:** Wits Protection Services offers round-the-clock patrols, CCTV coverage, and a student escort vehicle in Braamfontein from 17:00 to 05:00.
- **Emergency support via mySOS:** Download the free Wits mySOS app to connect immediately with Protection Services during emergencies [wits.ac.za](http://wits.ac.za).
- **Multiple campus security contact points:** Each campus (East, West, Health Sciences, etc.) has



dedicated hotlines available 24/7 for escorts or emergencies

- **Controlled access to buildings:** Most campus buildings require staff or student cards for entry, with strict measures around lost, stolen, or misused cards.

### TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE ON CAMPUS:

- Always use well-lit routes or escorts, especially after dark.
- Don't leave valuables unattended (bags, laptops, mobile phones).
- **DO NOT** walk alone at night; walk in groups with other students.
- Program emergency numbers (on your student card) into your phone.
- Report suspicious people or behaviour immediately.
- Refrain from displaying expensive jewellery nor display valuable items such as cameras when you walk in the street or on the seats of your vehicle.
- We also urge that **YOU DO NOT** carry your passport with you daily; a certified copy of the page containing your personal details and study visa should be adequate.
- Ensure that you always carry your medical aid card.
- When moving around campus, especially at night, keep to well-lit walkways or use the Security escort service.
- **DO NOT** explore unfamiliar areas of town on your own. Report any harassment or threatening situation which you may have experienced to the appropriate authorities, including the International Students Office.
- It is advised that you know where you can reach someone in case of an emergency. Important and emergency numbers are provided at the back of this booklet.





## DEAN OF STUDENTS

The Division of Student Affairs' main thrust is to assist students to succeed academically by providing the appropriate support to overcome personal and academic problems. A range of out of classroom experiences and activities are offered to develop students holistically in order to cope with and be prepared for the challenges of university life, the world of work and good citizenship. Students are urged to make use of the support and services available.

A specific programme, known as the 'First Year Experience' is in place to help all first year students to succeed at Wits. The First Year Experience Programme is delivered as a co-curricular programme outside of lectures over several months, to contribute to your positive experience and academic success at Wits. All first year students are encouraged to attend these valuable sessions.

**A:** Ground Floor Room 037, Solomon Mahlangu House, Braamfontein East Campus



## CAMPUS HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE (CHRL)

Campus Housing and Residence Life (CHRL), a division of Student Affairs, is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the University's residence programmes, including accommodation and meals and the provision of recreational facilities and programmes to improve academic performance and holistically develop students within a residential environment.

**NB: Applications are done online and not directly at the residences.**

## Experience Residence Life At Wits

Living in residence at Wits University offers students a vibrant, diverse, and supportive community in the heart of Johannesburg. With a variety of on-campus and off-campus residences, Wits provides a secure and inclusive environment that fosters academic success, personal growth, and lifelong friendships. Residence life is more than just a place to stay—it's an integral part of the student experience. Whether you're a first-year student or pursuing postgraduate studies, Wits residences are designed to help you thrive both socially and academically.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9172/3/4

**E:** accommodation@wits.ac.za

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/accommodation/>

**Student Affairs:** +27 (0) 11 717 9101/2

**First Year Experience:** +27 (0) 11 717 9168



## CAMPUS HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTRE (CHWC)

The Campus Health and Wellness Centre (CHWC) is a primary health care facility that provides curative, promotive and preventative services to registered students and staff of the University. CHWC is staffed by trained and committed health care professionals. Our vision is to strive for excellence in the delivery of health care services on campus, thus contributing to the optimal health and wellbeing of the Wits community. The health care services provided are cost-effective and convenient, accessible and comprehensive. Students who are covered by Medical Aid are encouraged to utilise the services of a private medical practitioner at the Centre. Medical aid rates are charged.

Prescriptions may be requested for medication required for chronic illnesses. There is no need for an appointment as clients/patients are served on a first come, first served basis. However, due consideration is offered to emergencies and those requiring urgent attention.

### Services include:

- Preventative care
- Medical emergency care
- Free HIV counselling and testing
- Therapeutic care
- Reproductive Health services

Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 08h00 to 16h30. The clinic is closed over the weekends and public holidays.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9234/3294

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/campushealth/>

**A:** Our Satellite Clinic, Highfield Accommodation House, ground floor @ Education Campus, Parktown.



## CENTRE FOR STUDENT DEVELOPMENT (CSD)

The Centre for Student Development (CSD) is a dynamic and innovative unit within the Division of Student Affairs. Established to integrate and enhance student development and support services, the CSD brings together four key units:

- Development and Leadership Unit (DLU)
- Wits Citizenship and Community Outreach (WCCO)
- Student Governance Office (SGO)
- Student Transactions and Persistence Unit (STPU)

Guided by a shared mission, the CSD is committed to fostering student development by providing transformative opportunities that encourage students to thrive academically, socially, and personally. The Centre's initiatives are designed to develop ethical leaders, empower students to actively engage in governance and decision-making matters, and prepare them to become active citizens and global change-makers who contribute meaningfully to society, while excelling in their academic pursuits and building the foundations for lifelong success.

Through its comprehensive approach, CSD serves as a hub for leadership development, civic engagement, student governance, and support for student success. By creating inclusive and empowering experiences, the Centre plays a vital role in shaping well-rounded graduates who are equipped to make a lasting impact across all sectors of society.

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/students/student-affairs/centre-for-student-development/>



## WITS CITIZENSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH (WCCO)

WCCO provides Wits students with real-world experiences, and opportunities to enhance their learning and civic responsibility, while addressing community needs. Choose to work as a volunteer on campus or in your community or other communities. Work with institutions that care for children, youth, the disabled or the aged.

### WHY JOIN:

- Working with WCCO is a way to get involved in the greater community and help contribute to social change.
- Community outreach work promotes understanding of diversity including issues of disability, racism, sexism and many others

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9255

**E:** [karuna.singh@wits.ac.za](mailto:karuna.singh@wits.ac.za)

**W:** [www.wits.ac.za/students/witscitizenship-and-community-outreach](http://www.wits.ac.za/students/witscitizenship-and-community-outreach)

**A:** Hostel Road (between Cricket and Rugby Fields), Wits Braamfontein Campus East



## DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP UNIT (DLU)

The Development and Leadership Unit (DLU) aims to create a vibrant student life experience by creating a unique out-of-classroom environment. DLU maximises opportunities for student personal growth and intense self-discovery through exciting and challenging co-curricular activities and student leadership training.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9234

**W:** [www.wits.ac.za/students/developmentand-leadership-unit/](http://www.wits.ac.za/students/developmentand-leadership-unit/)

**A:** DLU is located at the Matrix, 1st Floor, Braamfontein Campus East

## STUDENT GOVERNANCE OFFICE (SGO)

The Student Governance Office (SGO) falls within the Centre for Student Development, Division of Student Affairs.

Our mandate includes coordinating and supporting the activities of the Student Representative Council (SRC) and other student bodies, such as the Wits Postgraduate Association (PGA) and International Students Sub-Council (ISSC).

We also manage the administration of the SRC elections and student clubs and societies.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9206

**A:** Matrix, Braamfontein Campus East

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## STUDENT TRANSITIONS AND PERSISTENCE PROGRAMS & POSTGRADUATE SUPPORT (STPU)

The Student Transitions and Persistence Unit (STPU) team is dedicated to applying evidence-based theories and best practices in student transitions within higher education to create an empowering journey for all students at Wits, be they first-year, postgraduate or part-time students.

### Activities:

- Design and implement First Year Experience and First Year Experience Mentorship programmes
- Gateway to Success orientation
- Postgraduate student transitions, retention and support strategies,
- Part-time students transitions and support
- Support initiatives for achieving and at-risk students

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/students/stpu/contact-us/>

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## COUNSELLING AND CAREERS DEVELOPMENT UNIT (CCDU)

The Counselling and Careers Development Unit (CCDU) at Wits offers a welcoming and safe space to students and provides a high standard of services based on an ethos of student centeredness and human rights. The CCDU provides a comprehensive range of supportive services and empowering programmes. These are designed to facilitate the well-being, personal growth and career development of students.

### Services to Wits and non-Wits Students:

Career counselling to learners in Grade 11 and 12 and to prospective students to assist with decisions about career options. To find out more about this service, you are welcome to contact the Unit to set up an appointment with a careers educator. Psychometric career assessments, for which there is a fee, are also offered and include interest and personality questionnaires and an in-depth feedback session with a psychologist.

Please contact the Unit for further information and to book a career assessment.

### CCDU provides the following to all registered Wits students:

- A comprehensive careers education and counselling service
- Confidential professional personal counselling for Wits students
- Support groups
- Psycho-educational workshops and life skills programmes

- Psychometric career assessments
- Life coaching
- Peer education and advocacy programmes
- Graduate recruitment programme and job search skills
- HIV/Aids education and support programme
- Advocacy programmes on social justice and diversity engagement.

### CCDU BRAAMFONTEIN CAMPUS

**A:** CCDU Building, Braamfontein Campus West, Wits University. Closest Entrance: Gate 9, Enoch Sontonga Ave, Braamfontein.

### CCDU EDUCATION CAMPUS

**A:** Marang Block, M14 Ground Floor, Education Campus, Parktown.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9140/32

**E:** info.ccd@wits.ac.za

**W:** www.wits.ac.za/ccdu

quality coaching to those sportsmen and women wishing to compete at the highest level. Wits promotes a healthy lifestyle encouraging students and staff to make use of the sports facilities at Wits and to participate in the inter-faculty and internal leagues offered by the various clubs.

Sports facilities include football, rugby and cricket fields. Hard court areas for tennis, basketball and netball make up the outdoor facilities, with two 50-metre swimming pools, accommodating the Aquatics and Underwater Clubs and the world class artificial hockey turf. Two outdoor gyms are also located on the Braamfontein campuses.

Indoor facilities provide a wide range of sports. These include squash, martial arts, fencing, aerobics, super-circuit and weight training, basketball and volleyball, to name a few.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9415

**W:** www.wits.ac.za/sport

**WITS SPORT**



### WITS SPORT

Wits University has a proud history of producing top quality sportsmen and women. Wits Sport nurtures emerging talent and as part of the initiative to produce top quality sports-people, we offer bursaries for top student athletes who excel in sport and meet the necessary academic requirements.

As an inner city campus Wits Sport is fortunate to have two great assets – its students and its sports facilities. The Wits Sport Council has 35 sports clubs affiliated offering

### LIBRARY SERVICES

Actively explore the Wits Library system and its many resources. You will find books, journals, videos, state-of-the-art electronic resources and wonderful historical treasures that you need for your studies. Meet our friendly, knowledgeable and helpful staff in 11 libraries on three campuses. Your student card is your library registration – it will open doors to all our libraries and allow you to borrow any items that are available for loan. Make sure you have your student card with you when you go to the library.

The Wartenweiler Library on Braamfontein Campus East, has the University's main collection of books in the arts and social sciences. Knowledge commons include computers, which cater for doing electronic research.

The William Cullen Library houses reference material, government publications, theses, historical papers and periodicals. Wits places strong emphasis on collecting material relating to South Africa. Earlier collections relate to journeys of exploration into Africa, slavery, colonialism and missionary activity. They also include information on the discovery of diamonds and gold, the various Frontier Wars, the Zulu War, the two Anglo-Boer Wars and the First and Second World Wars. The University is home to an incomplete set of records of the State vs. former president Nelson Mandela and nine others in the Rivonia Trial, including Mandela's hand-written notes during the trial.

The Wits Education Campus in Parktown houses the Harold Holmes Library, containing one of the best collections of educational material in Southern Africa.

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/library/>

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## DISABILITY RIGHTS UNIT

DRU assists students with disabilities to receive academic support and reasonable accommodations to participate equally and fully in all aspects of university life.

### Services include:

- Campus orientation
- Computer centres with state of the art assistive technology
- An Adaptive Technologist who provides specialist computer training and technological support

- A Learning Disabilities Coordinator who develops and provides various study and time management degrees to assist students with learning disabilities
- Support for Deaf students through a South African Sign Language Interpreter or Real-time captioning services
- Assistance with extra-time applications for tests and exams
- Provision of materials in an accessible format (e.g. electronic, braille and enlarged text) and various other academic interventions.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9154

**W:** [www.wits.ac.za/disability-rights-unit](http://www.wits.ac.za/disability-rights-unit)

**A:** 1st Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House, Braamfontein Campus East or 1st Floor, Admin Block, Parktown Education Campus

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## SERVICE CENTRE

### 1. PARKING Service

The Parking services is responsible for all matters related to parking across the various campuses at the University. The office ensures the orderly admission of vehicles, the smooth flow of traffic, and the disciplined use of parking facilities. Students requiring access to student parking areas must obtain a valid parking permit from the Service Centre.

### 2. KUDU (Access) Card Service

The Service Centre is also responsible for issuing staff cards and Kudu Cards to students. Your Kudu Card serves as your official University Identity card and must be always kept with you on Campus and should be presented to Campus Protection Services or Library personnel on request. Access to labs, examination venues and sport facilities will be monitored, and your Kudu Card should be displayed and used as proof of identification before access will be granted.

### 3. KUDU Bucks Terminals

Kudu Bucks offer a convenient, cashless way to pay for essentials across campus using your Wits student or staff card. Load cash at any Kudu Bucks terminals, and enjoy quick, secure payments for meals, printing, and other campus services. With Kudu Bucks, you can move around campus confidently—just tap and go.

#### **Kudu Bucks Deposit Points**

Solomon Mahlangu Building Next to Cashiers | The Matrix between Umthombo and the Matrix Buildings | Tower of Light - Outside the Commerce Library | Wits Library of Management Leseding Block | Medical School - Next to the Standard Bank ATM.

Contact us if you experience a bill jam at any Kudu Bucks machine on campus.

### 4. Lost And Found service

Have you misplaced any personal belongings on campus? Visit the Lost and Found Office to check if your item has been handed in. Please note that the University cannot guarantee recovery of lost items

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 1881/2/3/4

**For any enquiries:** The University Parking Office is located on Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House, Braamfontein Campus East.



### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

The Student Representative Council (SRC) exists to address queries, concerns and complaints of Wits students.

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9258

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/students/src/>

**A:** 2nd Floor of the Matrix Building, Braamfontein Campus East



### GENDER EQUITY OFFICE

The Gender Equity Office (GEO) offers its services free of charge to all staff and students of the University. We provide the following services:

- Collects and tracks all GBH/ V-related complaints across the university and analyses trends to inform and improve intervention initiatives;
- Provides a safe and confidential space with full-time counseling support to complainants and victims of GBH/V;
- Confidentially advises complainants and victims of GBH/V of their options;
- Oversees an independent disciplinary procedure for formal complaints against staff or students accused of GBH/V;
- Engages actively in advocacy around gender equality.

**E:** [info.geo@wits.ac.za](mailto:info.geo@wits.ac.za)

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/students/geo/>

**A:** 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, University Corner, corner of Jorissen Street and Jan Smuts Avenue, Braamfontein



## POSTGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

### THE POSTGRADUATE ASSOCIATION (PGA)

The Postgraduate Association (PGA) is a body that works closely with different stakeholders to advocates for the needs of all postgraduate student, act as a resource; provide support and services; promote academic leadership, excellence, research output and social interaction.

**W:** [www.wits.ac.za/pga](http://www.wits.ac.za/pga)

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### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SUB COUNCIL (ISSC)

The International Students Sub Council is a body that represents the broad interests of all students who are recognized and categorized within the University as international or foreign. The ISSC works closely with different stakeholders to facilitate extra-curricular activities that promote cultural and social integration and cohesion in the broader University community. The

ISSC also acts as an intermediary between the student governance structures including the SRC.

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/issc/>

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### STUDENT CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

You will be amazed at the number and variety of student clubs and societies at Wits. Test your mettle against the Wits Debating team, go dancing with the Ballroom Dancing Society or feast with the Gourmet Society.

There is something for everyone from chess enthusiasts to budding photographers, from international students to geologists as well as a variety of religious societies to cater to your spiritual needs.

**E:** [enquiries.SGO@wits.ac.za](mailto:enquiries.SGO@wits.ac.za)

**T:** +27 (0) 11 717 9206

**W:** <https://www.wits.ac.za/students/clubs-and-societies/>

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### THE MATRIX STUDENT CENTRE

The Matrix Student Centre and Mall houses retailers that offer a wide range of quality commercial services to students and staff. The Student Centre is the hub of student activity at Wits. Here you will find like-minded people, food outlets, the ATM's, the Campus Health and Wellness Centre, a student dining room, SRC (Student Representative Council), DLU (Development and Leadership Unit) and clubs and societies' offices. Close to the Student Centre is an outdoor gym and basketball courts. Other food outlets are on Braamfontein Campus West.



## CATEGORIES THAT PAY INTERNATIONAL FEES

- **International Students who are married (including same sex marriages) to SA Citizens or Permanent Residents** - pay international fees until they themselves have obtained SA citizenship or permanent residency.
- **International Students who are in life partnerships with SA Citizens or Permanent Residents** - pay international fees until they themselves have obtained SA Citizenship or permanent residency.
- **International Students who pay SA taxes (e.g. contract workers or temporary residents)** - The criterion of paying tax in South Africa does not change your immigration status and as such it is not sufficient for a reduction in international fees.
- **International Students who pay SADC Taxes** - paying tax in a SADC country does not change your immigration status and as such it is not a sufficient condition for exemption from international fees.
- **SA & SADC Temporary Residents** - If there is an expiry visa date and if they are required to renew residence status periodically, then such individuals are not permanent residents of the country and do not qualify to pay local fees.
- **SA Permanent Resident Applicants under Review (including those married to SA resident / citizen)** - there is no guarantee that permanent residence status will be granted. Until such status is granted, International Fees apply. Note that immigration status at registration determines the annual fees.

- **International Students who are children of South African Citizens or Permanent Residents** - pay international fees until they themselves have obtained SA citizenship or permanent residency.

If you are granted permanent residence status during your year of study, your citizenship details must be updated at the International Students Office. However, your fees paid at the beginning of the year will not be refunded or amended. The new fees will only apply in the next academic year.



## FEE STRUCTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

All international students (those who are not South African citizens or who do not have permanent residence status in South Africa) are required by the Department of Home Affairs to provide proof of available funds for the tuition fee for the academic year prior to receiving his/her study visa.

Students must ensure that payment needs to be made at least ten working days before registration can take place.

Only when the money is clear in the University's bank account and allocated to the Student's Fee Statement may you proceed to the International Students Office for completion of pre-registration.

**Payment required:** 75% of the annual tuition fees, related costs and on campus accommodation (if applicable) fee is payable prior to registration or must have proof of sponsorship. The balance of the fees must be paid by 30 June.

**International Registration Fee (IRF)** of R6 970.00. This fee is non-refundable.

**Registration is renewable annually.**

## UNDERGRADUATE:

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM SADC COUNTRIES

International undergraduate students from countries in the **Southern African Development Community (SADC)** must pay:

The SADC member countries are Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Category	Fees Charged	International Registration Fee (IRF)	TOTAL Payable Before Registration
<b>Undergraduate<sup>1</sup></b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost

<sup>1</sup>**Part-time:** local tuition plus IRF fees apply; to all students (SADC, Africa and Rest of the World).

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM AFRICA (BEYOND SADC) & THE REST OF THE WORLD

Undergraduate international students from **Africa (Beyond SADC) & the Rest of the World** must pay:

Category	Fees Charged	International Registration Fee (IRF)	TOTAL Payable Before Registration
<b>Undergraduate<sup>1</sup></b>	Double Tuition	-	75% of total cost

<sup>1</sup>**Part-time:** local tuition plus IRF fees apply; to all students (SADC, Africa and Rest of the World).

## POSTGRADUATE:

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM SADC, AFRICA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

Postgraduate international students must pay:

Category	Fees Charged	International Registration Fee (IRF)	TOTAL Payable Before Registration
<b>Certificates</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Diplomas</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Honours</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Masters</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>PhD</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost

## REFUGEES:

International students who are officially recognised as Refugees pay local tuition fees. Payment terms apply as per South African students.

## ASYLUM SEEKERS:

International students who are officially recognised as Asylum Seekers pay:

Category	Fees Charged	International Registration Fee (IRF)	TOTAL Payable Before Registration
<b>Undergraduate</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Certificates</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Diplomas</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Honours</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>Masters</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
<b>PhD</b>	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost

## DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES (OR THEIR DEPENDENTS):

Accredited diplomatic representatives of a foreign government stationed in South Africa pay fees at the same rate as students from SADC countries:

- International Registration Fee (IRF) of R6 970.00. This fee is non-refundable.
- 75% of total cost is payable before registration. The balance of the fees is payable by 30 June.
- Any applicable residence fees

**Diplomats and their dependents stationed in South Africa:** Fees apply whilst a student's diplomatic status is valid; proof is required for each year of registration. Should this status end, the student will revert to his/her nationality status and all regular international registration fees will apply accordingly.

## OCCASIONAL / STUDY ABROAD:

Occasional students from:

### SADC pay:

- International Registration Fee (IRF) of R6 970.00. This fee is non-refundable.
- 100% of total cost is payable before registration
- Any applicable residence fees

### AFRICA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD pay:

- R54,820 per semester
- 100% of the total cost is payable before registration.
- Any applicable residence fees

## INTERNATIONAL WITS EMPLOYEES & THEIR DEPENDENTS:

Staff bursaries are for permanent employees of the University and managed via Human Resources.

Category	Fees Charged	International Registration Fee (IRF)	TOTAL Payable Before Registration
Undergraduate	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
Certificates	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
Diplomas	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
Honours	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
Masters	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost
PhD	Local tuition	R6,970	75% of total cost

## FEES AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

### HOW TO PAY WITS

#### APPLICATION FEE

**Undergraduate:** R700.00

**Postgraduate:** R200.00

#### Bank Account Details:

Bank: First National Bank Wits University -  
Application Fees  
Account No.: 6307 5484 302  
Branch Code: 251 905  
Branch: Braamfontein  
SWIFT Code: FIRNZAJJ (International students only)  
Reference: Student number (ONLY). *Please do not use another reference*

### ANNUAL TUITION FEES AND RELATED COSTS

#### Methods of payment

- Payment should be made in full before the due date(s).
- Student number is to be used as a reference when making payment for student fees.
- Payments are to be made into the designated University bank account for student fees as communicated by the Student Fees Office.
- Payments may be made online through the University's designated student self-service portal.

#### Bank Account Details:

Bank: First National Bank  
Account No.: 622 7055 1015  
Branch Code: 210 554  
Branch: Braamfontein  
SWIFT Code: FIRNZAJJ (International students only)  
Reference: Student number (ONLY). *Please do not use another reference*

- Payments made directly in the respective banks will reflect the same day on the student account.
- Payments made from other banks will reflect within two (2) working days on the student fee account.
- Credit and debit card payments with a CVV number can be made through the self-service portal using Master/Visa cards only. For this option visit <https://self-service.wits.ac.za/>

### Do you need help?

Please log a ticket on <https://witshelp-ism.saasiteu.com/>

## FINANCIAL AID

The Financial Aid and Scholarships Office (FASO) offers bursaries and scholarships based on academic merit to assist students with financing their studies as well as administers funds on behalf of donors and sponsors.

Wits does offer bursaries and short term emergency funding, but **priority is given to South African citizens and permanent residents**. As an international student, these might be difficult to access unless there is a specific provision for non nationals.

When considering both undergraduate and postgraduate studies you need to assess realistically your potential sources of funding for fees and living expenses (full-time students). Postgraduate students please note that there is strong competition for scholarship merit awards for students.



Wits, as an English-medium university requires that its students are proficient in English before they are accepted. An applicant, whether at undergraduate or postgraduate level, must have attained a certain level of proficiency in English, namely:

- A pass in an examination equivalent to English as home language or first additional language at the South African matriculation level (or, for certain immigrants only, English at the Standard Grade [First Language] plus an A-level pass in the immigrant s home language);
- A pass in English Language at the GCSE/GCE/IGSCE Ordinary level (or equivalent examination);
- For admission a pass in the:
  - » International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum test score of 6.5;
  - » Cambridge English Language Assessment (CAE) with a minimum of 185 points.

Notwithstanding Rule G4.4.1 and Rule G4.4.2 the Senate recognises the International Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum test score of (6.5) or the Cambridge English Language assessment (CAE) with a minimum of 185 points to be proficient for admission.

In exceptional cases, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) may be recognized by the University with a minimum test score of 550 (79 TOEFL iBT/213 TOEFL CBT) for admission. Faculties may require a higher test score or points for specific programmes. Please refer to your faculty



## **Wits Language School**

### **Expert Language Solutions**

Wits Language School (WLS) offers English training to students who wish to improve their language skills. WLS offers non-academic courses for adult learners. It offers public classes, corporate training and private tuition.

WLS takes pride in its excellent services, high quality training programmes that have sound research and academic framework and the quality of its training personnel.

English as Foreign Language (EFL) courses are designed for foreign and second language speakers and consist of six levels from pre- beginners to advanced level. An assessment test determines at which level students would start the course.

#### **Address**

Wits Language School | 92 Empire Road | Gate 6 | Braamfontein | Johannesburg | Gauteng | South Africa

#### **Telephone:**

+27 (0)11 717 4208

#### **E-mail:**

wls.languages@wits.ac.za



## A GUIDELINE BASED ON THE WITS SYSTEM

The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg is unable to provide a direct conversion of the Wits credit system into either the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) or the Grade Point Average (GPA).

**This document merely serves as a guideline.**

### WITS CREDIT – RATING SYSTEM

The South African National credit rating system rates 10 notational study hours as equivalent to one credit (= 1 NQF credit). Credits represent a measure of all the learning activities engaged in by the student and include, among other, contact time, self-study, Work Integrated Learning (WIL) assignments, projects and examinations.

The University operates on a semester basis. Grades are awarded at the end of the semester; the semesters are usually from February to June and July to December. Health Science programmes commence in January and finish Mid December.

Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor's degree and Bachelor of Honours degree qualification types assume a 30-week full time academic year. Professional Clinical programmes in Health Sciences are longer than the assumed 30 weeks full time academic year.

Master's degree and Doctoral qualification types assume a 45-week full time academic year. An average full time equivalent student is expected to study for a 40-hour week, thus requiring minimum credit load of 120 credits per academic year for Certificates, Diplomas, and Bachelor's degrees and 180 credits per academic year for Master's degrees and Doctorates.

On average, there are four 45 minutes lectures per week, per course. Attendance of tutorials and practicals is usually compulsory.

### DEGREE

	Minimum Total Credits Per Annum	Minimum Total Credits For A Qualification
<b>Undergraduate</b>	120	360 (Exit NQF 7)
	120	480 (Exit NQF 8)
<b>Honours</b>	120	120
<b>Masters by Research and Masters (Coursework &amp; Research)</b>	180	180
<b>PhD</b>	360	360

Credit System	Full Academic Credits Per Annum	Semester Academic Credits	Notional Hours - Full time workload for an academic year
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	60	30	1500 - 1800
Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (CAT)	120	60	1200
USA Semester Calendar Credit Hours (US Credits)	30	9-12 credit hours per semester	27-36 semester credit hours
1.00 US College credit hour = 1.67 ECTS credits			

## NOTIONAL HOURS

Credit System	National Hours	Credits
ECTS	25 - 30	1
SA credit-rating system	10	1
US	50 - 60	1
UK	10	1

## CREDIT POINTS

United States Value	Foreign Credit Value
0.50 US Credits	1 ECTS (Europe)
0.25 US Credits	1 CATS (United Kingdom)
0.25 US Credits	1 NQF (SAQA) (South Africa)

South African Value	Foreign Credit Value	Calculation
1 NQF (SAQA)	2 ECTS	1 divided by 2
1 NQF (SAQA)	1 CATS	1 multiply by 1
1 NQF (SAQA)	4 USA	1 divided by 4

**EXAMPLE** (courses taken in one semester):

Course Code	NQF Level	NQF Credit	US		ECTS	
			Credit Points	Calculation	Credit Points	Calculation
AFRT1001A	5	18	4.5	(18/4)	9	(18/2)
INTR1010A	5	18	4.5	(18/4)	9	(18/2)
POLS2021A	6	24	6	(24/4)	12	(24/2)
POLS3018A	7	18	4.5	(18/4)	9	(18/2)
		<b>78</b>	<b>19.5</b>		<b>39</b>	

Wits Handbooks and Rules & Syllabus' show the credit value of courses.

## GRADE CONVERSION TABLE

WITS GRADING SYSTEM			APPROXIMATE EQUIVALENTS	
Class	WITS PERCENTAGE	CODE	USA (GPA)	UK
First	75% and over	A	A	1
Upper Second	70% to 74%	B	B+	2.1
Second	60% to 69%	C	B	2.2
Third	50% to 59%	D	C	3
Fail	0% to 49%	F	F	Fail
FABS	Failed Absent	F	F	Fail



## MATRICULATION EXEMPTION – UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

A matriculation exemption is a legal requirement for **first-degree** study at a South African University. Students with non-South African qualifications must have their school qualifications evaluated by the Matriculation Board that will then issue a certificate of exemption to those who qualify.

Application forms for Matriculation Exemption should be sent to:

**Student Enrolment Centre, Private Bag 4, WITS, 2050**

Including the following supporting documentation:

- **Form M30E**
- **Correctly certified** copies of your educational qualifications certified by a South African High Commission, Consulate, Trade Mission or a Public Notary in your home country
- **A correctly certified** copy of your passport or birth certificate certified by a South African High Commission, Consulate, Trade Mission or a Public Notary in your home country
- **Sworn English translations** of documents are required.

### Please note:

*Students are advised to send **two sets** of certified copies of documents, one for application for Matriculation Exemption and one for application to programme (degree) studies*

*Statements of results and high school transcripts are **NOT** accepted by the Matriculation Board*

*Faxed and scanned copies are **NOT** acceptable*

*Certification by the police or any ordinary Commissioner of Oaths is **NOT** accepted by the Matriculation Board.*

**For additional information** on Matriculation Exemption please visit <http://mb.usaf.ac.za/exemption-process/>

OR contact

Ms Busi Mamabolo at [Busi.Mamabolo@wits.ac.za](mailto:Busi.Mamabolo@wits.ac.za)  
at the International Students Office.

# SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (SAQA) EVALUATION – POSTGRADUATE STUDY

## FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS

A foreign qualification is issued by a nationally recognised institution and forms part of the national education and training system of a country other than South Africa.

If you hold a foreign qualification, you must submit proof of evaluation of your qualification by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

A foreign qualification is not:

- Professional membership or a professional designation.
- A certificate based on a short course; or in-service training, a workshop or seminar, or workplace integrated learning which does not form part of the requirements to obtain a qualification.
- A South African qualification.

## FOREIGN QUALIFICATIONS EVALUATION AND ADVISORY SERVICES

The purpose of the evaluation function is the recognition of foreign qualifications in terms of the South African National Qualifications Framework (NQF).

SAQA performs the function as an integral part of a national recognition value chain. The focus of SAQA's role is on the location of foreign qualifications within the NQF. For admission to study; professional licensing; and employment the specific internal criteria and requirements of other relevant institutions must be met.

Evaluation is a two-phased process by SAQA to:

1. Verify foreign qualifications by ensuring the following
  - a. Issuing bodies are accredited/recognised in the national systems they operate in
  - b. Qualifications are legitimately issued by those issuing bodies and part of the national qualifications of that country
  - c. Qualifications documents are in order and awards claimed by individuals are genuine
2. Compare foreign qualifications with South African qualifications, considering the structure and outcomes of the foreign qualifications, to locate them within the South African NQF.

Prospective applicants can now lodge online applications at [www.saqa.org.za](http://www.saqa.org.za). > Evaluation of Foreign Qualifications > Apply for an evaluation. Qualification holders must apply for their own evaluations and not use third parties for this purpose.

# WAVELENGTHS





# IMPORTANT NUMBERS ON CAMPUS



## CAMPUS CONTROL

### East Campus:

+27 (0) 11 717 4444 / 6666

### Health Sciences Campus:

+27 (0) 11 717 2222 / 2232

### Education Campus:

+27 (0) 11 717 3340

### Business School:

+27 (0) 11 717 3589

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## ADMISSION ENQUIRIES

### Undergraduate and Postgraduate Admission Information:

[www.wits.ac.za/askwits](http://www.wits.ac.za/askwits)

### Call Centre:

+27 (0) 11 717 1888

### Wits Plus

(Part-time - evening classes)

+27 (0)11 717 9505/ 9500/ 9501/ 9505

[witsplus.marketing@wits.ac.za](mailto:witsplus.marketing@wits.ac.za)

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## MYSOS

Student Crisis App

Student Crisis Line

## STUDENT ENQUIRIES

### IT Help Desk

(student passwords)

[www.wits.ac.za/mywits/](http://www.wits.ac.za/mywits/)

### Campus Housing and Residence Life

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9170/ 72/ 73/ 74

[accommodation@residence.wits.ac.za](mailto:accommodation@residence.wits.ac.za)

### Fees Office

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 1538

[feesoffice.finance@wits.ac.za](mailto:feesoffice.finance@wits.ac.za)

### Financial Aid and Scholarships

Tel : +27 (0)11 717 1081

[info.finaid@wits.ac.za](mailto:info.finaid@wits.ac.za)

### International Students Office

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 1054

[studysa.international@wits.ac.za](mailto:studysa.international@wits.ac.za)

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## STUDENT LIFE

### Student Affairs:

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9102

[Enquiries.studentaffairs@wits.ac.za](mailto:Enquiries.studentaffairs@wits.ac.za)

### Campus Health and Wellness Centre (CHWC):

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9111/ 13

**Counselling and Careers Development Unit (CCDU):**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 9140

info.ccd@wits.ac.za

**Development and Leadership Unit (DLU):**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9220

**Disability Rights Units (DRU):**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9152

**Examination and Graduation Office:**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 1274

**First Year Experience:**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 9168

**Kudu Card Centre:**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 1830

**Service Centre:**

Tel: +27 (0) 11 717 1882/ 83

**Wits Sport:**

Tel: +27 (0) 11717 9409

**Gender Equity Office:**

info.geo@wits.ac.za

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**FACULTIES****COMMERCE, LAW AND MANAGEMENT:****Undergraduate enquiries**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 8001/ 8174

**Postgraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 3582/ 8390

**ENGINEERING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT:****Undergraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 7007/ 7002/ 7003/ 7004/ 7006/ 7007/  
7008/ 7602 /7603/ 7014

febe.ug@wits.ac.za

**Postgraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 7007/ 7002/ 7003/ 7004/ 7006/ 7007  
/7008/ 7602/ 7603/ 7014

febe.pg@wits.ac.za

**HEALTH SCIENCES:****Undergraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 2545/ 2097

undergrad@health.wits.ac.za

**Postgraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 2510 /2076

health.pg@wits.ac.za

**HUMANITIES:****Undergraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 4004/ 05/ 13/ 18/ 8203

**Postgraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 4002/07 / 08

**Education enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 3332/ 3018/ 3021/ 3267

**SCIENCE:****Undergraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 6000

science.ug@wits.ac.za

**Postgraduate enquiries:**

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 6004

science.pg@wits.ac.za

**ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION**

For academic transcripts or verifications:

<http://www.wits.ac.za/alumni/academictranscripts>

Each Faculty assists their students with verification of qualifications and the amount payable is stipulated on the request for an academic transcript form, which is available from each Faculty office.

# IMPORTANT NUMBERS OFF CAMPUS



## EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Ambulance

10177 or 082 911

### Fire Brigade

10177

### Lifeline

0861 322 322

### Police (Flying Squad)

10111



## TAXIS & AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICE

### Bolt

[www.bolt.eu/en-za/](http://www.bolt.eu/en-za/)

### Uber

[www.uber.com/cities/](http://www.uber.com/cities/)



## HOSPITALS & CLINICS

### Milpark Hospital

+27 11 480 5600

### Park Lane Clinic

+27 11 480 4000

### Garden City Hospital

+27 11 495 5000

### Wits Donald Gordon

### Medical Centre

+27 11 356 6000



## MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE

### Department of Home Affairs,

Johannesburg

+27 11 639 4000

### VFS Global

+27 12 425 3000

[info.dhasa@vfshelp-line.com](mailto:info.dhasa@vfshelp-line.com)

### Operational Hours:

Monday - Friday

08:00 - 12:00

13:00 - 17:00

### Embassies and Consulates

Dial 1023



# CHECK LIST: APPLICATION & PRE-DEPARTURE



## UNDERGRADUATE CHECKLIST

### STEP 1: APPLICATION TO THE UNIVERSITY

- Submit completed online application form with correctly certified supporting documents
- Proof of English proficiency
- Submit completed M30E form for Matriculation Exemption with correctly certified supporting documents
- Submit completed application for on-campus residence
- Proof of payment of application fee

### STEP 2: PRE-DEPARTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- Letter of acceptance from the University, accept offer on the Student Self Service Portal
- Valid Passport
- Apply for South African Medical Aid Cover with a registered South African Medical Aid Provider until 31 December
- Apply for Study Visa. *When collecting your Study Visa, check the date of issue and expiry. Ensure that the visa is issued for the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg or any of its variations*
- Travel arrangements to South Africa
- Carry a set of clothing in your hand luggage
- Arrange for funds for fees and living expenses
- Arrange for shuttle transfer to Wits University or place of residence
- Carry Original School Leaving Certificates and/or Tertiary Qualifications for Matriculation Exemption.

## POSTGRADUATE CHECKLIST

### STEP 1: APPLICATION TO THE UNIVERSITY

- Submit completed online application form with correctly certified supporting documents.
- (NB: apply for SAQA Evaluation if you hold a foreign qualification)**
- Apply for Financial Aid (if applicable)
- Proof of English proficiency
- Submit completed application for on-campus residence
- Proof of payment of application fee

### STEP 2: PRE-DEPARTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- Letter of acceptance from the University, accept offer on the Student Self Service Portal
- Valid Passport
- Apply for South African Medical Aid Cover with a registered South African Medical Aid Provider until 31 December
- Apply for Study Visa. *When collecting your Study Visa, check the date of issue and expiry. Ensure that the visa is issued for the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg or any of its variations*
- Travel arrangements to South Africa
- Carry a set of clothing in your hand luggage
- Arrange for funds for fees and living expenses
- Arrange for shuttle transfer to Wits University or place of residence



# PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS



## FULL-TIME

- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition, related costs and on-campus accommodation (if applicable - confirmation letter from the Accommodation Office is required.)
- Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Original Valid Passport
- Original Valid Study Visa for Wits University
- Membership Certificate of a registered South African
- Medical Aid Cover until 31 December
- Matriculation Exemption Certificate (**1st time undergraduate only**)
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

## ASYLUM SEEKER

- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition, related costs and on-campus accommodation (if applicable - confirmation letter from the Accommodation Office is required.)
- Original Asylum Seeker Permit
- Medical Aid **NOT COMPULSORY** but recommended
- Matriculation Exemption Certificate (**1st time undergraduate only**)

- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

## REFUGEE

- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition, related costs and on-campus accommodation (if applicable - confirmation letter from the Accommodation Office is required.)
- Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Original Refugee Permit - Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Medical Aid **NOT COMPULSORY** but recommended
- Matriculation Exemption Certificate (**1st time undergraduate only**)
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

## DIPLOMAT

- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition, related costs and on-campus accommodation (if applicable - confirmation letter from the Accommodation Office is required.)
- Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Diplomatic ID / Visa / Passport
- Diplomatic Parent / Spouse Passport and Visa if a dependent
- Letter from Embassy or Mission confirming Employment, Station, Start and End Date of Station and undertaking of medical aid for the Diplomat and Spouse / Dependent
- Vetted Scholarship Letter from the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office if sponsored or on a bursary
- Matriculation Exemption Certificate (**1st year undergraduate only**)
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

## BLOCK RELEASE

- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition and related costs.
- Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Original Valid Passport
- Original Valid Visitor's Visa
- Vetted Scholarship Letter from the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office if sponsored or on a bursary
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

## PART-TIME ON A WORK/BUSINESS VISA

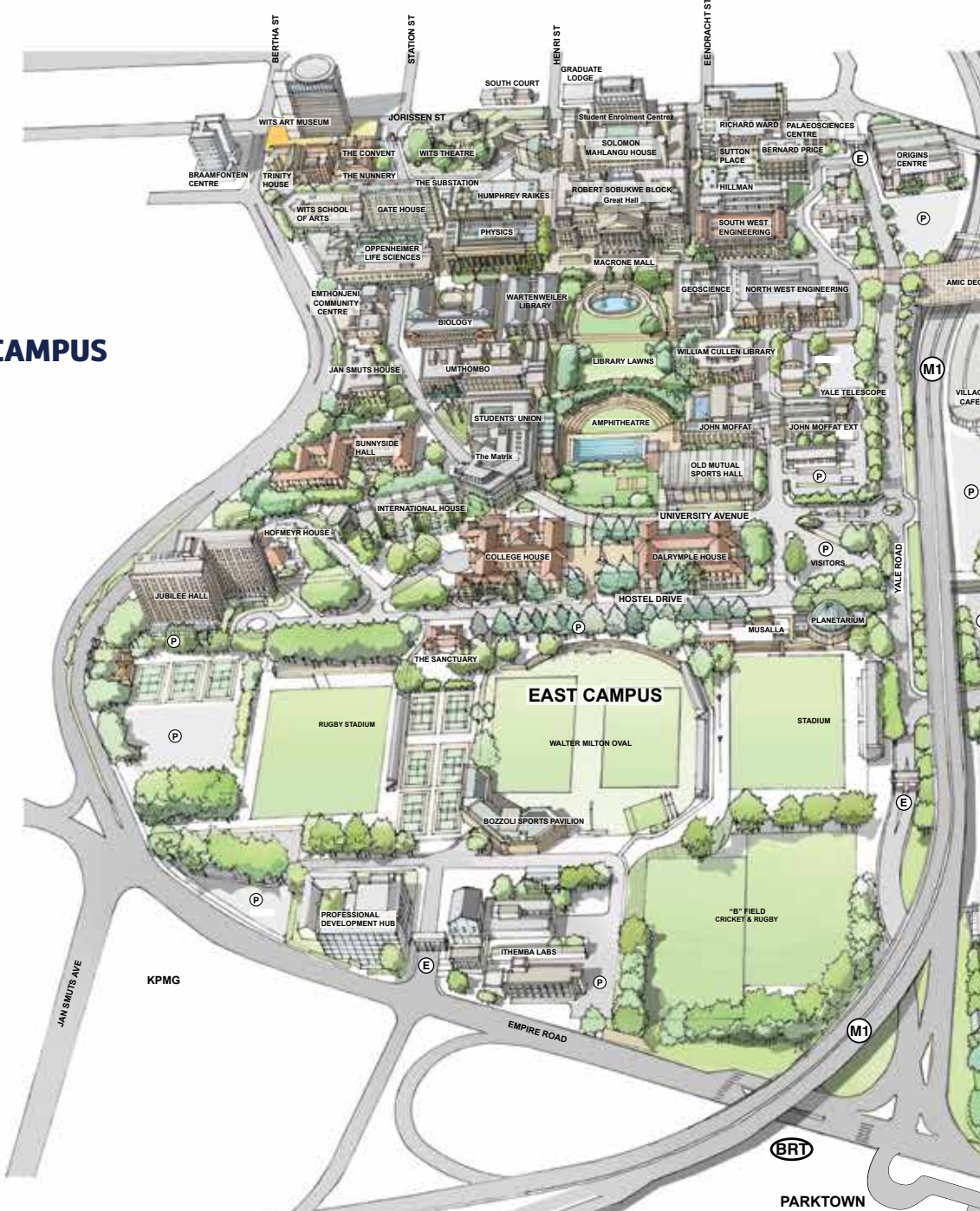
- International Fees Clearance for the annual tuition and related costs.
- Complete the fees estimate on the self-service portal
- Original Valid Passport
- Original Valid Work/Business Visa
- Membership Certificate of a registered South African Medical Aid Cover until 31 December
- Vetted Scholarship Letter from the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office if sponsored or on a bursary
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

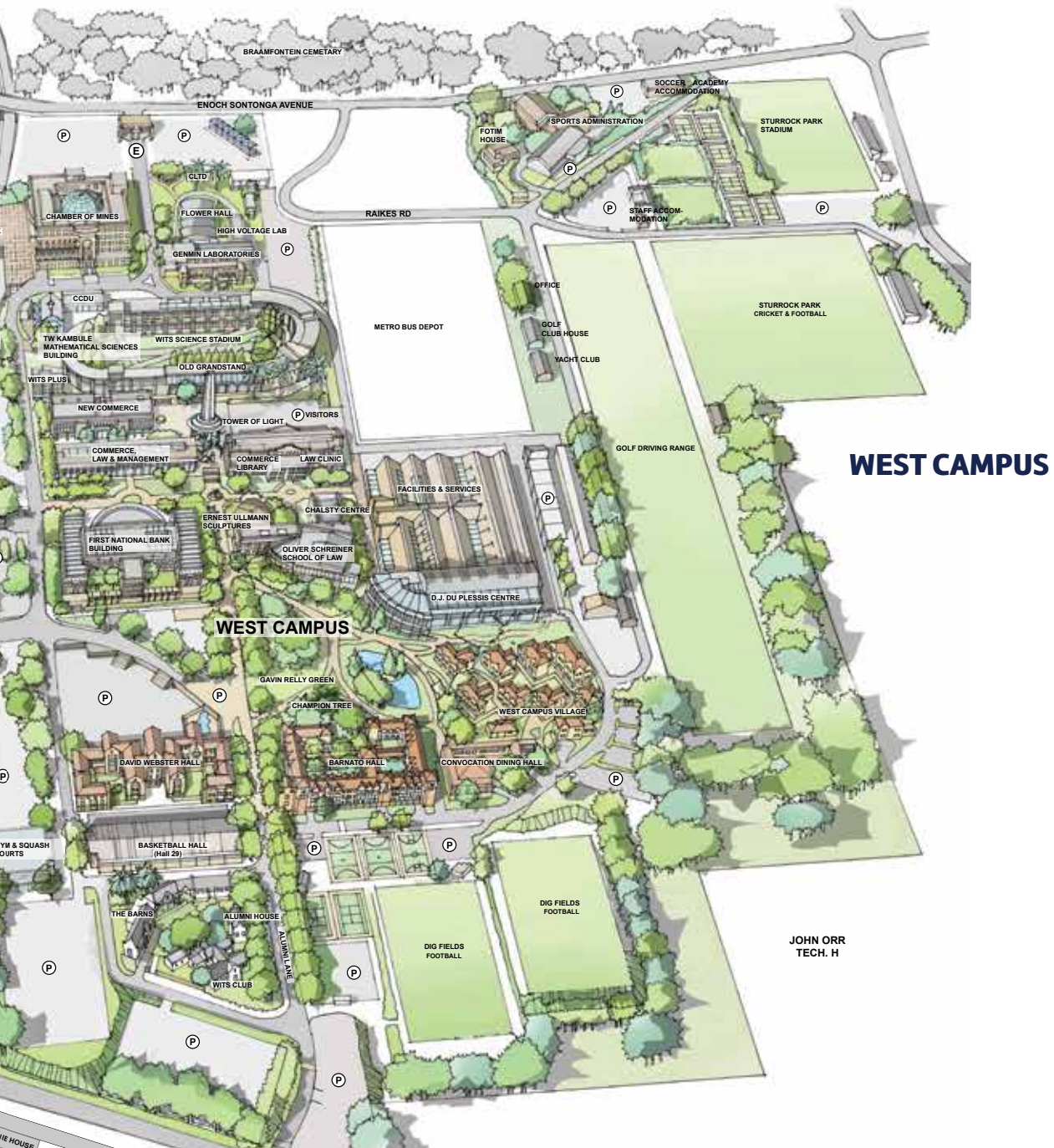
## AWAITING EXAMINERS

- International Fees Clearance - Copyright Fee
- Letter from the Faculty confirming Awaiting Examiners Status
- Original Valid Passport
- Original Valid Visa (study, visitor's, work or business)
- International clearance to register from the International Students Office
- Register at the Faculty or on-line through the Student Self Service Portal.

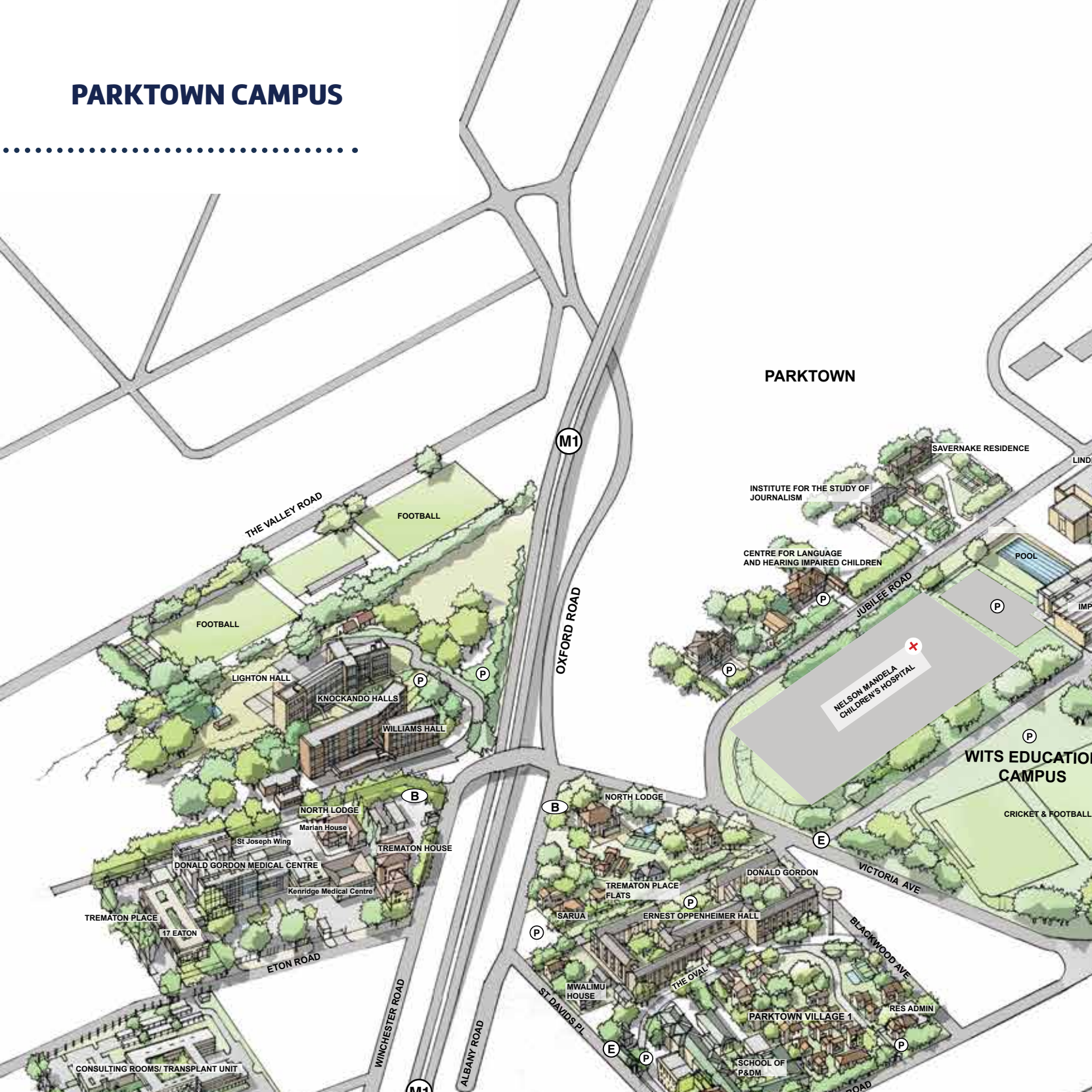
# BRAAMFONTEIN CAMPUS

## EAST CAMPUS





# PARKTOWN CAMPUS



PARKTOWN

SAVERNAKE RESIDENCE

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF JOURNALISM

CENTRE FOR LANGUAGE AND HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN

NELSON MANDELA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

WITS EDUCATION CAMPUS

CRICKET & FOOTBALL

THE VALLEY ROAD

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL

LIGHTON HALL

KNOCKKANDO HALLS

WILLIAMS HALL

NORTH LODGE

Marian House

St Joseph Wing

DONALD GORDON MEDICAL CENTRE

Kenridge Medical Centre

TREMATON HOUSE

TREMATON PLACE

17 EATON

ETON ROAD

M1

OXFORD ROAD

NORTH LODGE

TREMATON PLACE FLATS

SARUA

ERNEST OPPENHEIMER HALL

MWALIMU HOUSE

THE OVAL

DONALD GORDON

PARKTOWN VILLAGE 1

VICTORIA AVE

BLACKWOOD AVE

RES ADMIN

CONSULTING ROOMS/ TRANSPLANT UNIT

WINCHESTER ROAD

ALBANY ROAD

ST DAVIDS PL

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CHARLOTTE MAXEKE  
JOHANNESBURG ACADEMIC HOSPITAL

WITS MEDICAL SCHOOL

ROEDEAN  
HIGH SCHOOL

KHANYA BLOCK

SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH

WOZANI BLOCK

HIGHFIELD

GIRTON  
HALL

MEDHURST  
HALL

REITH  
HALL

THE SPACE FRAME

HAROLD HOLMES LIBRARY

CAMPUS CENTRE

BOHLALENG BLOCK

LESEDING BLOCK

MARANG CENTRE

McGREGOR BLOCK

ATHLETICS STADIUM

WITS JUNCTION

PIETER ROOS PARK

PARK LANE CLINIC

BRENTHURST CLINIC

PRINCE OF WALES TERRACE

CARSE O' COWRIE

YORK ROAD

YORK ROAD

RIDGE ROAD

BOUNDARY ROAD

RIDGE ROAD

JUNCTION AVENUE

ST ANDREWS RD

ST ANDREWS RD

QUEENS RD

PRINCESS PLACE

PARK LANE

VICTORIA AVE









**"IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE."**

H.E. Dr Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

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UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG

