

6. Selection of Undergraduate Applicants

6.1 Seats in Programmes of Studies at the University of Mauritius are limited, necessitating the application of clear criteria.

6.2 Applicants are classified into five groups: qualified, not qualified, international, special cases and mature.

6.3 *Qualified Applicants*

6.3.1 A list of qualified candidates is drawn up based on

- (i) the General Entry requirements as published in “General Information to Students” Handbook and “Information on Programmes” Faculty Handbooks, and
- (ii) the Specific Programme requirements as given in the respective Faculty Handbooks for each Programme of Studies offered.

6.3.2 Selection of Mauritian applicants for most Programmes of Studies are based on the grades obtained at ‘A’ and ‘O’ Level.

6.3.3 Any undergraduate degree awardee of the University of Mauritius should not be admitted on another undergraduate degree programme until a minimum period of two years has lapsed between obtention of the degree and application for another undergraduate degree programme.

6.3.4 Any applicant whose registration has been terminated at the University of Mauritius should not be admitted on the same Programme until a period of two years upon termination of registration. This regulation is also applicable to applicants who have withdrawn from the University of Mauritius as from the 3rd week after the beginning of the lectures without submitting valid reason(s) at the time of application for withdrawal.

6.3.5 The application for a Programme of Studies at the University of Mauritius on which the applicant is already a registered student will not be considered.

6.3.6 The lists of qualified applicants generated for each Programme of Studies are first sorted by HSC/ GCE ‘A’ Level marks (primary sorting). Those who obtain the same aggregate marks after the first sorting are then sorted using the SC/ GCE ‘O’ Level marks (secondary sorting).

6.3.7 The applicants are classified in order of priority according to (a) HSC (or GCE ‘A’ Level) marks and (b) SC (or GCE ‘O’ Level) marks, irrespective of the number of sittings based on a system of Marks Allocation Scheme given below:

(a) HSC/ GCE ‘A’ Level marks (Primary Sorting)

- (i) Marks are allocated for grades obtained in the three best subjects taken at Principal Level.

However, an applicant may compete for entry with only two 'A' Level subjects, satisfying the minimum entry requirements, with the third subject counting as zero.

- (ii) The best grade for each subject, irrespective of the sitting, is taken.
- (iii) The relation of grades obtained at 'A' Level and marks is as follows:

Grade	Marks	UCAS Points
A*	12	56
A	10	48
B	8	40
C	6	32
D	4	24
E	2	16

The grades proposed for HSC Pro are as follows:

HSC Pro	HSC/'A' Level Equivalent	UoM Points	UCAS Points
D*	A*	12	56
D	A	10	48
M	C	6	32
P	E	2	16

It is to be noted that for HSC Pro, the grades equivalent for B and D in the HSC/'A' Level qualifications cannot be specified since the marking system is limited to only 4 grades.

- (iv) The HSC/ GCE 'A' level are calculated aggregating the marks corresponding to the grades obtained in the best three subjects at Principal Level.

(b) SC/ GCE 'O' Level marks (Secondary Sorting)

- (i) Marks are allocated for grades obtained in the best five subjects taken at Ordinary Level.
- (ii) The best grade for each subject, irrespective of the sitting, is taken. The relation of grades obtained at 'O' Level and marks is as follows:

Grade	Mark(s)
A* (1 unit)	4
A (1 and 2 units)	3
B (3 and 4 units)	2
C (5 and 6 units)	1

- (iii) The SC/ GCE ‘O’ Level marks is calculated by aggregating the marks corresponding to the grades obtained in the best five subjects at Ordinary Level.

6.3.8 For applicants holding the International Baccalaureate, the criteria used to determine their equivalence with respect to HSC/ GCE ‘A’ Level is as follows:

Grade	‘A’ Level Equivalence
7	A
6	B
5	C
4	D&E
3	Fail
2	Fail

6.3.9 For applicants holding a French Baccalauréat, the equivalence with respect to the HSC/ GCE ‘A’ Level is determined by considering the ‘NOTE/20’ of the subjects as given in the following table:

Note/20	‘A’ Level Equivalence
≥ 16	A
14-15.9	B
12-13.9	C
10-11.9	D

For admission purposes, the University chooses the three subjects having the highest ‘coefficients’ and then using the ‘Note/20’ of the three subjects, the ‘A’ Level equivalence is sought as given in the above table. The HSC/GCE ‘A’ Level marks are then determined.

- 6.3.10 Applications from applicants, holding qualifications other than those stated above, are considered by the Admissions Eligibility Committee chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academia). The Committee is comprised of all Deans of Faculty and the Registrar. Representative(s) of ASRO is/are in attendance.
- 6.3.11 The lists classifying applicants in order of priority are then sent to each respective Faculty/ Centre where the Dean/ Director shall endorse the list. The Dean/ Director also specifies the number of students to be admitted for each Programme of Studies. Before endorsing the lists, the Dean/ Director can request verification by the Department(s).
- 6.3.12 The lists are then sent to the Registrar. The latter forwards the lists to the ASRO, which issues letters of offer to the best candidates, according to the number of seats available.
- 6.3.13 Based on previous statistics, the initial number of offers made has to be slightly more than the number of seats available.
- 6.3.14 However, for Programmes of Studies, which are in high demand, i.e. where the acceptance rate is high, the ASRO shall issue letters of offer corresponding to the number of seats available.
- 6.3.15 The letter of offer to undergraduate applicants contains the following information:

- the Programme of Studies on which the candidate has been selected
- the date and time for registration
- the fees according to the Programme offered

Candidates who have been offered seats in their highest priority programme will not be offered any programme lower in their priority list. This condition is clearly stipulated in the application form.

- 6.3.16 If the number of seats available has not been filled, letters of offer will be issued to the next best candidates on the qualified list. This process will go on until all seats have either been filled in or there are no other suitable applicants. Letters of offer can be issued up to the second week of the start of the academic year.
- 6.3.17 An applicant will receive a letter of offer for each Programme of Studies in which s/he is selected. Depending on the priority criteria applicant should opt and register for only one Programme of Studies.
- 6.3.18 If a candidate is offered a seat and decides not to accept it, s/he needs not notify the University.
- 6.3.19 Offers to applicants who have not registered on the determined dates will automatically lapse and be offered to other applicants. However, applicants who produce satisfactory evidence why they were unable to register on the determined dates would be allowed to register.
- 6.3.20 The procedure for the selection of Mauritian applicants for Undergraduate Programmes is also outlined in the flowchart (code: UoMQA4) given in Annex 5.

6.4 *Not Qualified Applicants*

- 6.4.1 Applicants are classified as not qualified if they do not satisfy the General Entry Requirements and/ or the Specific Programme Requirements. However, selection panels are requested to assess any other qualifications that they may have which can be accepted as equivalent to requirements.

6.5 *International Applicants*

- 6.5.1 Up to five (5) seats are available for international students over and above the current home intake for Programmes of Studies identified by the Deans of Faculty.
- 6.5.2 To be considered for admission to the University, international students must satisfy the minimum entry requirements as set out in the regulations.
- 6.5.3 Students not possessing a recognized qualification in English Language should provide evidence of proficiency in same, e.g. TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Test Systems), or other similar tests.
- 6.5.4 International students are required to pay tuition fees in addition to general fees as published in the “General Information to Students” Handbook. Fees for international students are higher than for local students. However, SADC students pay only local tuition and other fees as per protocol signed with member countries of SADC.
- 6.5.5 Applications should be made on prescribed forms obtainable on the University’s

web site normally around February/March. The completed forms must be returned to the ASRO of the University, together with certified photocopies of birth and educational certificates and a non-refundable Application Fee of 35 US\$ by the closing date for submission which is normally around April each year.

6.5.6 A list of all applications received from international students is compiled by the ASRO and sent to the Admissions Eligibility Committee for consideration.

6.5.7 The Committee selects the potential students and the lists of both selected and non-selected international applicants are sent to the Registrar before onward transmission to the ASRO normally by latest end of June.

6.5.8 The ASRO issues letters of offer to the selected international applicants.

6.5.9 The letter of offer contains:

- The Programme of Studies offered
- Date of registration
- Tuition fees
- General fees
- The date the lectures are starting

6.5.10 International students are also informed that

- fees are payable in advance and that no scholarship/financial aid is available from the University to international students;
- the University is a non-residential one;
- the University will make the necessary arrangements with the Passport and Immigration Office in Mauritius for entry visa and residence permit during the duration of their studies; and
- the University does not take the responsibility of prospective students' families.

6.5.11 In addition, a rough estimate of the amount of money required per month for accommodation, living expenses, purchase of books, etc. is given.

6.5.12 The procedure for the selection of international applicants is also outlined in the flowchart (code: UoMQA5) given in Annex 6.

6.6 *Special Cases*

6.6.1 Applicants are considered as special cases if they

- (i) do not satisfy any of the General Entry and Programme requirements but who submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Faculty board be equivalent to any of those listed;
- (ii) do not satisfy any of the General Entry and Programme requirements but who in the opinion of the Faculty board submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the Programme proposed;
- (iii) hold a full practising professional qualification obtained by examination.

6.6.2 Special cases are considered by the Faculty/Centre after recommendation by the

relevant Boards of Faculty/ Board of Studies of Centre. Only difficult cases are referred to Senate or Chairman of Senate for approval. Special cases will be considered normally only after the list of qualified applicants has been exhausted.

6.7 *Mature Students*

6.7.1 In line with the Government Policy of commitment to lifelong learning, the University has developed the concept of admission of mature students on some Programme of Studies. 'Mature Students' shall be those who fall under the following criteria:

Part I- For Undergraduate Programmes

Candidates having full School Certificate and

- (i) who do not satisfy the General Entry Requirement and who are (preferably) at least 25 years of age and who have at least 5 years **relevant** work experience;
- (ii) who satisfy the General Entry Requirement and who are (preferably) at least 25 years of age, but are lower in terms of their computer list ranking at the UoM; and who have at least 5 years **relevant** work experience

Part II – For Postgraduate Programmes

- (i) who are older in terms of age (>30) and do not have the General Entry Requirements for admission at University of Mauritius but have a minimum of

Either

- (a) a recognized undergraduate Diploma in relevant field or any other equivalent qualifications acceptable to the University plus at least 15 years' of relevant work experience

OR

- (b) third class or pass degree in relevant field plus at least 7 years' of relevant work experience

- (ii) who are older in terms of age (>30) and who possess the General Entry Requirements but are lower in terms of admission ranking at the University.

Mature Students will only be admitted on Programmes of Studies identified by Deans of Faculty/ Directors / Partner Institution.

6.7.2 Selection of Mature Students

Mature Students are selected by the Faculty/ Centre/ Partner Institution on the basis of the following:

- (i) qualifications and experience of applicants; and
- (ii) interview to assess commitment, motivation and academic standards (25%) and a written examination (75%), if applicable.

Upon receipt of an application by a “mature candidate”:

- (a) The Department concerned will process the application as outlined at (i) and (ii) above.
- (b) If the Department is satisfied that the candidate can be admitted as a mature student, the Head of the Department concerned will submit a report thereon to the Dean of Faculty/Director of Centre/Director Partner Institution (PI).
- (c) The Dean of Faculty/Director of Centre/ Director, PI will seek the approval of Faculty Board/Centre Board/PI Board of Studies.
- (d) Upon approval of Faculty Board/Centre Board/ Partner Institution Board of Studies, the Dean/Director will communicate the decision to the Registrar for the issue of a letter of offer of seat to the applicant.
- (e) The Faculty/Centre/PI will submit an Information Paper to TRC on the admission of any mature student.

Difficult cases will be submitted to Teaching and Research Committee and Senate for approval.

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