

Scholars Program

MASTERCARD FOUNDATION SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE Application for Master's Degree Studies: Enrolment January 2024

Dear Prospective Candidate,

We are pleased that you're considering studying at the University of the Western Cape as a Mastercard Foundation Scholar.

The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program is a global initiative designed to develop the next generation of transformative leaders by enabling highly talented, service-oriented young people, primarily young Africans, to pursue their higher education and cultivate their leadership potential. **The Program is specifically targeted towards talented young people whose access to higher education is impeded by economic and social barriers, and it places a particular emphasis on reaching young women, refugees and forcibly displaced youth, and young people living with disabilities, who are encouraged to apply.**

For the academic year 2024, the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at the University of the Western Cape will support master's degree level study **for a maximum period of 2-years** for promising candidates **in the following fields/disciplines:**

- *Humanities & Arts (Applied Linguistics, History, Gender Justice, Migration Studies, Sociology for Development);*
- *Community & Health Sciences (Public Health);*
- *Economic & Management Sciences (Development Studies, Information Sciences and Migration Studies);*
- *Law (Governance and Human Rights);*
- *Natural Sciences (Biological, Computational, Mathematical and Physical Sciences).*

To be eligible for this Program, you must satisfy the following **four** criteria:

- 1.1. Be no older than 30 years for the postgraduate master's degree;
- 1.2. Meet the University's minimum admissions requirements (for program-/discipline-specific information, visit www.uwc.ac.za);
- 1.3. Be ready to begin your first year of registration for full-time master's degree study in 2024.
- 1.4. Provide evidence that access to university studies is impeded by social and economic barriers.

By completing this application, you are taking the first step in a process that will allow us to learn more about you, your achievements, and your long-term goals as a potential Mastercard Foundation Scholar. We encourage you to carefully read the application guidelines before completing the form.

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APPLICATION PROCESS

Please note the following steps that must be followed:

- 1. As a new student you must first apply to the University of the Western Cape (UWC) for admission in 2024 for the degree that you wish to study. Upon application you will receive an Application Number.**
- 2. Returning UWC students will have a Student Number.**
- 3. Use the Application Number/Student Number to complete this Application Form.**

Apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program by completing the online application available via <https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/partnerships/mastercard-foundation-scholars-program>. If you are unable to apply online you may complete this form and email the completed form and supporting documentation to mcfsp-applications@uwc.ac.za by **Friday, 13 October 2023**.

The preferred method of application is via the online form submission. Please note that no duplicate applications will be accepted and applicants applying via both routes (that is online and via downloadable form submission) will be automatically disqualified.

A selection committee will review all applications and shortlist a set of applicants for interviews. All shortlisted candidates will be interviewed either in person or virtually.

Communication to the selected Scholars will be done by **Friday, 17 November 2023**.

A completed application should include the following in PDF format:

1. A cover letter (saved with the name: Initial.Surname_Cover_Letter) stating the following:
 - a) Personal background including family financial position.
 - b) Why you chose UWC.
 - c) Where you see yourself after graduation.
2. Copies of your academic records (saved as in the above example: Academic Records). Applicants must submit copies of all academic records such as high school certificate/s and certified copies of all university-awarded degree/s.
3. A letter of recommendation (saved as above: Recommendation Letter) from your supervisor or head of department/school. The letter must be current, official, and signed.
4. One recent passport size photograph (Photograph).
5. A certified copy of your national identity document or passport (saved as above: Identity Document or Passport), including, where applicable, the visa page and/or refugee/asylum seeker permit.



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****It is strongly recommended that you carefully read all the instructions and gather all the necessary supporting documents before completing the application form. Please note that INCOMPLETE applications will not be processed.**

The completed application form with supporting documents should be delivered/mailed to the University only ONCE. Duplicate applications or several email submissions from the same person will lead to disqualification. You are invited to read the University's POPIA Policy on its website. All personal information provided in this application will be used only to process this application and for purposes of this Program and for no other purpose. **DEADLINE: All applications must be received by Friday, 13 October 2023.** We strongly encourage earlier submissions.

A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

I consent to the University of the Western Cape processing my personal information for the purposes of this application and for purposes of this Program.

University of the Western Cape Application/Student Number for the Academic Year 2024:

Please enter your name and all information as it appears on official documents such as an identification document, birth certificate, passport, or refugee/asylum seeker permit.

Name: First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Other Name: _____

Gender: F M Nationality: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
Day Month Year

Marital status: Single: _____ Married: _____ Number of children (if any): _____

Age at the time of application: _____

Country of birth: _____

Country of citizenship: _____

Country of residence at the time of application: _____

Place of residence at the time of application: Urban Rural Peri-urban

For non-South Africans citizens:

Do you have a passport? Yes No If yes, Passport Number*: _____

Passport issued by (Country): _____

Issue date: ____/____/____
Day Month Year

Expiry date: ____/____/____
Day Month Year

***Please attach a copy of the relevant page(s) of your passport to this application.**

Email address: _____

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Mobile phone number (Including country code): _____

Permanent physical address: _____

Primary language spoken: _____

Other languages: _____

How did you learn about the scholarship? _____

For refugees kindly provide the following information (where applicable):

1. Refugee status: _____
2. UNHCR Number: _____
3. Do you live in a camp or as an integrated refugee? _____
4. If in a camp, please name the camp: _____
5. If integrated, please give details of residence and contact details of persons/organization responsible for your integration: _____

For displaced youth, kindly provide the following:

1. Letter from the relevant government authority stating reason and nature of displacement.

For persons with disability, kindly provide the following information:

1. Nature of disability: _____
2. Are you registered with any disability organization/s? Yes No
If yes, name of the organization/s? _____
3. Please attach a copy of your disability registration form/card (if applicable).
4. Please indicate any special accommodation and other needs that you may require:

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B. ACADEMIC INFORMATION

State the degree program you are applying for _____
Your program of choice must be among the set of programs and disciplines/areas listed above.

Name of high/secondary school attended: _____

Physical address:(Location): _____

Year of completion: _____

High/Secondary school examination system: _____

Subjects passed and Grade(s) obtained: _____

School type (mark all that apply): Government/Public Independent/Private

Have you ever studied at a university or any other tertiary institution? Yes No

If yes, please complete the Table below and attach all supporting documents, e.g. copies of degree certificates.

Level	Dates Attended	Name of institution	Sponsor (if any)	Qualification obtained
University				
College				
Other				

If you were admitted and dropped out, please give reasons and attach the supporting evidence:

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Who paid for your high school and/or university education? Please tick the relevant box(es).

- Guardian(s) - related to the applicant
- Guardian(s) - not related to applicant
- Parent(s)
- Scholarship
- Sibling(s)
- Sponsor(s)
- Other

If other; please state who paid your fees: _____

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C. FAMILY INFORMATION (Contact persons in case of emergency)

Section 1: Parents or Guardians

Parent/Guardian #1

Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Other names: _____ Relation to you: _____

Occupation: _____ Estimated income per month: _____

Highest level of education attained: _____

Mobile phone number: _____ Email: _____

Country of residence: _____ Physical address: _____

Parent/Guardian #2

Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Other names: _____ Relation to you: _____

Occupation: _____ Estimated income per month: _____

Highest level of education attained: _____

Mobile phone number: _____ Email: _____

Country of residence: _____ Physical address: _____

Section 2: Siblings: Please list the names, levels of education, gender and ages of any brothers/ sisters you have, even if they don't live in your household. If you need more lines please attach a separate page at the end.

Full Name	Gender (M/F)	Age	Highest level of education/ degree attained	Occupation/Employment/ Monthly income



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D. SHORT NARRATIVES

(Write your responses only within the spaces provided)

1. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Describe your previous leadership experience in terms of positions held and other activities.

2. AWARDS AND HONOURS

State any awards and honours received: (for example, academic award; outstanding leadership award, community service award, etc.) (Attach the relevant evidence)



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E. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The vision of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program is to develop the next generation of global and African leaders with a strong commitment to social justice.

1. Describe your participation in any voluntary/community activities and related experiences during the recent past and at present.

2. Describe your aspirations for social change and how you plan to contribute to social change through your participation in the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program

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F. CERTIFICATION

I, _____ hereby certify that all information contained in this application is truthfully and accurately presented by myself, and give my permission to the University of the Western Cape to obtain any verification deemed necessary to process my application. Finally, I acknowledge that completing this application form does not guarantee the award of a scholarship.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application submission guidelines:

1. Read carefully through the application guidelines on the Call for Applications document before completing your application form.
2. Prior to submission, please review your completed application form to ensure all sections have been completed and you have included all the required supporting documents.
Incomplete submissions will not be processed.
3. **Submit only ONE application. Multiple submissions will be automatically disqualified.**
4. When submitting your application, all documents must be scanned in PDF format and named accordingly (e.g. for the Cover Letter: Initial.Surname_Cover_Letter.pdf) and then sent as an attachment(s) via email.

Document Types to be submitted:

- Completed Application form (Application Form)
 - Cover letter (Cover Letter)
 - Copies of your academic records (Academic Records)
 - Letter of recommendation (Recommendation Letter)
 - One recent passport size photograph (Photograph)
 - Certified copy of your national identity document or passport (Identity Document or Passport)
5. Do not convert your application form to a word document when you download it. Please print and complete the form, after which you may scan it into PDF format. PDF editor is acceptable.
 6. The subject of the application email should be your Initial and Surname, and UWC Student Number if applicable.
 7. Send your application to the email address provided, namely,
mcfsp-applications@uwc.ac.za

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Note:

Submitting a completed application does not guarantee an award of scholarship.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE CONTACT DETAILS

Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program University of the Western Cape
Private Bag X17
Bellville 7535
South Africa
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