

Information to prospective MEd and PhD applicants of the Faculty of Education

1. You must apply for admission to the MEd/PhD programme. You can apply online by using the following link: <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies>
Very important: Please take note that you have to choose "**Contact**" on the first page where they ask the "Presentation Method".

The Postgraduate Yearbook of the Faculty can be found at the following link:

<https://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/yearbooks/2023/FEdu-PG-2023.pdf>

For more information, visit the Higher Degrees website:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies/higher-degree-admissions>

For the guidelines given by Higher Degrees Administration, click on the following link:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/postgrad/Masters-Doctoral-Applicants-2022-2023.pdf>

2. Applications for admission to the MEd/PhD programme for next year open in May and close on **1 September** of this year (**1 September of the current year for enrolment for next year**). Please ensure that your application is complete before 1 September. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
3. You have time until the end of April next year to register if your application is successful.
4. The minimum entry requirement to a Master of Education degree (MEd) is a Bachelor of Education Honours degree (BEdHons), or an appropriate 480-credit Level 8 professional bachelor's degree, or a relevant honours degree. The minimum entry requirement to a Doctoral of Education degree (PhD) is a Master of Education degree (MEd) or an appropriate 180-credit Level 9 professional Master's degree, or a relevant Master's degree.
 - A Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) may also be recognised as meeting the minimum entry requirement for a cognate Master of Education degree programme, as long as it meets the HEQSF research requirement of at least 30 credits.
 - The student must have obtained a minimum average pass mark of 60% for the completed NQF level 8 qualification, as well as a minimum pass mark of 60% for the 30 credit research module on NQF level 8. For a PhD degree the student must have obtained a minimum average pass mark of 60% for the research MEd or other relevant research Masters, or a minimum pass mark of 60% for the research modules in the professional MEd or relevant professional Master's degree on NQF level 9.
 - Should a student not have a BEdHons in an applicable field of Education, but another honours degree, a completed Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) or four year Bachelor of Education (BEd) qualification is a requirement. The applicable Research Director in collaboration with the specific subject group leader and supervisor will select two BEd Honours modules of the programme the student wants to follow (based on the student's previous qualification)/ in a cognate subject. An oral examination must be successfully completed in these modules, before the student can submit the research proposal for approval. The prescribed modules will not be on any academic record and the student will not pay registration fees for those modules. This can be done while the student is registered for the MEd degree.
 - Should a student not have a Master's in an applicable field of Education, but another Master's degree, the applicable Research Director in collaboration with the specific subject group leader and promoter will select two BEd Honours modules of the programme the student wants to follow (based on the student's previous qualification)/ in a cognate subject. An oral examination must be successfully completed in these modules, before the student can submit the research proposal for approval. The prescribed modules will not be on any academic record and the student will not pay registration fees for those modules. This can be done while the student is registered for the PhD degree.
 - Should a student with a PGDip in Education on NQF level 8, wish to apply for MEd studies, the research module of the Postgraduate Diploma, should be at least 30 credits. If not, the student could apply to register (for non-degree purposes) for the NWU BEdHons Research module. A pass with at least 60% in the research module must be obtained, before applying for an MEd degree.
 - Even if a prospective master's student meets all of the above admission requirements, the application may still be turned down (1) owing to a lack of capacity in the Faculty to render adequate supervision, or (2) if the proposed research topic cannot be accommodated within the focus of existing research programmes/projects in the Faculty.
5. Your completed application will be evaluated by the relevant research entity or subject group and you will be informed of the outcome by the MEd/PhD Office during November. **If your application is successful, the**

relevant Scientific Committee will assign you a supervisor / promoter. It is not necessary for you to seek for a supervisor / promoter .

6. It is also **important to note** that although you may meet all the admission requirements, your application may not be considered as successful due to other reasons, such as the Faculty's limited capacity to render effective supervision.
7. Applicants must demonstrate acceptable levels of proficiency in computer and academic literacy and have adequate Internet access.
8. Training sessions will be presented during the year to empower and support you in your studies. We strongly recommend that these sessions be attended.
9. A student who has been admitted to the MEd/PhD programme must submit a research proposal to a Scientific Committee for approval within six (6) months after registration. The approved academic processes and administrative deadlines for submission must be adhered to.
10. An MEd degree should be completed in a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of three (3) years for full-time students and four (4) years for part-time students, and a PhD degree should be completed in a minimum of two (2) years and a maximum of four (4) years for full-time students and five (5) years for part-time students. These are research degrees (no classes to attend and no examinations): you must write a dissertation/thesis, which will be examined at the end of your studies. The communication between you and your supervisor/promoter can either be in person and/or via electronic media, therefore these degrees can be done by distance. Please note that you should have adequate Internet access.

11. If you are working more than 40 hours a month you should register as a part-time student.

12. If you have obtained your qualification(s) from a non-South African higher education Institution, your qualification(s) must be evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). Visit the SAQA website for more information. **International students should** contact:

Potchefstroom campus: Ms Annelishé van der Spoel from the International Office for more information about the required documents: +27 18 299 2919 or Annelishe.VanDerSpoel@nwu.ac.za.

Mahikeng Campus: Mr Peter Monyelo, Building A3, Block A, Office 247, Mahikeng campus, phone number +27 18 389 2575, and email Peter.Monyelo@nwu.ac.za

Vanderbijlpark Campus: 25459848@nwu.ac.za

13. For information about other financial support (Bursary and Loans) or online applications, visit the website: <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/financial-support-services/nwu-postgraduate-bursary-scheme>

E-mail address: Mahikeng: MC-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za
Potchefstroom: NWU-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za
Vanderbijlpark: VC-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za

14. For a quotation regarding the costs of the degree, you can contact:

Mahikeng Campus:

Building: Administration Building A1
Tel: (018) 389 2503 / (018) 389 2478
E-mail: MC-Studyfees@nwu.ac.za

Potchefstroom Campus:

Building: Joon van Rooy Building F1, Building ground floor
Tel: (018) 299 2666 / (018) 299 2673
E-mail: PC-Studyfees@nwu.ac.za.

Vanderbijlpark Campus:

Building: Administration Building 24
Tel: (016) 910 3234 / (016) 910 3456 / (016) 910 3167
E-mail: Vaalaccounts@nwu.ac.za

15. Apart from the other documents that must accompany your application, we also expect of you to submit a **letter of intent/mini-proposal for your proposed research (maximum two pages)** with your application. **Your application will not be considered without this document.**

In order to prepare this document, follow the following steps:

Visit the website of the Faculty of Education for the particular entity or project in which you wish to conduct your MEd/PhD research (see the table below) to learn more about the research focuses of the research entity or subject group). It is highly recommended that your proposed study links with the aims of the existing entities or research projects. The Faculty regards it as important that your proposed research topic strengthens the current research focuses of the faculty.

- Visit the webpages of the Faculty of Education and the various Research Entities within the Faculty and identify a research topic that will link with your research interest and the existing research projects within the faculty, keeping in mind your previous qualification.
- Write your letter of intent **for your proposed research** by following the guidelines below:
 - Formulate a **preliminary title** for your proposed research. The title should cover the research topic meaningfully and refer to the main aspects of the study.
 - Identify the research problem and describe it briefly. Thus, in this section, give a description of **what** you want to research.
 - Motivate **why** it is important to conduct the research. Explain why the research will be of particular relevance and how it will contribute towards the expansion of existing knowledge in the field of education and what the anticipated implications will be for teaching practice.
 - Explain **how** you will conduct the research, i.e. what methods you anticipate using to conduct the research.
- It is **your sole responsibility** to write this letter without the expectation of faculty guidance in this regard.

This letter of intent must be typed and must **not exceed two pages**. Please note that this letter of intent only serves as guidance for the committee to allocate a supervisor/promoter to you and will not disqualify you from study at the faculty. After acceptance of your application, the relevant Scientific Committee will use this letter of intent to guide them in order to assign a suitable supervisor/promoter.

Higher Degrees Administration will notify you of the outcome of the application during November.

Documents to be submitted with your application:

1. **Completed application form (if apply manually)**
2. **Signed undertaking**
<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/undergrad/2020.UNDERTA KING-2019-E 1 ENAB.pdf>
3. **Certified copy of your ID / passport**
4. **Certified copy of your academic record of your previous qualification**
5. **Letter of intent**
6. **If previous qualification is from a non-South African higher education Institution, a SAQA certificate should be included.**
7. **If you are an international student, proof of R500 application fee paid (see website for more information: <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies/higher-degree-admissions> – last option under “Apply as follows”**

Further inquiries:

Ms Erna Greyling
Higher Degrees Administrator
E-mail address: Erna.Greyling@nwu.ac.za
Tel: 018 299 4656

Ms Ronélie van Staden
Higher Degrees Administrator
E-mail address: Ronelle.VanStaden@nwu.ac.za
Tel: 018 285 2101

RESEARCH ENTITIES IN THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Unit	Unit	Niche	Focus area
Edu-HRight Education and Human Rights in Diversity	SDL Self-Directed learning	Edu-Lead Education Leadership	COMBER Community-based Educational Research
Prof Johan Botha 018 285 2265 Johan.Botha@nwu.ac.za	Prof Elsa Mentz 018 299 4780 Elsa.Mentz@nwu.ac.za	Prof Jan Heystek 018 299 1906 Jan.Heystek@nwu.ac.za	Prof Mariette Koen 018 285 2278 Mariette.Koen@nwu.ac.za
Sub-areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse Contexts • Legal Perspectives, Governance and Democracy • Bio-Psychosocial Perspectives • Discipline • Citizenship • Comparative International See http://education.nwu.ac.za/edu-hright for more information	Subareas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment to support Self-Directed Learning • Cooperative learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Blended learning to support Self-Directed Learning • Indigenous knowledge and contextualised learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Cognition and metacognition to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Problem-based learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Scholarship and praxis for Self-Directed Learning • UNESCO Chair on Multimodel Learning and Open Educational Resources See http://education.nwu.ac.za/sdl for more information	Subareas <p>See http://education.nwu.ac.za/Edu-Lead for more information</p>	Subareas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifelong Learning and Development in Communities • Holistic Wellbeing of Communities • Early Childhood Development in Communities • Inclusive Education & Support Services in Communities • Environmental Education for Sustainable Development in Communities See http://education.nwu.ac.za/comber for more information

If you cannot find a home for your research in the first four columns contact Prof Washington Dudu (Washington.Dudu@nwu.ac.za) for research outside entities (ROE).

For more information on the programmes offered, see the table below or consult the yearbook - <https://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/yearbooks/2023/FEdu-PG-2023.pdf>

MEd programmes relating to each of the research foci			
Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CC N01 - O801P/M/V)	Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CC N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Management and Leadership (4CB N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CH N01 - O801P/M/V)
Education Law (4CG N01 - O801P/M/V)	Computer Science Education (4CP N01 - O801P/M/V)		Special Needs Education (4CL N01 - O801P/M/V)
Special Needs Education (4CL N01 - O801P/M/V)	Mathematic Education (4CK N01 - O801P/M/V)		
Philosophy of Education (4CM N01 - O801P/M/V)	Physical Science Education with Natural Science Education (4CE N01 - O801P/M/V)		
Education Management and Leadership (4CB N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CH N01 - O801P/M/V)		
Language Education (4CQ N01 - O801P/M/V)	Language Education (4CQ N01 - O801P/M/V)	Language Education (4CQ N01 - O801P/M/V)	Language Education (4CQ N01 - O801P/M/V)
PhD programmes relating to each of the research foci			
Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CA R03 - O901P/M/V)	Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CA R03 - O901P/M/V)	Education Management (4CA R06 - O901P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CA R07 - O901P/M/V)
Education Law (4CA R05 - O901P/M/V)	Computer Science Education (4CA R02 - O901P/M/V)		Special Needs Education (4CA R14 - O901P/M/V)
Special Needs Education (4CA R14 - O901P/M/V)	Mathematic Education (404116 - O901P/M/V)		
Philosophy of Education (4CA R11 - O901P/M/V)	Natural Science Education (4CA R10 - O901P/M/V)		
Education Management (4CA R06 - O901P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CA R07 - O901P/M/V)		
Language Education (4CA R15 - O901P/M/V)	Language Education (4CA R15 - O901P/M/V)	Language Education (4CA R15 - O901P/M/V)	Language Education (4CA R15 - O901P/M/V)