



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

COMMUNIQUE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE APPLICANTS

01 February 2020

Dear Prospective UKZN Student,

I am delighted you have chosen, by virtue of your application, to further your studies at UKZN and hope to welcome you into our UKZN community in the coming months.

The first year of university is an exciting one - where students typically experience the most change, learning and development. Yet, starting university during the COVID-19 pandemic may feel particularly daunting. I want to reassure you that we have made the necessary changes to the manner in which we admit and register our students; deliver our courses and services; and use our campuses to keep everyone safe. In this letter, I have outlined the key events between now and the start of your semester (Tuesday, 23 March 2021), with guidance to support you on your journey.

Over the past 11 months, the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us to work in new ways to keep everyone safe while maintaining the continuity and quality of our degree courses. Although we were required by the national lockdown strictures to close our campuses during the largest part of 2020, we did so in an ordered manner, with a view to not compromise the safety of the UKZN community and minimise disruption to teaching and learning.

Both staff and students have been remarkably impressive in their adaptability in moving rapidly toward online teaching platforms. A transition on this scale at such short notice has had some teething issues, but all of the teaching and professional staff remain determined that no student should be disadvantaged by the provisions we have had to adopt. The substance and integrity of our degree courses have been sustained; and we now have the experience to ensure that we can continue in this mode until public health conditions allow us to fully re-open our campuses.

During the short period that South African universities were briefly permitted to re-open last year, UKZN took the same scrupulous care over the health and safety of its entire community, so when that moment arrives again, you can be assured that we will do so in a manner that is ordered, prepared and safe. For now, we must endure the ravages of another wave of the pandemic, and for that reason, we need to conduct all of our exchanges virtually from your off-campus location, including the annual registrations. Details of those arrangements are included below.

1. Waiting for your matric results

At this point, you have already done everything possible to ensure that you succeed in your matric exams. However, there is about a month to get through before you know whether you've made the grade and, for some, these next few weeks can be stressful. There are many actions you can take to help manage and reduce stress. Visit: <https://registration.ukzn.ac.za> to find out more.

2. Remote online admissions and registration processes

To safeguard against COVID-19, all UKZN admissions processes will be completed online and from remote locations. There will be no admissions and/or registration services or assistance available on any of our campuses. Further information will be published in due course via our website, radio stations, local newspapers and various social media platforms.

Please do not attempt to come onto any of our campuses until you have officially registered as a student and have received a permit to access campus. Unregistered persons will not be allowed onto any of our campuses and no in-person assistance will be available.

3. Release of the matric results

When the matric results are released on 23 February 2021 (as currently scheduled), they are also sent directly to the University. There is no need for you to send your matric results to us or to visit any of our campuses to submit a late application, or to enquire about the status of your application. All applicants will be able to check the status of their UKZN application via a link on the UKZN website, after the release of results.

4. Accepting a firm offer for a place to study at UKZN

The University has received in excess of 110 000 applications for just over 10 000 first entry places and the process of making offers may take up to three (3) weeks. If you do not receive an offer immediately, please be patient.

When you receive a firm offer (by email and SMS) from the University, you will be required to accept this offer within 72 hours. The procedures for accepting an offer will be detailed in the offer letter. Please ensure you carefully read all the instructions in the letter emailed to you.

5. Online registration

Once you have accepted our offer, you will be issued with data to enable you to access our online academic counselling services and to register online. I would urge you to make use of the available academic counselling services to obtain the necessary guidance regarding module selection and the online registration process. The remote online registration process opens on 8 March 2021 and closes on 1 April 2021. Once you have registered, you will receive further information to guide and assist you as necessary. For more information on online registration, visit: <https://registration.ukzn.ac.za>

6. Virtual Parents' Day

On Saturday, 13 March 2021, we will host a virtual Parents' Day event which is an opportunity for all parents and guardians to receive more information about how the University plans to partner with them (and their children) on the important journey of their children's education. Parents' Day will be broadcast on our website and via our Youtube channel.

On this day, parents will receive messages and important information from the leadership of the institution and other key stakeholders on:

- Teaching and Learning plans during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Financial matters;
- Health and safety measures on campus;
- A return to campus protocols video will be screened;
- Safety and security with Risk Management Services; and
- A virtual tour of the campuses and facilities.

7. First semester academic programme

You will officially commence your first semester academic activities on Tuesday, 23 March 2021, with an online orientation week to be hosted by your respective College and/or School.

Based on the current trajectory of COVID-19, it has become clear that the University will not be able to return to large scale face-to-face teaching at this stage. As a result, we will continue with online teaching and learning for the 1st semester of 2021. This decision will be reviewed as the situation regarding the pandemic unfolds and in line with government pronouncements and regulations.

The provision of data to students will continue and NSFAS funded students will be provided with laptops as part of their funding package.

Unfunded students will be assisted with acquiring laptops through various third party schemes that have been negotiated by the University.

I hope we will all be together on our campuses soon and that you will be able to make the most of all our facilities, whether it is by joining one of the diverse range of clubs and societies, signing up or taking part in social activities run by Colleges or other relevant departments, or simply meeting face-to-face with your fellow students.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Nana Poku

Vice-Chancellor and Principal

Mfundi onesifiso sokufunda e-UKZN,

Nginentokozo ngokuthi ukhethe i-UKZN njengokwesicelo sakho, ukuze uqhube izifundo zakho futhi nginethemba lokuthi ngizobe ngikwamukela e-UKZN ezinyangeni ezizayo.

Unyaka wokuqala enyuvesi ungunyaka othokozisa kakhulu lapho abafundi behlangabezana nezinguquko ezinkulu, ukufunda okuningi nentuthuko enkulu. Kodwa ukuqala ukufunda enyuvesi ngesikhathi sobhubhane i-COVID-19 kungabukeka kuyinselelo esikhethekile. Ngifisa ukunqinisekisa ngokuthi sikwenze konke okuyizinguquko ezifanele kwezokwamukelwa nokubhaliswa kwabafundi bethu, nokwethulwa kwezifundo nezidingo zabo, nokusetshenziswa kwamakhempasi ukuze kugcinwe wonke umuntu ephaphile. Kule ncwadi, ngibalule imicimbi ebalulekile kusukela manje kuze kufike isikhathi sokuqala kwezifundo zesimesta yakho (23 kuNdasa (March) 2021), ezokuhola ngokuzokweseka endleleni yakho.

Ezinyangeni eziyi-11 ezedlule, ubhubhane i-COVID-19 isinike inselelo yokusebenza ngezindlela ezintsha ezigcina wonke umuntu ephaphile futhi eziqinisekisa ukuqhubeka kwezifundo zeziqhu zethu. Noma besiyalelwe ngokwezimiso zikahulumeni ukuba sivale amakhempasi ethu ngesikhathi esiyingxenywe enkulu yonyaka wezi-2020, lokhu sikwenze ngendlela enokuhleleka ngoba sinombono wokuqinisekisa ukuphepha komphakathi wase-UKZN nokunciphisa amathuba okuphazamiseka kwezokufunda nokufundisa.

Abasebenzi nabafundi bakhombise okukhulu ukuzimisela ekusingatheni nokushesha ukwamukela uhlelo lokufunda kusetshenziswa izinhlelo zobuchwepheshe. Uguquko olungaka ngesikhathi esincane lube nezinkinga ekubhekanwe nazo, kodwa bonke abasebenzi abafundisayo nabaseka ezokufunda bazimisele ukuqinisekisa ukuthi akekho umfundi ozithola ephazamiseka ngenxa yalezi zinguquko esizibekile. Izinga eliphezulu nokuqokethwe ezifundweni zeziqhu zethu kuyaqhubeka nokuba ezingeni eliphezulu. Futhi manje sesinamava okuqinisekisa ukuthi singaqhubeka nale ndlela yokufunda kuze kufike isikhathi lapho ezempilo yomphakathi zisivumela ukuba siwavule amakhempasi ethu ngokugcwele.

Ngesikhathi esincane lapho amaNyuvesi aseNingizimu Afrika ayevunyelwe ukuvula ngonyaka odlule, i-UKZN ithathe izinyathelo zokuqikelela ezokuphepha nezempilo yomphakathi wonke waseNyuvesi. Ngakho uma lesi sikhathi sifika futhi, ungaqiniseka ukuthi lokhu sizokwenza ngendlela ehlelekile, elungiselelwe nephephile. Okwamanje kufanele sibhekane nokunye ukubhebhethaka kobhubhane - ngenxa yalesi sizathu, kufanele konke ukuxhumana kwethu kwenziwe ngobuchwepheshe sisezindaweni ezingaphandle kwamakhempasi, okuhlenganisa nokubhalisa. Imininingwane yezinhlelo ilapha ngezansi.

1. Ukulindela imiphumela yakho kamatikuletshe

Kulesi sikhathi usukwenze konke okufanele ukuze uqinisekise ukuthi uyaphumelela ezifundweni zakho zikamatikuletshe. Kodwa kusasele isikhathi esingangenyanga ngaphambi kokuphuma kwemiphumela, kwabanye, lawa masonto alandelayo azoba nengcindezi enkulu. Kuningi ongakwenza ukuze uphathe futhi unciphise ingcindezi, ukuze uthole eminye imininingwane ngena ku: <https://registration.ukzn.ac.za>

2. Izinhlelo zokwamukelwa nokubhalisa ngaphandle kwekhempasi

Ukuze sizivikele kwi-COVID-19, zonke izinhlelo zokwamukelwa kwabafundi e-UKZN zizokwenziwa ngobuchwepheshe nasezindaweni ezingaphandle kwekhempasi, futhi ngeke kube nazingalelo zokwamukelwa noma zokubhaliswa emakhempasini ethu wonke. Eminye imininingwane izotholakala esikhathini esizayo esizindalwazini sethu, emsakazweni, emaphandabeni nasezinkundleni zokuxhumana ezinhlobonhlobo.

Sicela ningazami ukuza emakhempasini ethu kuze kufike isikhathi lapho usubhalisile ngokugcwele njengomfundi futhi usunikezwe nemvume yokungena ekhempasini. Abangabhalisile ngeke bavunyelwe ukungena ekhempasini futhi akukho sizo oluzotholakala khona.

3. Ukukhishwa kwemiphumela kamatikuletsheni

Uma sekuphume imiphumela kamatikuletsheni ngomhla zingama-23 kuNhlolanja (February) 2021 (njengoba kuhleliwe) izothunyelwa ngqo naseNyuvesi. Asikho isidingo sokuba uthumele imiphumela yakho noma uye kumakhempasi ethu uyofaka isicelo sokubhaliswa. Bonke abafake izicelo bazokwazi ukuzibheka ngokusebenzisa ilinki ekwisizindalwazi sase-UKZN, emva kokuphuma kwemiphumela.

4. Ukwamukela isimemo sokuzofunda eNyuvesi

INyuvesi ithole izicelo ezevile kwi-110 000 ezikheleni eziyi-10 000 zonyaka wokuqala kanti nesikhathi sokukhishwa kwezimemo kungathatha isikhathi esingafinyelela emasontweni amathathu (3). Uma ungakatholi simemo, sicela ulinde.

Uma uthola isimemo (nge-imeyili noma i-sms) esikhishwe yiNyuvesi kuzodingeka usamukele kungakapheli amahora angama-72. Inqubo yokwamukela isimemo izocaciswa encwadini yesimemo. Sicela ufundise yonke imiyalelo ozothunyelwa yona kule ncwadi.

5. Ukubhalisa ngobuchwepheshe

Uma sewusamukele isimemo sethu uzonikwa i-data ukuze ukwazi ukuthola ukwelulekwa ngezokufunda futhi ubhalise ngobuchwepheshe. Nginyanikhuthaza ukuba nisebenzise uhlelo lokululekwa ngokukhethwa kwezifundo nohlelo lokubhalisa ngobuchwepheshe. Uhlelo lokubhalisa ngobuchwepheshe luzovulwa ngomhla we- 8 kuNdasas (March) 2021 futhi luvale ngomhla lu-1 kuMbasa (April) 2021. Uma usubhalisile uzonikwa eminye imininingwane ezokulekelela ngokuzolandela. Uma udinga eminye imininingwane ngokubhalisa ngobuchwepheshe vakashela ku: <https://registration.ukzn.ac.za>

6. Usuku lwabazali

NgoMgqibelo mhla ziyi-13 kuNdasas (March) 2021, sizoba nosuku lwabazali lapho abazali bonke bezoba nethuba lokuthola imininingwane mayelana nezinhlelo zeNyuvesi zokubambisana nabo nabafundi kuloluhambo olubalulekile. Usuku lwabazali luzosakazwa kwisizindalwazi sethu nakwi-Youtube Channel yethu.

Kulolu suku, abazali bazothola imiyalezo nolwazi olubalulekile kubaphathi besikhungo nabanye ababambe iqhaza ngaphansi kwalezi zihloko:

- Izinhlelo zezokufunda nokufundisa ngesikhathi sobhubhane
- Ezezimali
- Ezempilo nezokuphepha ekhempasini
- Ividiyo yemigomo yokubuyela ekhempasini izobukwa
- Ezokuphepha nezokuqapha ngabakwa-Risk Management Services
- Nohambo ngobuchwepheshe lokuvakashela amakhempasi nazo zonke izinsiza ezikhona

7. Uhlelo lwezokufunda lwesimesta yokuqala

Okwezokufunda kwesimesta yokuqala kuzoqala ngoLwesibili, 23 kuNdasas (March) 2021, nesonto lokujwayeza oluzokwenziwa yiKolishi kanye/noma iSikole.

Ngokwesimo esilindelekile se-COVID-19 kuyacaca ukuthi iNyuvesi ngeke ibuyele ekufundiseni ubuso nobuso okwamanje. Ngenxa yalokhu, sisazoqhubeka nokufunda sisebenzisa ubuchwepheshe ngesimesta yokuqala enyakeni wezi-2021. Lesi sinqumo sizobuyekezwa ngokuqhubeka kwesikhathi futhi ngokuhambelana nokumenyenzelwa uhulumeni kanye nemigomo.

Ukuhlinzekwa kwabafundi nge-data kuzoqhubeka nabafundi abaxhaswe yi-NSFAS bazohlinzekwa ngama-laptops njengengxenywe yohlelo lokuxhaswa kwabo. Abafundi abangaxhasiwe bazokwelekelelwa ukuze bathole ama-laptop ngezindlela ezilungiselelwe yiNyuvesi.

Ngithemba ukuthi sizobe sisonke ekhempasini maduzane nje nokuthi nizozisebenzisa zonke izinsiza ezihlinzekiwe, okungaba ukujoyina izinhlangano ezinhlobonhobo, ukubhalisela noma ukubamba iqhaza emicimbini yethu ehlelwa amaKolishi noma iminyango ekhona, noma ukuhlangana ubuso nobuso nabafundi abanye.

Ozithobayo,

Solwazi Nana Poku

ISekelashansela NoMphathi