



Faculty of  
Health Sciences



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**DOCTOR OF  
PHILOSOPHY IN  
SOCIAL WORK  
PROGRAMME  
(NORTH-WEST  
UNIVERSITY)**

# ADMISSION TO THE PhD IN SOCIAL WORK

## 1. Admission Criteria

### From the Yearbook:

**Programme: Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work**

**Qualification code: 8CE R01**

**Faculty specific rules and requirements of the programme**

- a) Admission to this programme/curriculum takes place after obtaining the master's degree in social work on NQF level 9.
- b) Consideration will be given to the student's previous academic performance. (Candidates must have achieved an average of 65% in the master's degree).
- c) Completion of an academic literacy test or equivalent assessment to demonstrate reading and writing ability may be required, the final scores of which should be above 60%.
- d) Each applicant will be subjected to a selection interview conducted by the post graduate panel of the subject group. For this purpose, a structured interview schedule will be used, and the average of panellist's ratings will serve as selection criterion.
- e) Submission of a shortened (draft) research proposal will serve as final selection criterion.
- f) Students registering for this programme/curriculum should supply proof of registration as a social worker according to the Act on Social Service Professions (Act 110 of 1978).
- g) Prospective applicants may have to complete and pass a short refresher course in research methods.

### 1.1. Duration

The minimum duration for the study is two years and the maximum duration three years, calculated from the date of first registration for the programme. The faculty's decision is based on the current subsidy model for universities and may differ from other faculties or regulations.

Students who apply for an additional study year according to the Academic rules of the University, must note that it will have financial implications for them.

## 1.2. Admission Requirements

A master's degree in social work on NQF level 9 is essential for admission to a doctoral degree.

## 2. The Application Process

Complete and submit the official NWU PhD application form

This is available at <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies/higher-degree-admissions> or contact:

Ms Marietjie Ackermann (HDA Section Head)

Tel: 018 299 4043

Email: [Marietjie.Ackermann@nwu.ac.za](mailto:Marietjie.Ackermann@nwu.ac.za)

**Or**

Ms Lauren Delpont (Potchefstroom Campus HDA Coordinator)

Tel: 018 299 4274

E-mail: [Lauren.Delpont@nwu.ac.za](mailto:Lauren.Delpont@nwu.ac.za)

**PLEASE NOTE** that this document should be sent to the address indicated on the form, and not to myself or anyone at the NWU Department of Social Work.

## 3. International Applicants

Applicants from abroad will only be allowed to register as a PhD student at the NWU after acquiring a valid South African study permit. Please contact Mrs Annelishé van der Spoel ([Annelishe.VanDerSpoel@nwu.ac.za](mailto:Annelishe.VanDerSpoel@nwu.ac.za)) or at +27 18 299 2919) for assistance in this regard.

Applicants will also be required to provide a SAQA (South African Qualification Authority) certificate as proof of equivalence for all qualifications obtained abroad. You can apply for such accreditation at

<https://www.saqa.org.za/evaluation-foreign-qualifications>.

## 4. Financial Assistance

The North-West University offers a number of bursaries and loans for postgraduate studies. Information on availability and application processes can be found at <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/studies/bursaries-and-loans>

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.

We are looking forward to receiving your application.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Wim Roestenburg

**For any further  
information, please  
contact:**

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PhD Social Work  
School of Psychosocial Health  
**North-West University:**  
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