



South African Radio Astronomy Observatory

Application Guide for an Undergraduate Scholarship to Study at Sol Plaatje University in 2024

Read this Guide Carefully Before Completing an Application Form

Closing Date for Applications: 30 September 2023

1. Who can apply for a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship to study at Sol Plaatje University (SPU) in 2024

- 1.1. Students who are from one of the following towns in the Northern Cape Province:
 - 1.1.1. Brandvlei
 - 1.1.2. Frasersburg
 - 1.1.3. Williston
 - 1.1.4. Carnarvon
 - 1.1.5. Vanwyksvlei
 - 1.1.6. Vosburg
 - 1.1.7. Loxton
 - 1.1.8. Victoria West
- 1.2. Students who have applied to SPU to study, OR are currently studying at SPU, one of the following qualifications:
 - 1.2.1. Diploma in Information and Communication Technology
 - 1.2.2. Advanced Diploma in Information and Communication Technology
 - 1.2.3. Bachelor of Arts
 - 1.2.4. Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting
 - 1.2.5. Bachelor of Commerce in Economics
 - 1.2.6. Bachelor of Education (Foundation Phase, Intermediate Phase or Senior Phase)
 - 1.2.7. Postgraduate Certificate in Education
 - 1.2.8. Bachelor of Science (Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences)
 - 1.2.9. Bachelor of Data Science
- 1.3. In the case where a student has completed Grade 12, but is not registered for one of the qualifications listed above, the student must have completed Grade 12 in 2021 or in 2022.

2. Value of a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship to study at Sol Plaatje University in 2024

The 2024 undergraduate scholarship level is R168 000. In addition to the scholarship, students are eligible for a once-off laptop grant of R12 000.

3. Period of support for a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship to study at Sol Plaatje University

The duration of a SARAO undergraduate scholarship to study at SPU will be equal to the minimum number of years for completion prescribed for the qualification selected by student.

4. How to apply for a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship to study at Sol Plaatje University

- 4.1. Students must download an application form from <https://www.sarao.ac.za/students/funding/>, and complete the application form in full. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 4.2. The following documents must be attached to your application form (applications without the required documents will NOT be considered):
 - 4.2.1. A copy of your South African ID card
 - 4.2.2. Academic results:
 - If you are in Grade 12 now (in 2023), submit a copy of your final Grade 11 results, and your most recent Grade 12 results.
 - If you completed Grade 12 in 2021 or in 2022, but are not studying, submit a copy of your final Grade 11 and Grade 12 results.
 - If you are currently enrolled at SPU and are studying one of the qualifications listed in Section 1.2, then submit a copy of your final Grade 11 and Grade 12 results, as well as a copy of all your SPU results from first year until now.
 - 4.2.3. Proof that you have applied for, or are registered for, one of the qualifications at SPU listed in Section 1.2.
 - 4.2.4. A motivation of at least 1000 words, written by you, describing your background (where you grew up, and went to school), who has had the most influence on you in your life, your academic and other achievements, why you chose to study the qualification you have applied for/registered for, your career aspirations, as well as why you think you deserve to be awarded a SARAO undergraduate scholarship to study at SPU in 2024.
 - 4.2.5. Two letters of reference. At least one of the letters of reference must be from a school teacher or university lecturer. The other letter of reference can be from a member of your community. Letters of reference must be on the relevant letter heads, and must testify to your academic achievements and your potential to succeed at university, as well as include information on your positive qualities and abilities, and why you are deserving of a SARAO undergraduate scholarship to study at SPU in 2024.
- 4.3. The closing date for applications is 17h00 on 30 September 2023.
- 4.4. Completed applications, together with the required documents, must be emailed to **mjodwana@sarao.ac.za** OR delivered to the **SARAO Carnarvon Information Centre, Corner Victoria and Hanau Street, Carnarvon, 8925 c/o Chantel Mathison.**
- 4.5. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.
- 4.6. Successful applicants will be notified by 20 January 2024. If you have not heard from SARAO by 31 January 2024, please assume that your application was NOT successful.

5. Who to contact at SARAO if you have questions about a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship application to study at Sol Plaatje University

- 5.1. Chantel Mathison on (053) 382-5010 or cmathison@sarao.ac.za
- 5.2. Mkhululi Jodwana on (011) 268-3412 or mjodwana@sarao.ac.za

6. Terms and Conditions of a SARAO Undergraduate Scholarship

If you are awarded a SARAO undergraduate scholarship to study at SPU in 2024, you will be required to agree to the following terms and conditions:

- 6.1. Students are required to sign and submit to SARAO the conditions of a SARAO undergraduate scholarship. Students are also required to submit proof of their registration at SPU, to SARAO. No funds for a scholarship will be released until SARAO has received the signed conditions of scholarship, as well as their proof of registration at SPU.
- 6.2. A scholarship from SARAO is renewable each year, for the minimum completion time prescribed for the qualification selected by student, at the sole discretion of SARAO, and subject to satisfactory academic performance. Students must achieve a minimum of 60% average in their mid-year and year-end exams. Students are required to submit their mid-year and year-end university transcripts for evaluation to SARAO. Students who do not obtain a minimum of 60% average may not receive further funding from SARAO.
- 6.3. Students who do not obtain the qualification for which the scholarship was awarded, relinquish their studies, or leave the tertiary institution during the period for which the scholarship was awarded, will have to refund all payments of the scholarship already paid to them.
- 6.4. Students are allowed to hold supplementary grants with this scholarship, up to a maximum of 50% of SARAO scholarship, but the student must inform SARAO, via his/her university, of such awards.
- 6.5. If a student wishes to change his / her field of study for which the scholarship was offered, he / she must provide a motivation to SARAO for approval, prior to any changes. SARAO is under no obligation to continue the scholarship if the changes do not align with the original criteria on which the scholarship offer was made.
- 6.6. On completion of the studies supported by means of this scholarship, students are required to submit a copy of their qualification certificate to SARAO.
- 6.7. All undergraduate students who have been awarded a SARAO scholarship for the first time are required to attend an induction workshop.