

UJenius Club

Top Achieving Students



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

2024

Pocket Guide

The Future
Reimagined

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1. WHAT IS THE UJENIUS CLUB?

The UJenius Club is a Vice-Chancellor's initiative to acknowledge outstanding academic performance by undergraduate students, and to offer members additional opportunities for intellectual and professional development. The UJenius Club focuses on:

1. Acknowledging and promoting academic excellence as a core component of the UJ student identity.
2. Bringing together students from a diverse range of disciplines to stimulate interdisciplinary discussion and collaboration.
3. Promoting the UJ values.
4. Creating chances for UJenius Club members, from different faculties and campuses, to be able to interact with one another, and to build partnerships and friendships.
5. Creating opportunities for closer contact with members of the broader UJ community.
6. Providing UJenius members with privileged connections and benefits, given their academic performance.

1.1 How are you selected to be in the UJenius Club?

After first-year registration, Orange Carpet members become members of the UJenius Club, which hosts all of UJ's top achieving students.

To join or keep UJenius Club membership, you must have achieved an average of 75% in the preceding year, on a full course load, and with no module below 70%. Also, second-, third- and final-year students are nominated for membership into the UJenius Club by their respective faculties or college.

Furthermore, in order to qualify for UJenius membership, 100% registration and completion of all subjects are required for the specific qualification and study period registered for according to the UJ prospectus.

Therefore, you must have passed all the required modules of a particular year level for that specific academic programme in the previous year, i.e.:

- To qualify for membership in the second year of study, you must have passed all the first-year modules for the specific academic programme that you are registered for.
- To qualify for membership in the third year of study, you must have passed

all the second-year modules for the specific academic programme that you are registered for.

- To qualify for membership in the fourth year of study (in the case of 4-year undergraduate degrees), you must have passed all the third-year modules for the specific academic programme that you are registered for.

This also includes extended programmes, BTechs and PGCEs (but not Honours), other postgraduate programmes below Masters, Masters, PhD or occasional programmes in each of the following Faculties or the College at UJ:

- College of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment
- Faculty of Health Sciences
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Science

Students are usually informed and welcomed by email. Membership for the Club is reviewed on an annual basis.

1.2 What part of UJ does UJenius fall under?

UJenius is a partnership between the Division of Academic Development and Support (ADS), the seven faculties and CBE. The overall coordinator is Professor Thea de Wet, Acting Director of the Centre for Academic Technologies (CAT), in collaboration with other colleagues from ADS.

1.3 When did UJenius begin?

The initiative was first approved by Senate in 2010 and was piloted as the 'Top Achievers' Club' in 2011. In 2012, a high-profile welcome event served as the launch for the name change of the Club to 'UJenius'. Since 2012, alongside annual UJenius events, the UJenius Club has developed new partnerships with a number of broader UJ structures to provide Club members with privileged benefits and special events.

1.4 What does it mean to be part of the Club?

In 2024 the UJenius Club is hoping to continue to develop a special relationship with top performers, seeking to contribute to their further academic and professional development, while offering benefits and opportunities for members to find ways to connect with other UJ stakeholders. This means that UJenius members will be able to access benefits as a result of a number of old and new partnerships between the UJenius Club and other UJ stakeholders. Over and above these benefits, UJenius members will also receive rewards for their academic achievements, which may include:

- A certificate outlining the achievement of the UJenius Club member, which can be used when seeking employment.
- Opportunities to listen to, and network with, high quality guest speakers and leaders in a variety of fields.
- Invitations to prestigious social functions and opportunities where UJenius members are prioritised for selection.
- Invitations to various workshops, focused on self-development as well as preparation for the world of work.

1.5 Does the UJenius Club offer any bursaries?

The UJenius Club does not currently offer its own bursaries. However, most UJenius students (because of their incredible academic achievements), meet the criteria for UJ's Academic Merit Bursaries (which are applicable to tuition only, based on academic performance).

These bursaries are usually allocated to a student's account by the end of August each year.

The following process will be implemented by Student Finance as soon as the selection of UJenius Club members for 2024 is finalised:

- A list of all the senior students who are eligible to join the UJenius Club will be sent to Student Finance.
- The Bursary Office will verify the eligibility, code the students for reporting and identification purposes and unblock eligible students for registration.
- The following criteria will be used when assessing the students' eligibility:
 - 100% full bursary for students who obtain 85% and above (full

- course load and no subject below 70%).
 - 75% bursary for students who achieve between 80% and 85% (full course load and no subject below 70%).
 - 50% bursary for students who achieve between 75% and 80% (full course load and no subject below 70%).
- Bursaries for all senior students will be allocated on or before 31 August 2024.

Please note:

- If students cancel their studies at the end of the first semester, the second half of the bursary (in respect of the second semester) will not be paid out.
- If students cancel their studies before writing the June examinations, the bursary will be cancelled for the relevant semester: in other words, the whole UJ bursary will be cancelled.
- Students who possess **other internal and external funding** that exceeds the university's maximum value **will not be eligible for a merit bursary**. This amount will be determined by Student Finance on an annual basis.
- In the event that the other bursary does not cover the full cost of study for the academic year, a "top-up" merit bursary will be awarded to qualifying students up to the maximum value as determined by the University.

Please find below the refund process that will be implemented for UJenius Club members:

- Students who possess other internal or external funding that covers full tuition fees and all allowances will not be eligible for the refund (according to UJenius guidelines) - **UJ merit bursary is to be reversed**.
- Cash-paying students are eligible for the full refund provided all necessary documents are submitted.

The refund process takes up to 14 working days. Should students not receive feedback after 14 working days, they may follow up with the refund office.

1.6 How can I get more information about UJenius?

To find out more about the UJenius Club, you may contact your respective Faculty or College, or send an email to the UJenius Team at ujenius@uj.ac.za. For urgent queries, contact the UJenius Office at the Centre for Academic Technologies (CAT), D Ring 322, APK on 011 559 4522.

The UJenius Club also uses social media platforms to connect with its club members. If you are a current UJenius Club member, you will be able to join the closed UJenius Facebook and WhatsApp Groups. This can be done by requesting to join directly via Facebook, or by following a link that is sent out regularly via email. The UJenius Team shares news, updates and important information on these platforms.

2. UJENIUS PARTNERS

The UJenius Club has partnered with a number of essential UJ stakeholders, and in this way has maximised the way in which UJenius Club members can receive benefits for their outstanding academic achievements. These benefits are listed under each UJ stakeholder section in the rest of this guide.

2.1 Faculties

UJenius members represent all seven Faculties and the CBE at UJ. Each Faculty has a wide variety of activities set aside for their top achievers.

The UJenius Club is also hoping to establish specific Faculty representatives within each Faculty that will be committed to assisting the UJenius members with their queries or concerns. This partnership means that UJenius Club members might benefit in the following ways:

- Acknowledgement of academic performance at a Departmental level.
- Invitations to Faculty/College events and seminars.
- Prioritised appointments as tutors and mentors.
- Vacation placements.
- Participation in competitions of various types.
- Sponsorships to attend various conferences.

2.2 Alumni Networks

The UJ Alumni Network aims to develop dedicated and committed cohorts of UJ alumni to support UJ in the quest to become a premier African university. The Alumni Network seeks to foster alumni who are supportive, engaged and contributing to the reputation of the University of Johannesburg. As such, the Alumni Network provides a range of opportunities for current and graduated UJ students to stay involved and contribute to the life of the university. Indeed, the involvement of alumni is crucial to the health and strength of UJ, because alumni provide important ties between the past and the present, but also building blocks for the future of UJ. Student membership to the Alumni Network affords current UJ students opportunities to develop leadership skills, network for career development, have fun, reap the benefits of internships, job placements and possible bursary options; as well as opportunities to give back to the community through participation in community service projects. The partnership between UJenius and the Alumni Network means that UJenius Club members benefit in the following ways:

- UJenius Club members will become their own affinity group; allowing for continued connection and opportunities to engage with other UJenius Club members.
- To find out more about the Alumni Network and other opportunities they offer, visit <http://www.uj.ac.za> or contact the office at alumni@uj.ac.za.

2.3 Library and Information Services

The Library is a gateway to a wealth of information! In fact, the Library is a student's best friend because it can help students find all the information and facilities they need to excel academically. The Library offers students across all campuses study spaces, access to electronic resources, Wi-Fi, facilities to photocopy and print, and of course, books.

To find out more about the Library, and to access additional Library tools, visit the Library webpage at <http://www.uj.ac.za/library>.

2.4 PsyCaD

UJ's Centre for Psychological Services and Career Development (PsyCaD) offers various career development services across all four UJ campuses to enrolled students and external clients. These services include career assessments, career counselling and education, access to comprehensive career resource centres, a job portal and various graduate recruitment programmes. Furthermore, PsyCaD Career Services provides students with opportunities to prepare and develop their employability skill-set, while linking students to incredible employment opportunities. In light of this, UJenius was very glad to partner with PsyCaD for the long-term benefit of UJenius Club members. This partnership means that:

- UJenius Club members have the privileged opportunity to be put into contact with prospective employers; and where interview processes might possibly be facilitated by PsyCaD.
- Members also have the opportunity to attend the career fair and career-related workshops, to ensure that members are well-groomed for employment prospects.

For more information on the activities and services offered by PsyCaD, visit <http://www.uj.ac.za> and follow the links to PsyCaD.

Alternatively, you can follow PsyCaD Career Services on X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook at the following links:

- [@UJCareerServices](https://x.com/UJCareerService)
- www.facebook.com/PsyCaDCareerServices

2.5 Community Engagement

Community Engagement at UJ seeks to offer student talents, energies and time to the broader community, to contribute meaningfully to society. One of the primary ways UJ is able to perform such important work is through student volunteers. UJenius members are able to individually sign up as a student volunteer in order to work in private, government or non-governmental institutions of their choosing. UJenius members are able to join together for a group project for Mandela Day. This will be an opportunity to get together in a fun way while offering something significant to others. For more information, contact community@uj.ac.za.

2.6 Future Partnerships

UJenius is still in the process of establishing partnerships with UJ stakeholders in order for UJenius Club members to receive maximum rewards from the University. The UJenius Club Team will inform you of the developments and what this might mean for you as a top achiever.

3. UPCOMING UJENIUS EVENTS

The UJenius Club has set aside a few dates in the year to host specific UJenius events. These are opportunities for you to mingle with other UJenius students, speakers and guests. All these events hope to contribute to your academic, professional and social development, as well as your overall enjoyment of UJ.

All event information will be sent to you via email. Make sure you check your emails regularly and that the UJenius Club has your correct email address.

4. STUDENT FINANCE CONTACT DETAILS



Auckland Park Kingsway Campus (APK)

+27 11 559 3411 or +27 11 559 4436

studentaccounts@uj.ac.za

Website: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/>



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