

## NEWS RELEASE

### UP secures 100% pass rate in SAICA's IAC for third consecutive year



*Some of the 2025 January ICA candidates from UP.*

PRETORIA - The University of Pretoria (UP) has once again secured a 100% pass rate in the [South African Institute of Chartered Accountants'](#) (SAICA) first professional examination, the [Initial Assessment of Competence \(IAC\)](#), the [results](#) of which were released on Friday, 4 April 2025. This is the third consecutive year in which UP candidates achieved a 100% overall pass rate.

Of the 20 candidates in the country that passed this year's IAC with honours, 25% are from UP including Chloë van Niekerk – who was not only the top candidate among the five but was also placed on SAICA's top 10 roll, Zoe Kiggen, Nhlohetelo Maluleke, Kyle van Loggerenberg and Elné Worst.

A total of 3 198 candidates wrote the January examination and 2 251 passed; the overall national pass rate was

70% (67% in 2024). Successful UP candidates increased by 11,8% in 2025, from 204 in 2024 to 228 in 2025. UP's pass rates have continued to be consistent over the past 20 years, with the University attaining an average first-time pass rate of about 95% over this period.

Professor Margaret Chitiga-Mabugu, Dean of the [Faculty of the Economic and Management Sciences \(EMS\)](#) expressed delight over the outstanding results, hailing the Department of Financial Sciences' staff for their commitment to teaching and learning excellence.

"We are once again proud to celebrate the outstanding success of our students in the latest SAICA IAC results," Prof Chitiga-Mabugu says. "Their achievements are a testament to their perseverance and the support of our dedicated academic team. These results reaffirm our faculty's commitment to producing future-ready chartered accountants of the highest calibre. We remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence in commerce education. UP continues to set the benchmark for accountancy education in South Africa."

Prof Madeleine Stiglingh, Head of the [CA Programme at UP](#) echoing Prof Chitiga-Mabugu's sentiments said: "The outstanding results achieved by this cohort is a testament to their resilience and agility, but more than that, it is evidence of the dedication and care of all staff members who contribute to UP's CA Programme. We are also grateful for the support of the Faculty of EMS management and the University's top management, which has contributed to the resounding success of our CA programme."

UP is particularly pleased that its cohort of African, Coloured and Indian candidates secured a 100% pass rate, considering that the national pass rate for this group is 64%. The growth in the number of transformation candidates from UP increased by 18% year on year. The CA Programme is committed to growing this number.

"Well done to our students for their excellent performance in the SAICA IAC," says Prof Francis Petersen, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of UP. "They continue to inspire and uphold the high standards we set at UP. This success reflects the quality of our academic offering and our commitment to nurturing future leaders in chartered accountancy. We applaud their hard work and determination, and are truly proud of them."

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## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

The University of Pretoria (UP) is one of the largest contact and residential universities in South Africa, with its administration offices located on its Hatfield Campus in Pretoria. This 115-year-old institution is also one of the largest producers of research in South Africa.

Spread over seven campuses, it has nine faculties and a business school, the [Gordon Institute of Business Science](#) (GIBS). It is the only university in the country with a [Faculty of Veterinary Science](#), which is ranked the best in Africa. UP has 120 academic departments and 92 centres and institutes, accommodating more than

56 000 students and offering about 1 100 study programmes. It has the most academic staff with PhDs (70%), NRF-rated researchers (613).

The 2025 Times Higher Education subject rankings placed UP first in South Africa in the fields of [Accounting](#) and [Finance](#); [Architecture](#); [Electrical and Electronic Engineering](#); Law; Sport Science; and Veterinary Science. UP's Faculty of Law has been ranked as the top law school in Africa for a remarkable eighth consecutive year.

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) ranked the University among the top five in Africa, as part of their [2024 World University Rankings \(WUR\)](#). UP was the only South African university featured in the [2023 World University Rankings for Innovation \(WURI\)](#), falling within in the 101-200 range of innovative universities.

For more information, please go to [www.up.ac.za](http://www.up.ac.za)