



CALL FOR 2027 APPLICATIONS

STUDENT CURRICULUM LEKGOTLA LEADERSHIP TEAM

The National Student Curriculum Lekgotla Leadership, with the UCT Faculty of Health Sciences Deanery, invites applications for appointment as SCL Leads and working group members. The call is open to eligible undergraduate students across all programmes in the Faculty, including current members of the SCL UCT Working Group and Fellows who wish to continue serving in 2027.

Opens 15 July 2026
Closes 5 August 2026

Background

The Student Curriculum Lekgotla (SCL) is a student-led, faculty-supported structure established to strengthen sustained and accountable student participation in curriculum development, review and transformation. It creates formal channels through which student experience can be gathered, analysed and translated into constructive proposals, projects and institutional dialogue. The SCL works across programmes and professional disciplines, while maintaining relationships with student governance, Faculty leadership, recent graduates and national and continental partners in health professions education.

Core purpose of the appointments

The appointed team will lead and coordinate the SCL's work at UCT. Its central responsibility is to ensure that student engagement moves beyond episodic consultation: priorities must be identified through credible feedback processes, developed using evidence and dialogue, assigned to accountable workstreams, communicated to the appropriate structures and followed through to a documented outcome. The team will also maintain the SCL's operations, institutional memory, partnerships and portfolio of student-led health professions education initiatives.

Leadership structure

SCL Lead and Convenor (Executive Leadership)

Exco provide overall strategic and operational leadership. They convene the leadership team, oversee workplans and reporting, allocate responsibilities, maintain relationships with the Deanery and Faculty structures, and ensure that portfolio work remains aligned with the SCL Charter and Terms of Reference.

Portfolio/Program Leads

Portfolio Leads are accountable for defined areas of work and associated deliverables. Portfolios will be confirmed following selection and may include operations and governance; student engagement and feedback; fellowship and leadership development; scholarship, research and evaluation; health professions education initiatives; communications and institutional memory; and national or continental partnerships.

Key performance areas

- Governance and operations — prepare and convene meetings; maintain agendas, minutes, action registers, project plans, records and internal communications; and ensure timely follow-through on agreed work.
- Student engagement and feedback — establish accessible feedback mechanisms, working groups and deliberative forums; synthesise student perspectives across programmes, years and priority themes; and close the feedback loop with contributors.
- Curriculum partnership — work constructively with the Deanery, Faculty leadership and programme teams; contribute to curriculum-transformation workshops and committees; and support designated SCL representation at Faculty Board and related governance spaces.
- Programmes and projects — facilitate and further develop the Developing Disruptive Practitioner Fellowship and inclusive health professions education initiatives, including Truth, Memory and Medicine and new work approved by the leadership team.
- Advisory relationships — maintain effective working relationships with the Health Sciences Students' Council, Staff Advisory Board and Graduate Advisory Board; obtain appropriate advice and incorporate graduate perspectives into curriculum discussions.
- Scholarship and institutional memory — read and synthesise evidence, prepare briefs and submissions, evaluate initiatives, document decisions and learning, and contribute where appropriate to presentations, reports or scholarly outputs.
- National and continental engagement — liaise with relevant bodies and partners, including the South African Committee of Medical Deans; the Consortium of Medical Schools-Africa, contribute to the formation of the Steve Biko Student Network for Medical Education; and advance the broader Advancing Medical Education in Africa agenda.



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Minimum requirements

- Registered undergraduate student in the UCT Faculty of Health Sciences during 2027, may be in the final year of the programme during 2027.
- Demonstrated reliability, integrity, initiative and the ability to organise work and meet agreed deadlines.
- Ability to communicate clearly and professionally in writing and discussion, including with peers and senior institutional stakeholders.
- Ability to work respectfully across disciplines, identities and differences of opinion, receive feedback and contribute to collective decision-making.
- Willingness to read, write, facilitate, undertake administrative work and learn unfamiliar skills where required by the portfolio.
- Capacity to participate consistently for the duration of the appointment and to communicate promptly when academic, clinical or personal demands affect availability.

The following would be advantageous

Experience in student representation, project coordination, meeting administration, facilitation, academic writing, research, evaluation, communications, curriculum work or health professions education. These are not prerequisites: applicants who demonstrate potential, sound judgement and a serious commitment to learning through practice are encouraged to apply.

Participation and accountability

- Attend and prepare for scheduled leadership meetings, ordinarily held monthly during the academic year, as well as portfolio and stakeholder meetings where relevant.
- Complete agreed responsibilities between meetings and maintain the records required for continuity, handover and institutional memory.
- Participate in induction and planning, adopt the SCL Charter and Terms of Reference, and comply with applicable Faculty policies, confidentiality requirements and standards of professional conduct.
- Participate in periodic reflection and performance review. Continued appointment is subject to satisfactory engagement, academic eligibility and adherence to the Terms of Reference.

The workload will vary by portfolio and point in the academic year. Applicants should expect regular work between meetings, with additional activity during consultations, fellowship delivery, Faculty processes and major project periods. The responsibilities are distributed across the team; individual appointees will not be expected to lead every area listed in this call.

Term and transition

Appointments will ordinarily run from January 2027 to December 2028. A student who graduates during the term will cease to hold an undergraduate leadership position and may transition to the Graduate Advisory Board in accordance with the applicable Terms of Reference. All appointments remain subject to annual confirmation of eligibility and satisfactory participation.

Development and recognition

Appointees will gain practical experience in institutional governance, curriculum development, student–staff partnership, health professions education and systems transformation. The role includes mentorship and opportunities to strengthen facilitation, research, writing, project management and public engagement. Depending on portfolio work and performance, members may contribute to Faculty-level processes, scholarly outputs and selected national or international engagements. Participation does not guarantee travel, publication or external representation.

Selection and appointment process

- Applications will be assessed against eligibility, motivation, demonstrated reliability, role understanding, relevant experience or development potential, and the needs of a multidisciplinary team.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a brief interview with representatives of the SCL Executive Leadership and Faculty partners.
- Successful applicants will receive a portfolio allocation, complete induction and formally adopt the Terms of Reference before assuming office.
- Current members of the SCL Working Group are not automatically carried into the 2027 team and must submit an application if they wish to continue.
- The selection panel will seek a multidisciplinary team and reserves the right not to fill every portfolio.



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN | FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
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How to apply

1. Read this call carefully and consider your capacity to undertake an active two-year leadership role.
2. Complete the online application form in full. The form requests your programme and year of study, relevant involvement, motivation, an example of reliable follow-through, portfolio interests, an initial curriculum priority and your anticipated availability.
3. Submit the application by the **5 August 2026**. Incomplete or late applications may not be considered.

APPLY ONLINE

Application form: <https://forms.gle/z61rsNphTVk6r6Ca9>

Selection details and interview arrangements will be provided on application