



FAWE/MASTERCARD FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY BRIDGING PROGRAMME BURSARIES DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR FEMALE APPLICANTS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AND REFUGEES

The Forum for African Women Educationalists in Malawi (FAWEMA) is pleased to announce that the application deadline has been extended for female applicants, Persons with Disability and refugees to apply for University Bridging Programme bursaries at partner universities in Malawi under the FAWE/Mastercard Foundation Programme.

This extension is specifically aimed at giving more female candidates, Persons with Disability and refugees the opportunity to apply and increase their chances of entering university.

There are 750 bursaries (80% female and 20% male) which include 15% Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and refugees available for youths willing to increase their chances of competitive entry into university to pursue 4-year Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related courses at selected universities.

The fully funded programme targets young people who are eager to strengthen their academic readiness and improve their chances of admission into university to pursue 4-year degree programmes in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) at selected universities.

WHO CAN APPLY

- i. Young women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, living with disabilities, refugees, HIV/AIDS-affected, orphaned (total or partial) are encouraged to apply.
- ii. Must be aged between 15 - 25 years.
- iii. Must possess Malawi School Certificate of Education with six credits including English. Certificate must have been acquired within the past five years.
- iv. Must show proof of vulnerability as explained in the application form.
- v. Must not be current beneficiary of any other bursary scheme or similar bursary elsewhere.
- vi. Must commit to successfully completing the fully funded bridging program before being sponsored for a 4-year degree program at one of the following universities:
 - Catholic University (CUNIMA)
 - Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)
 - Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST)
 - Mzuzu University (MZUNI)
 - University of Livingstonia (UNILIA)
 - University of Malawi (UNIMA)

HOW TO APPLY

- Download Application form from the FAWEMA website: www.fawema.org.
- You can also obtain a hard copy application form from the secondary school cluster centre or District Education offices across the country or get more information from your nearest secondary school.
- Complete the application form fully
- Attach a copy of your MSCE
- Attach recommendation letters from the head of your previous school or district social welfare officer or traditional leader from your community
- Attach a copy of your National Identity card
- Those of refugee status should attach certified Refugee Certificate.
- Submit your application form and all attachments to the Secondary School Cluster Centre.
- Alternatively, send your application form and all required attachments to recruitment@fawema.org



NOTE:

The application forms are **FREE OF CHARGE**. NO fees/facilitation or intermediaries are required at any stage of the selection process. Inaccurate information or misinterpretation of any part of the application, falsification or incomplete application and any attempt to influence the process will lead to automatic disqualification.

The bursary comes with comprehensive financial, academic, and social support to the program participants for the entire duration of their academic programs.

FAWEMA maintains a zero-tolerance policy to child abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and sexual harassment by its employees, consultants, volunteers, service providers/contractors, vendors, partners or anyone associated with delivery of FAWEMA programs and services.

For further clarification and guidance on the application process, kindly call FAWEMA on the following numbers: +265 896 510 711/981 654 355 or send email to: recruitment@fawema.org.

Kindly note that calls will be received between 8am and 5pm only from Monday to Friday.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIVING BURSARY APPLICATIONS INTO THE BRIDGING PROGRAMS IS 25TH MAY 2026. FEMALE CANDIDATES WHO ALREADY EXPRESSED THEIR INTEREST SHOULD NOT APPLY AGAIN.

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FAWE/MASTERCARD FOUNDATION – BRIDGING PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM – 2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECTION A: APPLICANT’S PERSONAL AND ACADEMIC INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS

- Please read through the form carefully before filling it in.
- Provide information where appropriate.
- Attach all supporting documents (i.e. MSCE results, National ID, letter to prove vulnerability or stamped letter from chief).
- Please write in block letters and mark with “x” where appropriate e.g. [x]

Note: All certificates submitted will be re-verified with the Malawi National Examinations Board (MANEB).

*Passport
Size
photo*

Surname (Family Name):		First (Given) Name:		Another name (if Any):	
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	____/____/____	Age:	____	Sex:	<input type="checkbox"/> Male: <input type="checkbox"/> Female:
National Identification Number (ID Number) If applicable		Passport Number:		Phone Number:	
Alternative number:		Email Address:			
Permanent/Home Address:	Village:	T/A:		District:	
Postal Address:					
Current contact address:	Village:	T/A:		District:	

Academic Qualification(s): MSCE, GCE, or Other (Please Specify)
 Certificate No:Year Obtained:School:

SUBJECTS TAKEN	GRADE	SUBJECTS TAKEN	GRADE
English		Physical Science	
Mathematics		Geography	
Biology		Computer Studies	
Physics		Additional Mathematics	
Chemistry			
Agriculture			

An aggregate of Best Six Science Subjects including English:

Specify under which category you are applying

Refugee
 Internally Displaced Person (IDP)
 Person Living with Disability (PWD)
 Vulnerable
 Other

If you ticked refugee, fill in the following

Refugee Identification Number:		Refugee hosting community:	
Refugee settlement/camp within vicinity:		Country of Origin:	
Current Contact Address for Refugee Applicants	Village:		
	District:		

If you ticked Persons living with Disability (PWD), fill in the following

What is the form of disability and what support do you require?

Draw a sketch map of your current home from the nearest trading town or available institution to enable us to locate you (To be filled in by every applicant).

SECTION B: NEXT OF KIN INFORMATION.

Parent/Guardian's details	Father /Male Guardian	Mother /Female Guardian
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Full Names		
Parent / Guardian's telephone number and email address		
Relationship to the Applicant		
Physical Address (Village, GVH, TA, District):		

SECTION C: FAMILY BACKGROUND INFORMATION (Tick where applicable)

QUESTIONS	Tick where applicable
Who do you live with?	<input type="checkbox"/> Father alone <input type="checkbox"/> With both parents <input type="checkbox"/> Mother alone <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
Are any of your parents deceased? (Tick as appropriate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Both parents deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Father deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Mother deceased <i>Attach stamped letter from your chief/religious leader/ social welfare worker certifying death of one or both parents</i>
Indicate Parent/Guardian's age:	
Who is the head of the household where you live?	<input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Grandmother/Father <input type="checkbox"/> Other relatives/guardian

What is the highest level of education of the head of household?	<input type="checkbox"/> University graduate <input type="checkbox"/> Diploma <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> MSCE <input type="checkbox"/> Primary level <input type="checkbox"/> Never attended School.
What is the occupation of the head of household?	<input type="checkbox"/> Employee. <input type="checkbox"/> Self-employed <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial farmer <input type="checkbox"/> Smallholder farmer/Fishers <input type="checkbox"/> Retired. <input type="checkbox"/> Casual Laborer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneur <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed
What is the monthly average income of your household head?	MWK:
Who has been paying your school fees?	<input type="checkbox"/> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Mother <input type="checkbox"/> Other relatives <input type="checkbox"/> Other (institutions)
Do any of your parents or your household head live with disability or chronic illness?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No

If yes to above question, please give details:	
How many of your siblings in your household are above 18 years?	
How many of your siblings in your household are below 18 years?	
What is the total number of people in your household?	
What source of power does the household have for cooking?	<input type="checkbox"/> ESCOM power <input type="checkbox"/> Firewood/Charcoal. <input type="checkbox"/> Gas

Describe your house's condition	Type of floor – <input type="checkbox"/> Mud <input type="checkbox"/> Cement Type of wall – <input type="checkbox"/> Mud wall <input type="checkbox"/> Cement Wall <input type="checkbox"/> Type of roofing – <input type="checkbox"/> Iron sheets <input type="checkbox"/> Grass thatched
What is the source of water for domestic use like drinking, cooking, washing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Piped water <input type="checkbox"/> Borehole <input type="checkbox"/> River/lake/Swamp. <input type="checkbox"/> Rainwater <input type="checkbox"/> Well
Have you ever received any kind of bursary or any other support from other institutions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes , mention the institutions and describe the support you get. If not, ignore this question.	

SECTION D: LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE.

Describe previously held leadership positions, activities, or experiences: (i.e. Positions where the applicant has guided or led a group of people, a project, or a cause).	
State any award received from your previous schools or community or any outstanding leadership performance.	

SECTION E: COMMUNITY SERVICE EXPERIENCE.

Have you been involved in any voluntary work in your community?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
If yes , explain what your role was and what you did.	

Which sectors do you plan to impact through your career aspirations?	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Skilled Trades <input type="checkbox"/> Small Business / Entrepreneurial <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Other – please explain below _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Humanitarian services <input type="checkbox"/> Health & Medical <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Public Service / Government
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How did you hear about this Bursary Program?	<input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> Poster <input type="checkbox"/> TV <input type="checkbox"/> Radio <input type="checkbox"/> FAWEMA Staff <input type="checkbox"/> social media <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Other specify.....
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SHORT ESSAY QUESTION.

This question will support our assessment for your suitability by the Selection Committee. Please answer the question carefully, honestly, and completely.

1. State your reasons for applying to the FAWE/Mastercard Foundation Program bursary. How do you think your community will benefit from you during and after your studies? (Maximum 200 words).

Application Form Checklist for Applicants [X]

- 1. Application form completely filled out accurately
- 2. Copy of MSCE Certificate/Notification of Results or its equivalent
- 3. ID/Passport/Driver's License / Refugee ID Attach two (2) Passport Sized Photo
- 4. Recommendation letter signed and stamped from (social welfare, Church or Tradition leader.
- 5. Proof of vulnerability *Stamped letter from your Chief*

Declaration:

I....., certify that all the answers/ information I have given in this application are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and, if admitted, I agree to observe all the terms and conditions of the Bursary Programme. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action. I confirm that all documents submitted as part of this application are authentic and that any falsification of admission and/or academic records through omission or misrepresentation in this application may result in the cancellation of my bursary and/or other disciplinary action by FAWEMA.

Furthermore, I understand that this information and my personal records may be submitted to the FAWE and Mastercard Foundation Program and used for evaluation and other program purposes. All information will be kept in strict confidence and will not be released in any way that would permit individual identification. I authorize the release and use of this information, as described above, to the FAWE and Mastercard Foundation Program.

Applicant Signature: _____



Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Optional): _____

Signature _____

Date: _____

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DEGREE PROGRAMMES FOR BRIDGING

Degree Programmes available include the following:

<p>A. University of Malawi (UNIMA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Science in Physics2. Bachelor of Science in Computer Science3. Bachelor of Science in Chemistry4. Bachelor of Science in Mathematics5. Bachelor of Science in Geography6. Bachelor of Science7. Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Sciences8. Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences9. Bachelor of Science in Computer Network Engineering10. Bachelor of Science in Earth Sciences11. Bachelor of Science in Electronics12. Bachelor of Science in Family Sciences13. Bachelor of Science in Food and Nutrition14. Bachelor of Science in Geology15. Bachelor of Science in Information Systems16. Bachelor of Science in Statistics <p>B. Catholic University of Malawi (CUNIMA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Science in Applied Statistics2. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies3. Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Midwifery4. Bachelor of Science Education – Mathematical Science <p>C. Mzuzu University (MZUNI)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Science in Chemistry2. Bachelor of Physics and Electronics3. Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology4. Bachelor of Science in Data Science5. Bachelor of Education Sciences6. Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Statistics7. Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science.8. Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Aquatic Science9. Bachelor of Science in Water Engineering and Management <p>D. University of Livingstonia (UNILIA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Education Sciences2. Bachelor of Education Agriculture3. Bachelor of Science in Food Security and Nutrition	<p>E. Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Science in Medical Microbiology2. Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging (Diagnostic Radiography)3. Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging (Diagnostic Ultrasound)4. Bachelor of Science in Immunology5. Bachelor of Science in Sports Science6. Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology7. Bachelor of Science in Science Education8. Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Sciences9. Bachelor of Science in Earth Sciences (Geology)10. Bachelor of Science in Meteorology and Climate Science11. Bachelor of Science in Disaster Risk Management12. Bachelor of Science in Geo-Information and Earth Observation Science13. Bachelor of Science in Geo-Petroleum Resources (Oil and Gas)14. Bachelor of Science in Water Quality and Management15. Bachelor of Science in Computer Systems and Security16. Bachelor of Science in Business Information Technology <p>F. Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Bachelor of Science in Food Technology2. Bachelor of Environmental Management3. Bachelor of Science in Applied Computer Science4. Bachelor of Science in Applied Sciences5. Bachelor of Science in Agriculture6. Bachelor of Education Science7. Bachelor of Agricultural Technology8. Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science9. Bachelor of Science in Animal Science10. Bachelor of Science in Crop Sciences11. Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology12. Bachelor of Science in Horticultural Sciences and Landscape Design13. Bachelor of Science in Biostatistics
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Indicate below the appropriate programme and university from the above list		
CHOICE	PROGRAMME	UNIVERSITY
First choice		
Second choice		
Third choice		

4. Bachelor of Public Health 5. Bachelor of Sustainable Agriculture 6. Bachelor of Education in ICT	
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PRELIMINARY DATA AND CONSENT

DATA SUBJECT CONSENT FORM

In accordance with The Malawi Data Protection Act (MDPA) of February 2024 which came into force on June 3, 2024, FAWEMA is requesting consent from the applicants of the University Bridging Programme to get data. This Data Subject Consent Form is designed to obtain express, unequivocal, free, specific, and informed consent transparently and legally.

TYPES OF PERSONAL DATA AND PURPOSE OF PROCESSING ACTIVITIES

FAWEMA seeks your consent to process the below personal and sensitive personal data for tracking/tracing of program participants and verification, performance analysis, and impact over the years.

- **Contact Information** – For confirmation and future correspondence where needed. We intend to collect more data on the impact later and socio-transformational change experienced.
- **Gender** - The program collects gender data to ensure equal opportunities and tailor program outcomes that promote gender equality, ensuring our programs meet diverse needs effectively.
- **ID or Passport number** - For verification and confirmation.
- **Education achievement** - To enable the program to tailor program support, assess participant needs, and ensure that our offerings effectively promote learning and skill development.
- **Residential/Location address** - To trace and track the geographical coverage of the program.

DATA SHARING & SAFEGUARDS

The data will be processed and used by FAWEMA, specifically for the Programmes, Communications and Monitoring & Evaluation. FAWEMA will not share any personal data with any other third party. FAWEMA implements reasonable technical and organizational safeguards to protect personal information from accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure of, or access to personal data.

DATA SUBJECT RIGHTS

You have the right to withdraw consent or exercise your data subject rights to be informed, access,



rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, data portability, and object and in relation to automated decision making and profiling by sending a request to recruitment@fawema.org Withdrawal of consent will not affect the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal.

I, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the contents of this consent form. By providing my consent, I agree to the processing of my personal data by FAWEMA in accordance with the purpose(s) outlined herein.

I Do Not Consent

"I, _____, hereby consent/assent to FAWEMA Malawi to process the personal information provided in this application form to determine my eligibility for the bursary."

NOTE: All applications submitted through email should indicate the university of first choice in the email heading.

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