

# University admissions: district quotas released

## News

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The Public Universities Joint Admissions Board has released a list of 901 students that have been admitted to public universities for the 2012/2013 academic year. Makerere University tops the list with 442 students, while 218 will go to Kyambogo University.

The rest are shared by Busitema, MUBS and Mbarara University of Science and Technology. Unlike the previous years, when the admissions were uniform across all districts, this year’s admissions have been based on district populations.

In this arrangement, this year’s slots have been assigned to each district based on a threshold of five (5) slots per district and the balance is allocated basing on district population.

As the most populated district, Kampala gets the biggest share of 23 students followed by Wakiso with 18 slots. Arua and Kibaale follow with 12 slots. Meanwhile, several rural districts are among those with the highest number of slots where Kaseese, Yumbe, Rakai and Hoima all received 11 slots, ‘removing the claim that the new system suits rich people from urban schools.’

“This is a provisional list; we have sent the names to the various districts for verification. The universities shall then issue admission forms after receiving verifications from the respective districts,” said Charles Ssentogo, deputy academic registrar at Makerere University.

Nineteen districts have the lowest number of slots (six). Over time, the numbers of students admitted on district quota have been alternating due to the changing number of districts.

In 2006, Uganda had 56 districts and each received 16 slots. These fell to 11 when the districts increased to 81 in 2007. In 2011, the districts were increased to 112 and each got eight slots, before the population-based allocations came in.

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