

NAMCOL NEWS



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Namibian College of Open Learning Secondary Education Scholarship 2025

The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) Secondary Education (SE) Scholarship initiative has been a lifeline for financially vulnerable learners. The innovative initiative is part of the college's corporate social responsibility

to fund learners who want to improve their grades and complete their secondary education. Two scholarship recipients from Grades 11 and 12, Ilonga Nangula and Elina Katrina Festus, shared their stories, highlighting the profound impact of the initiative on their lives.

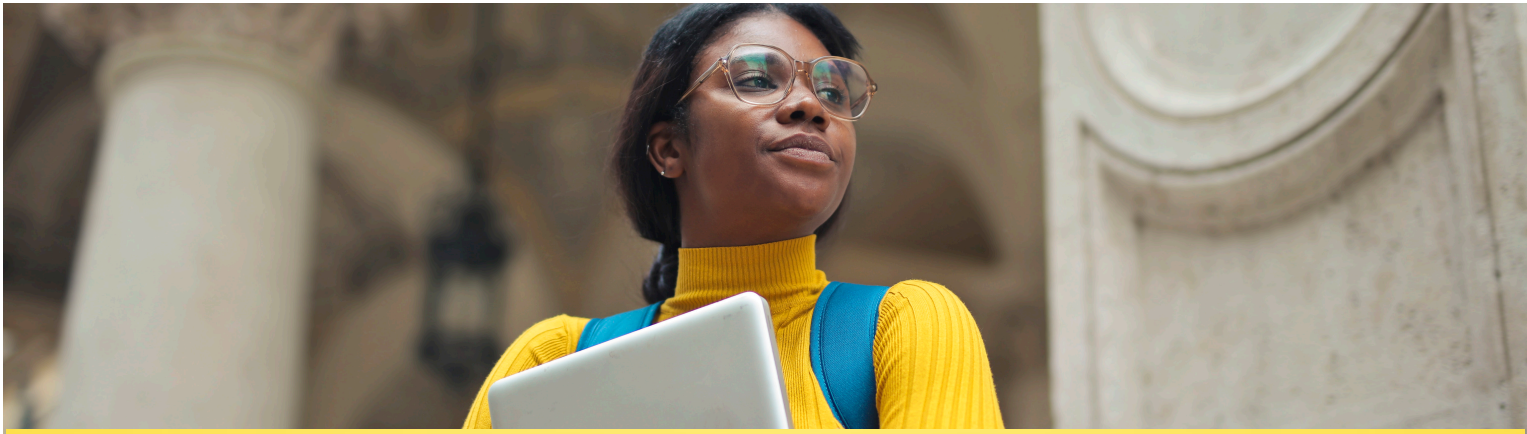
This scholarship initiative provides financial support to learners who want to improve their grades, enabling them to pursue their secondary education. Their voices reflect not only the opportunities the initiative has created, but also the hope and determination.

My name is Ilonga Nangula and I am upgrading my Grade 12



Ilonga Nangula

Continues on page 2



subjects (old curriculum) at Ashipena Secondary School. I started studying with NAMCOL 2021 and I was motivated because NAMCOL offers a second chance to complete secondary education or to improve results. In addition, NAMCOL's model suits those who need to balance studies with work or family. This allows me to learn while earning and courses are open to all Namibian residents, with admission requirements designed to broaden access. It was announced on the noticeboard at John Pandeni Constituency. I am very much grateful for the fact that I am an orphan and my guardian could not afford to pay for me to improve my subjects. This is a very good opportunity for me and I am relieved and happy that I can still do better. I plan to register at any university to obtain a higher certificate.

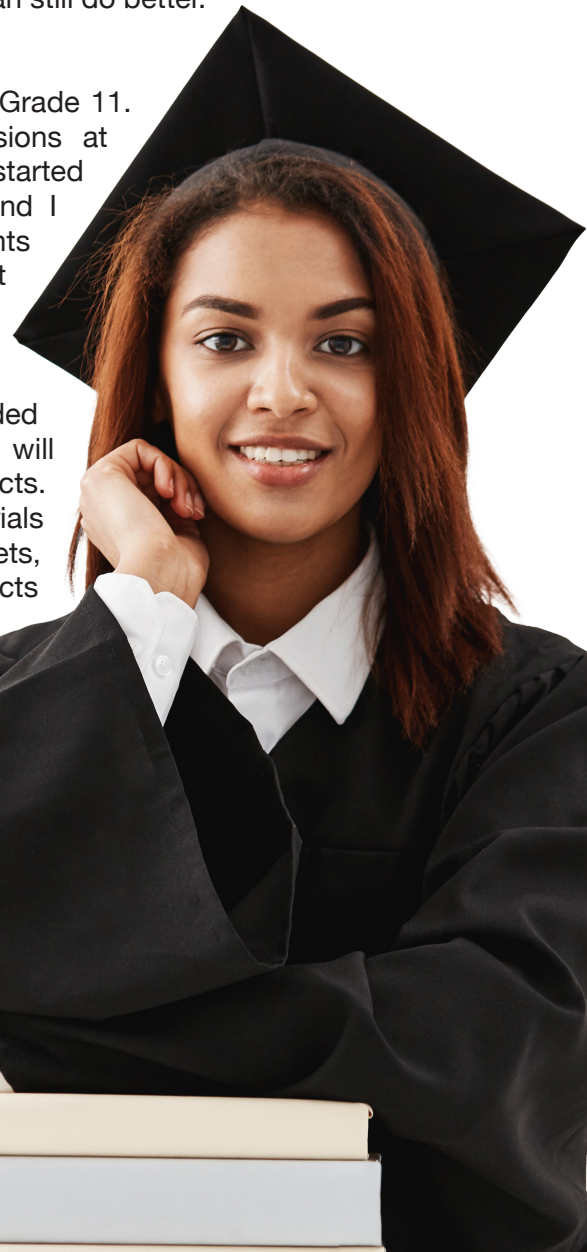
I am Elina Katrina Festus, a part time student at NAMCOL, doing Grade 11.



Elina Katrina Festus

I attend my Block Tuition sessions at Augustineum High School. I started studying at NAMCOL in 2023 and I was motivated by my fellow students who passed their subjects that they were improving on. I saw the NAMCOL page on social media. I'm truly excited for the opportunity of getting funded through this scholarship as it will enable me to improve on my subjects. The scholarship contained materials like, 3 textbooks, answer sheets, and tuition fees of my two subjects

(Biology and Oshindonga). When I complete my secondary education, I want to study Nursing as my career.





VOX POP

our voice

Secondary Education post-mock exam reflections

Following the recent secondary education mock exams held from the 14th July to the 8th August 2025 by the College, Grade 11 and 12 learners at the Jetu Jama Centre shared their post-exam thoughts, feelings, and future goals. These interviews provide a glimpse into the self-evaluation, performance hopes, and motivations of students preparing for their final examinations.



Kamuike Katjiteo - Grade 11

Focus: Improving Biology, Physical Science, Mathematics

I deeply regret not putting in the hard work necessary to achieve the 'A' symbol I had set for myself, which I hoped would make my parents proud. To anyone now aiming to improve their results: don't waste energy worrying. Instead, channel that energy into building yourself up and doing the work now.



Hope Ijamba - Grade 11

Focus: Improving Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics

I feel bad that I did not put in the effort that I was supposed to. I think I did badly in my exams. I am targeting a C because I had a D symbol last year in most of my subjects. I would encourage people to embrace the chance when given to improve, because any decision you take can change your life.



Bertha Benjamin - Grade 11

Focus: Improving Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science

I feel okay that mock exams are done, think I am a little bit disappointed because I did not do as expected. I am targeting a C symbol and above so that I can get university admission. I am advising people who want to improve to give it a shot and do what you can, never give up.



Paul Litzow Grade 11

Focus: Improving Mathematics, Physical Science, Geography

It was okay but I am more curious to see my marks. I think I have performed much better than last year. I am targeted a C symbol in mathematics and physics so that it's easier to be admitted to university. My advice is that do not wait until it's too late, just start studying already.



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our voice

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Muyunda Cynthia - Grade 12

Focus: Having Business Study, Accounting

I am happy because exams are done, although I feel nervous about the results. I performed well because what was in the examination was exactly what I had studied. I am targeting a C symbol in both my subjects because I want to do accounting which requires 30 points. I advise that you improve your subjects so that you have a variety of courses and universities to choose from.



Werner Nangombe - Grade 12

Focus: Having Chemistry and Biology

I feel relieved that the exams are done. I performed poorly but not bad. I targeted for a B symbol in both subjects because I want to do engineering hence, it requires me to have good points to be accepted into varsity. My encouragement is do not stop moving forward, and keep pushing until you make it.



Uetujama Tunapu - Grade 11

Focus: English, Mathematics, History, Development Studies

I feel okay that mock exams are done, I think I am a little bit disappointed because I did not do as expected. I am targeting a C symbol and above so that I can get university admission. I am advising people who want to improve to give it a shot and do what you can, never give up.



Lukas Nanyome - Grade 11

Focus: Improving English, History

I feel relaxed that the exams are done. I believe I did well because our tutor's feedback was positive. I targeted an A+ symbol in English and a B in History because I want to qualify for university next year. I advise those that need to improve to do so, as it is very important to have good symbols when it comes to career choices.



NAMCOL Students Share Their Perspectives on Campus Fashion

Fashion is a powerful form of self-expression, confidence, and identity. Enews spoke with several students at the Jetu Jama Centre to understand their views on campus fashion and how it shapes their daily lives. Their voices offer a glimpse into how clothing, comfort, and personal style play a role in their academic journey.



Kavijenene Tjandero

“Fashion is like the way you present yourself through clothing, accessories, and hairstyles. What inspires me to dress the way I do is comfortability and how I feel that day.” Kavijenene has never felt judged for her style on campus. Her advice to new students is to wear what makes them feel confident and happy.



Kuveri Hinanifa

“Fashion is just to look appropriate in a good way.” Kuveri feels inspired to dress well when going to a nice place like campus. He emphasizes the importance of wearing clothes that fit well and look good on you. “Wear your fashion, wear it properly, make sure it fits you, it looks good on you.”



Mekondjo N. Philipus

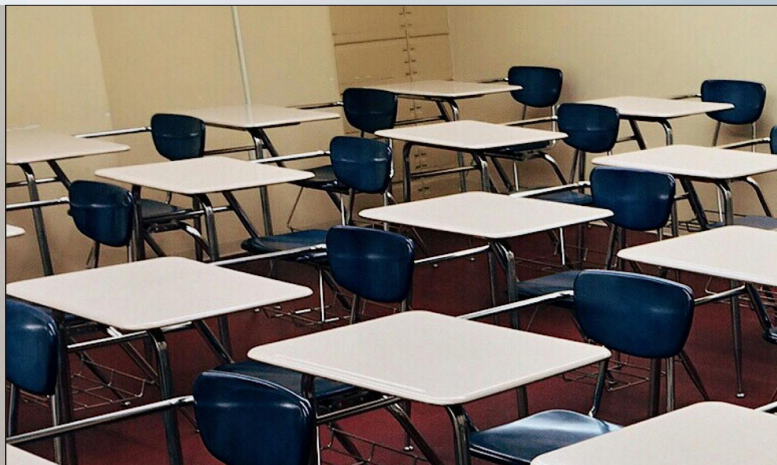
“Fashion really means looking nice and presentable.” Mekondjo’s style is self-inspired and depends on his daily mood. He has, however, experienced judgment from others who felt he was “doing too much.” He advises new students to be themselves but also to be mindful that they will meet people from different backgrounds with varying perspectives.



Josefina N. Joseph

For Josefina, fashion is about “looking outstanding” and making herself feel nice. She finds inspiration in her peers and their well-dressed appearances. She has never been judged on campus. Her advice to first-year students is to “be themselves” and wear clothes they feel comfortable in, rather than dressing to imitate others.

These students’ perspectives show that while looking presentable is a shared goal, fashion at NAMCOL is ultimately about personal expression, comfort, and confidence. The campus culture appears to encourage individuality, with students navigating the balance between self-expression and being mindful of a diverse community.



Preparing for exams: 10 study tips for better learning

1 | Practise on past exam papers

You know that using mock or past exam papers is a critical tool when preparing for exams. But when you plan to take them is equally important. A common mistake is to wait until right before exam time to test yourself using an old test paper.

2 | Take regular breaks and get some exercise

exercise is all-powerful. By exercising first thing in the morning, you'll overcome an invisible force that can undermine a productive study session. you should do whatever form of exercise you're most comfortable with, you don't have to tackle dangerous single track on a mountain bike if you like brisk walking.

3 | Use mind maps to unleash your brain's creativity and potential

Try to create a visual representation, or mind map, of the material you need to study. This will help not only with your study material retention, but also with your understanding of the connections, relationships, and hierarchies that exist between the subject matter.

4 | Give concise answers

Except for multiple-choice exams, your test results will depend largely on how the person marking your paper interprets your answers. So, make sure you read the questions carefully and give the marker only what they need, they'll likely reward you for it.

5 | Organise study groups

Organize a study group with friends and study together. Getting together with others provides participants with an opportunity to test their understanding of the relevant material Group study is a symbiotic practice where all members stand to gain. They can also be useful in helping you manage your stress levels; it always helps to know there are others in your boat.

6 | Exams are getting even closer, give yourself enough time to study

getting enough sleep isn't always easy during exam time however, exercising, writing down bothersome thoughts, avoiding caffeine after lunch, and going to bed at a similar hour each night can all help you fall, and stay, asleep so that you have enough time and effort to study.

7 | Leverage the power of routine

Always try to get through the first study session and then find a rhythm, a routine, so you don't have to go through that initial pain again. Try to be consistent with the days and times that you put aside for studying, be disciplined, and it'll get easier and easier to put in the hours you need to be successful.

8 | Find your productivity sweet spot

Focus on identifying the combination of factors that puts you into a state of flow where learning becomes easy and enjoyable. Notice where you like to learn. Lastly, be aware of what form of study materials you learn from best, be



it audio, video, or plain old text – then see if you can weight your learning toward your preferred medium.

Source: https://www.investec.com/en_za/focus/beyond-wealth/study-tips-for-better-learning.html

9 | Organise your study space and minimise distractions

Remember that your brain will naturally protest during study time. Put your cell phone in another room when you sit down to study. If you're working off a computer, disable your Wi-Fi until you've done the amount of studying you had planned. Then, make sure you also have something to drink and snack on.

10 | Keep it personal

If you're overwhelmed by the thought of studying, use the points raised above as framework, rather than gospel, and put in the effort to find out what works for you – it's the type of knowledge that'll stand you in good stead well past your next exam.





Growing Knowledge Through Agriculture: The NAMCOL Garden Initiative

Mr. Vezemburuka Nguvauva, the Grade 11 Agricultural Science tutor played a vital role in equipping learners with practical skills at NAMCOL through the establishment of a student-driven garden project. The involvement of learners contributed to the success of the garden and made it grow into a thriving space for both learning and sustainability.

According to Mr. Nguvauva, when he first arrived at NAMCOL, there was no garden in place. Together with his Area Coordinator, he identified a suitable spot behind the Nahas Angula Hall, laying the foundation for what would become a valuable learning resource. Support soon followed from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), an agency that provided training on constructing shade nets and other essential gardening practices. This collaboration gave students not only a garden but also hands-on experience in sustainable farming methods.

Today, the garden produces a wide range of crops, including onions, carrots, lettuce, cabbages, broccoli, spinach, and several herbs. These activities are not just for show, they align directly with the Agricultural Science Ordinary Level syllabus, ensuring that students gain the necessary practical knowledge to complement their classroom learning. “The garden gives learners the opportunity to carry out their required assessments while developing real-life agricultural skills,” explains Mr. Nguvauva.

Water supply has been steady thanks to the College’s provisions, but managing pests and the harsh Namibian climate remains a challenge. To address this, pest- and disease-resistant crops are prioritized, and the team follows local Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) to minimize reliance on chemical pesticides. Shade nets, though not a perfect solution, have also helped shield crops from extreme weather conditions.

Looking to the future, Mr. Nguvauva envisions even

greater growth. One of the main goals is to expand the garden, as the current space cannot accommodate all learners. “Sometimes students are forced to carry out practicals outside the shade net, which disadvantages them,” he notes. Securing timely funding is another priority. Delays in College approvals have previously slowed progress, forcing the team to rely on small student contributions to purchase seeds and fertilizers.

Another challenge is the shortage of tools, which are currently shared among the entire College. Dedicated equipment for the garden would not only improve efficiency but also ensure every learner has the resources they need to succeed.

Despite these hurdles, the future looks promising. For Mr. Nguvauva, NAMCOL has been more than just a workplace; it has been a platform for growth and connection. His vision, combined with the determination of his students, continues to drive the garden project forward.

The NAMCOL garden stands as a testament to innovation, resilience, and the power of education to transform both learners and communities. With plans for expansion and improved resources, this initiative is sowing the seeds for a brighter future one crop at a time.



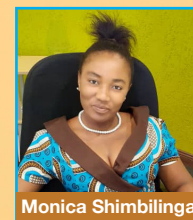
How SRC Members at NAMCOL Juggle Academics, Leadership, and Life Beyond the Classroom



Laurencia Joao



Vaja Katjipu



Monica Shimbilinga

The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL), Student Representative Council (SRC) members shared their personal stories, challenges, and strategies through candid conversations. The aim is to explore their experiences in juggling leadership responsibilities with academic commitments, career aspirations, and social lives. Their reflections highlight the resilience and determination required to excel in multiple domains. Through this, we learn more on how students navigate their multifaceted roles and what they envision for their futures beyond the halls of NAMCOL.

Monica

1.) As an SRC member at NAMCOL, I am currently studying towards obtaining my honors degree on distance mode. I balance academics and leadership through time management and self-discipline. I dedicate specific hours to my studies and use online platforms, especially our WhatsApp group, to engage with students and address their concerns. This approach allows me to remain accessible to students without interfering with my academic responsibilities.

2.) Beyond my academic and SRC duties at NAMCOL, I am involved in personal and community development. I take part in activities such as mentoring younger learners and enhancing my skills in research, leadership, and communication. These activities not only prepare me for my career in education but also help me serve my fellow students more effectively.

3.) After completing my honors degree in Junior Primary Education at NAMCOL, I plan to contribute to Namibia's education system by teaching and supporting learners in the junior primary phase. I also intend to further my studies by pursuing a Master's degree, while working on initiatives that promote literacy and improve the quality of education. In the long term, I aim to take on leadership roles in education where I can influence positive change at both school and policy levels.

Vaja

1.) I balance my SRC roles from my academics by taking them one at a time and putting up a schedule towards what time, I should address my SRC work and how long

I spend my time on it. I make sure I solve the issues for all students and make sure they are heard, and their problems are taken into consideration

2.) I play soccer and go to gym for fitness and make sure my physical and mental health is good and sharp for me to tackle my school and SRC work.

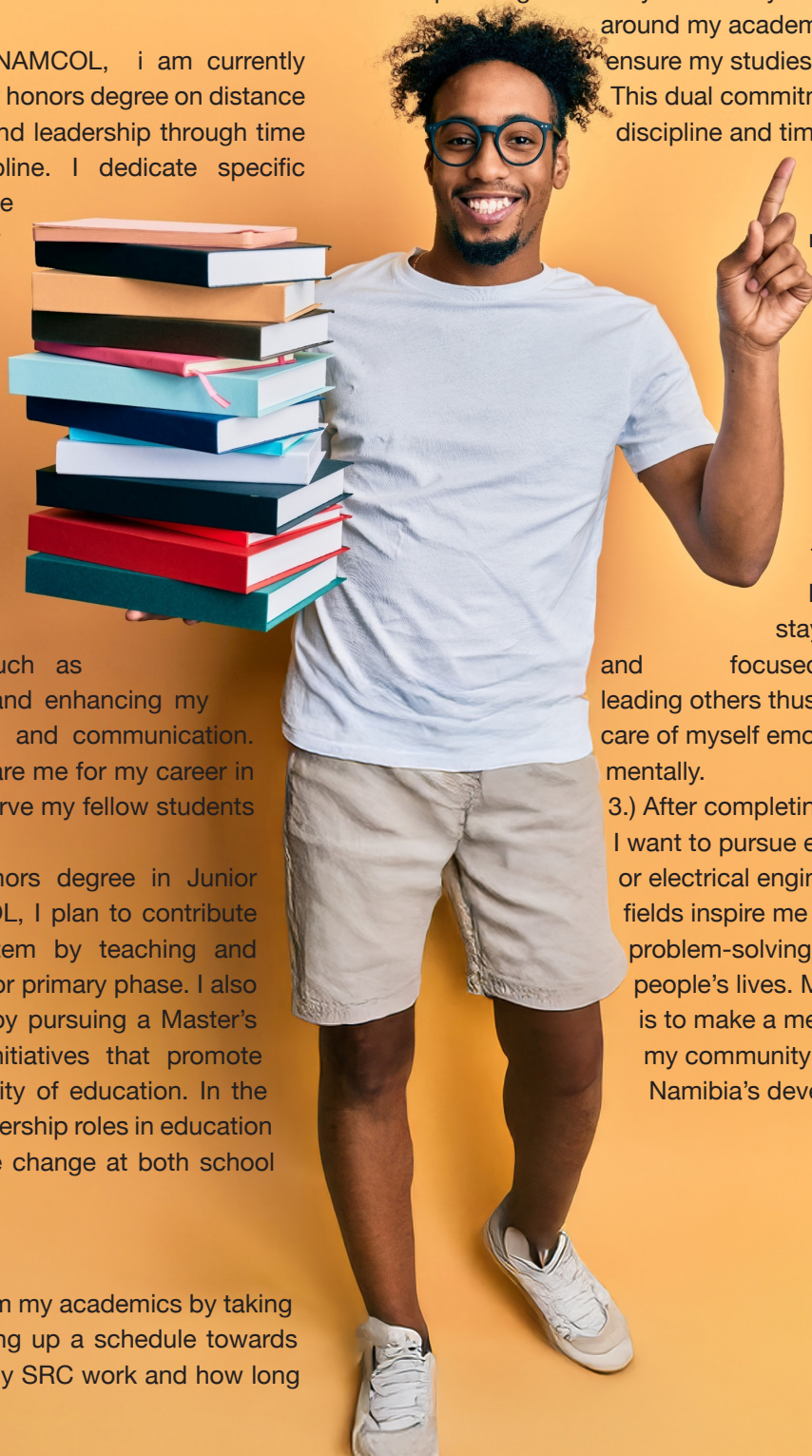
3.) Once I have completed my studies, I want to go forward in becoming an Engineer in Automotive Mechanics.

Laurencia

1.) Serving in the SRC has been a challenge, but I prioritised effective planning. I carefully slotted my SRC responsibilities around my academic schedule to ensure my studies always come first. This dual commitment taught me discipline and time management skills, which ultimately benefits my academic work.

2.) Apart from SRC and school responsibilities, I really value my personal time. I enjoy reading, journaling and playing sudoku. Those activities help me reflect, stay mentally sharp and focused. I believe in leading others thus I need to take care of myself emotionally and mentally.

3.) After completing my studies, I want to pursue either medicine or electrical engineering. Both fields inspire me because they're problem-solving and improving people's lives. My long-term goal is to make a meaningful impact in my community and contribute to Namibia's development.



My NAMCOL Journey



I am Martin Tunegameno Ampueya, a dedicated educator currently working as a permanent Junior Primary teacher at Omuulukila Primary School, employed by the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Youth, Sports, Arts and Culture based in the Omusati Region Outapi circuit.

I am proud to say that I am practicing in the very field I studied for at NAMCOL. Teaching has always been my calling, and NAMCOL gave me the academic foundation and confidence to pursue it professionally.

My journey with NAMCOL was both empowering and life-changing. I enrolled in the Diploma in Early Childhood and Pre-Primary Education DECPPE in 2020 while juggling other responsibilities. What stood out for me was NAMCOL's flexible structure and the supportive environment that allowed me to study at my own pace without compromising quality. The journey demanded discipline and time management, but it also brought a deep sense of purpose. Every assignment, workshop, and group discussion brought me closer to my dream of becoming a qualified teacher. NAMCOL made it possible for me to turn that dream into reality. I studied and successfully completed my Diploma in Early Childhood and Pre-Primary Education (DECPPE NQF level 7) through NAMCOL.

During my studies, I took full advantage of the tutorial sessions, study guides, and online learning platform (MyNAMCOL). The tutorials helped clarify difficult concepts, and the printed modules were incredibly detailed and easy to follow. I also appreciated

the continuous support from tutors who were always willing to assist, especially during exam preparations.

At NAMCOL, I gained essential theoretical knowledge—understanding child development stages, curriculum planning, and inclusive education practices. These formed a strong foundation. However, being in the field has taught me to adapt to real-life classroom situations, manage diverse learner needs, communicate effectively with parents, and work within the school system. Practical, soft skills like patience, flexibility, and creativity are continuously being refined on the job. I am currently employed as a permanent Junior Primary teacher, teaching grade 2.

My biggest motivation to other NAMCOL Alumni is this: Never underestimate the power of your qualification. It is more than a certificate it's a key to opportunity. Whether you're starting out or already in the field, keep growing, keep learning, and know that you have something valuable to offer.

In the next five years, I see myself furthering my studies in education possibly obtaining a Postgraduate Diploma in Open School Operation and Management (PDOSOM) which I have already applied this month with NAMCOL, additionally a Bachelor's Degree in Foundation Phase or Inclusive Education. I also aspire to take on a leadership role within my school or region, contributing to curriculum development and mentoring young teachers. I would be honoured to be part of future NAMCOL Alumni activities giving back and staying connected to the community that shaped me is very important to me.



My NAMCOL Journey



Shivera is my name, I am a graduate with a Diploma in Early Childhood and Pre-primary Education, Level 7, from NAMCOL. My journey began in 2019 when I first enrolled for the Certificate in Early Childhood and Pre-primary Education, which I completed in 2020.

I then continued my studies, earning my diploma in 2025. My path was challenging as I had to pay all my tuition fees myself. Despite applying for assistance from the Namibia Student Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF), I was unable to secure funding because I did not meet the requirements. You could say my journey is transformed from being a Soldier to Scholar.

My path was not an easy one but my determination, hard work, and a commitment to my personal and professional growth kept me charged and motivated. Despite my demanding career in the army, I successfully completed two qualifications with the Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL), to me the passion of life-long learning can overcome any obstacle. I funded my entire education, as my application for financial assistance to the Namibia Student Financial Assistance Fund (NSFAF) was unsuccessful.

I utilized NAMCOL's resources to succeed. I was more of an online user of the eLearning platform, to conduct all my orientation workshops, and examination preparation workshops. I commend NAMCOL for availing valuable communication tools to connect with peers and getting support. Tertiary Programme student WhatsApp groups have been my class, they are very engaging and informative which has helped in my studies.

I am still in the army, I have not yet transitioned into

the education industry. I am actively seeking a job that aligns with my qualifications hence my joining of the NAMCOL Alumni hoping for exposure, job opportunity and networking. I am definitely job hunting for a position as a primary school teacher and aspires to become an acting Head of Department (HOD) in the future.





My NAMCOL Journey

NAMCOL's commitment to flexible learning has long provided Namibians with a second chance at education. For Israel Utoni, a young professional with a passion for urban planning and community development, the Namibian College of Open Learning offered the perfect opportunity to deepen his understanding of local governance and fill a crucial knowledge gap.

My name is Israel Utoni, I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Town and Regional Planning, from the Namibia University of Science and Technology as well as Post-Graduate Diploma in Environmental Studies from the International University of Management. In addition to that, I am currently pursuing my Masters in Social Impact Assessment, at the University of Johannesburg.

My journey with NAMCOL initially began in 2022 with a Certificate in Local Government Studies. I needed to learn about the processes, skills and knowledge needed to support the development of local governance structures. This is to build onto my background on urban planning, and internship as a Housing and Town Planning graduate trainee at the Otjiwarongo Municipality.

Today I can say, I proudly completed my Certificate in Local Government Studies (Level 5). While interning at the Otjiwarongo Municipality, I noticed that I struggled to understand how municipalities, local authorities, councillors, communities, and ministries work together to come up with development initiatives. I believed it was just a matter of engaging the community and taking their opinions to the highest authority for feasibility study, then implementation. However, I noticed that it was more than that, it is a long, back-to-back, process which involves various stakeholders, prioritization, and so on. Eventually, I started to look for ways to improve my understanding of how development in such scenarios occurs, and upon my search for such knowledge I came across applications for Tertiary Programmes at NAMCOL, with the Certificate in Local Government Studies giving me butterflies. The course structure was to my liking, modules such as Community Development, Accounting and Finance, really deepen my understanding of local governance which is essential for an aspiring urban planner or development planner. The content is local based with realistic examples, which one finds in an ordinary local authority or municipality. I liked the schedule, assessments, modules, but I would prefer a mix of face-to-face sessions, for networking as a class. Overall, the journey has been quite insightful, educative, and rewarding and I am looking forward to working with NAMCOL, in the future.

What keeps me motivated is solving issues which

hold people back from having a high quality life by creating social, economic, and environmental opportunities. Thus, for the last 2 years, I have cemented my experience and skills in research and data analysis, urban design, land use

planning, community engagement and environmental policy. My study was on distance mode, so I hardly made use of the College resources, except for the tutoring, especially in Accounting and Finance. I was struggling with the module to the point that I failed it in 2022, blocking me from graduating, and I had to repeat it in 2023. After approaching tutors, I was able to perform exceptionally well, passing the module with 75% from 45%, and finally, making it to the graduation venue in 2025. I am currently pursuing my Masters in Social Impact Assessment, at the University Of Johannesburg, South Africa, on a full-time basis. However, I spent the last two years working as a research assistant at Monasa Advisory & Associates. My motivation, based on my journey with NAMCOL, is that finish what you started. After, failing, the Accounting and Finance, module in 2022 I wanted to quit, I felt like it was not important to obtain the certificate since I have a bachelor's degree already. In fact, I decided not to come back in 2023, until I started reading vacancies which required someone with a background or knowledge in government processes as such, I decided in 2024 to go back and finish my certificate. Today, I have applied for jobs, adding my Certificate in Government Studies on my CV, and I have received positive feedback, compared to back then when I didn't have it on my CV. Unfortunately, as I am studying on full-time basis, in South Africa, I cannot take up the offers.

Professionally, I believe in the next 5 years, I will be taking up an entry level position, in a local municipality or authority as a development planner or community liaison officer, solving problems which are holding back people from living a high quality life, such as lack of access to land and housing, sanitation, clean water, and establishing a waste



NAMCOL TVET trainees represented the institution at the National Skills Competition

The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) successfully sent a team of its best TVET trainees to the National Skills Competition, which took place from 22 to 27 September 2025 at the Dome in Swakopmund.

The team consisted of three trainees: two from Automotive Mechatronics and one from Plumbing and Pipefitting. These trainees showcased their expertise and dedication to their respective trades. They were supported by two expert instructors who guided and mentored them throughout the preparation process.

The Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) division at the College prepared, supported, and showcased their trainees' skills while promoting excellence in vocational education. This vision reflected the department's commitment to developing high-level technical abilities and raising the profile of vocational training in Namibia. Aligned with Namibia's broader TVET objectives, the competition promoted demand-driven skills development for enhanced employability, productivity, and innovation. It also strengthened collaboration among training institutions, industry stakeholders, and the government, driving knowledge exchange and partnership.

Had the trainees succeeded at the national level, they would have had the opportunity to proceed and represent Namibia at the World Skills Competition 2026 in Shanghai, China. For the NAMCOL team, the event represented a golden opportunity to

demonstrate the high standard of skills nurtured within the TVET department and highlight the potential of Namibian trainees on an international stage.

"Our main motivation came from the opportunity to showcase the high standard of skills within our TVET department and the potential of our trainees on an international stage," Mr. Shikale one of the expert instructors expressed.

He further explained that their future strategy will include starting training well in advance, partnering with industry experts and past competitors for specialised coaching. They will also implement simulation-based practice to familiarise trainees with competition pressures, time constraints, and scoring criteria.

Through trainee testimonial interviews, they expressed their passion and how the event demonstrated the value of vocational education in preparing young people for real-world challenges.



Vaja Katjipue (Automotive Mechatronics Engineering)

"I am from Windhoek, and I am trading in Automotive Mechatronics Engineering at NAMCOL, Jetu Jama. I chose this field because I am passionate about engineering



and understanding machinery. It was a very big privilege for me to represent NAMCOL at the competition. I had always dreamed of being in a big spotlight such as this and it became a reality. I showcased a pump in the middle of a vehicle, which involved the removal of the engine. All the knowledge I used to carry out the tasks, was obtained through my institution and I am grateful for that. My message to NAMCOL students is to always try their very best when it comes to their studies no matter the circumstances.”

and make NAMCOL proud at a national level. For my project, I demonstrated my plumbing skills using different types of pipes, such as PVC and copper, to create a system that allowed water to flow efficiently. The design worked like a model heater, where cold water entered from the left-hand side and hot water came out on the right-hand side. My message to others who want a similar opportunity is to have patience, believe in themselves and their abilities, and never stop pushing until they achieved their best.”

Evelin Nangombe (Automotive Mechatronics)



“I am from Swakopmund. I am 19 years of age and I am studying at NAMCOL Jetu Jama, Windhoek. I am studying Automotive Mechatronics because it has always been a passion of mine, I love it and I enjoy studying about machineries. I felt privileged

to be selected to represent NAMCOL at the national skills competition, as it was a tough competition and not everyone got an opportunity to compete at that level. We mainly focused on disassembling the engine and removing shocks and brake pads. I encouraged my fellow trainees to ensure that they utilise any opportunity given to them to learn more and follow their dreams.”



Emmanuel Kampanda (Plumbing and Pipefitter)



“I am a trainee studying Plumbing and Pipe and Fitting. I grew up in a small town called Tsandi in Omusati Region in the Northern parts of Namibia. I am studying this trade because I want to improve the struggles that comes with poor infrastructure in

our country. I was very excited about this opportunity because it gave me a chance to showcase my skills



Celebrating Excellence with NAMCOL's September graduation Top Graduates

The Namibian College of Open Learning (NAMCOL) conferred 197 graduates during its second graduation ceremony of the academic year on the 18th September 2025. Many students have embraced this journey and emerged as true success stories. In this exclusive feature, we shine a spotlight on three of the best graduates who have not only excelled academically but have also overcome challenges to achieve their dreams.

Martha Aluuma was the top TVET graduate, scoring an impressive 96% in Office Administration Level 3 while Sherene Du Plessis was recognized as a top TP graduate with a score of 83% followed by Ndinelago Ndasiluahenda Titus who scored 77.8%.

Through this interview, they share their personal experiences, challenges, and triumphs during their study journey with NAMCOL. They also open up about the role of family support, their goals for the future, and offer words of motivation to inspire fellow learners who aspire to graduate and make their mark in the world.



My name is Sherene du Plessis, a proud top student at NAMCOL who recently completed a Certificate in Early Childhood Development (CECD). This programme equipped me with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills to contribute meaningfully to the growth and development of young children. while also preparing me to contribute meaningfully to the field of early education in Namibia. My study journey with NAMCOL was both rewarding and inspiring.

As a distance learning institution, NAMCOL gave me the flexibility to study while managing my other responsibilities. It was not always easy, but through discipline, focus, and prayer, I was able to persevere. I also received valuable support from my lecturers and fellow students, which encouraged me to keep pushing forward. I remained focused and disciplined, and this commitment helped me achieve excellent results.

One of the biggest challenges was balancing my time between studies, personal responsibilities, and other commitments. At times, access to resources such as study materials and technology was also difficult. However, I overcame these obstacles by managing my time effectively, seeking support from lecturers and fellow students, and staying motivated by constantly reminding myself of my goals. I also prayed a lot and put my trust in God, knowing that He never fails. In the short term, my goal is to apply my skills in early childhood education by teaching children in my neighborhood in Rehoboth and giving back through the talent God has blessed me with. I want to make a direct contribution to the growth and development of young children. In the long term, I aspire to further my studies in education and eventually take on a leadership role where I can influence policies and practices that promote quality early childhood education in Namibia.

My parents and family played a very important role in my journey. They encouraged me, supported me emotionally, and celebrated my achievements along the way. Their belief in my potential motivated me to keep working hard and never give up. A special thank you goes to my husband, Mario du Plessis, and my children, Briony and Marlando, for their patience, love, and understanding during the times when I could not always be present as their mother and wife.

My encouragement to other students is to stay disciplined, consistent, and never lose faith in yourself. Challenges will come, but remember that with hard work, prayer, and trust in God, nothing is impossible. Stay focused on your goals, manage your time wisely, and never underestimate your potential. If I could achieve this, then so can you because success is not only for a few, but for everyone who believes and perseveres.



My name is Emma Martha Aluuma, a dedicated and hardworking student who recently completed my Level 3 studies in Office Administration at NAMCOL. I am passionate about personal growth, learning, and building a career in the administration field. My journey with NAMCOL has been both challenging and rewarding. It taught me independence, time management, and discipline. NAMCOL gave me the flexibility to take charge of my own learning. One of the main challenges I faced was managing my study time with personal responsibilities. Sometimes access to resources and study materials was limited, which made preparation a bit difficult. However, I overcame these challenges by setting up a strict study schedule, seeking help from tutors when necessary, and forming study groups with fellow students. My determination and persistence kept me motivated.

In the short term, I plan to gain practical experience in the business and administration by securing employment or an internship, which I am currently doing (intern), where I can apply my knowledge and skills. In the long term, I plan to further my studies in Business Management or a related field. They (be specific) encouraged me during difficult times, motivated me to stay focused, and supported me with the resources I needed for my studies. Their moral support gave me the strength to keep going and to do my best. My advice to other students is that success does not come easily, they should stay disciplined, have consistency, believe in themselves, and never give up. Challenges will come, but if you remain determined and committed, you can achieve your dreams.



I am Ndinelago Titus, I pursued a Diploma in Early Childhood and Pre-Primary Education. My journey had never been smooth at all, I experienced hiccups here and there regarding access to internet to acquire study materials and generally doing my course work. However, my passion for working with children fueled my urge to work hard in order to make it at the end.

I faced challenges such as balancing study commitments with family responsibilities and occasional limited access to online resources for some modules. To stay on track, I created a clear study plan, set realistic goals for each module. I also formed study groups with peers to share notes, ideas and used NAMCOL's offline materials when internet access was unstable. Practicum presented another challenge, which I met by preparing in advance, seeking mentorship at placement schools, keeping reflective journals, and applying theory to practice through micro-teaching and lesson planning.

These strategies helped me develop time management, practical teaching skills, and collaborative abilities qualities. I'm eager to bring to my future teaching role. Seek a position as a teacher or assistant in a preschool or kindergarten setting to apply my knowledge and skills in a real-world environment. Consider additional courses related to early childhood education to enhance my teaching methods and stay updated on best practices.

I plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in education or a specialized area within early childhood education to advance my career opportunities. My parents have been my biggest support system throughout my study. They've provided financial and emotional support. My family celebrated my achievements big or small, which boosted my confidence and motivated me to keep pushing toward my goals. Dear students, dream big and work hard. For you to reach to the end of your course one has to put in work and effort in doing assignments on time and catch up with the deadline. Press yourself towards your studying goals and work towards achieving them. Don't hesitate to reach out for help when you need it. Whether it's from tutors, fellow students or family, building a support network can provide encouragement and guidance.

NOTICES



SE

NOTICE

Oral examinations for all languages commenced on the 15 September - 02 October 2025.

Learners are expected to go to their respective examinations centre as indicated on their examinations permit (NB: not NAMCOL CENTRES) for the assessment.

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- Welding and Metal Fabrication Level 2 & 4
- Automotive Mechatronics Level 2
- Office Administration Level 3
- Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Level 1
- Occupational Health and Safety Level 4

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Programme	Level	Region	Requirements
Welding and Metal Fabrication	Level 2	Windhoek	Grade 10 (old curriculum), with 22 points and Minimum E symbols in English, Maths, Science, or Grade 11 with 20 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science, or Grade 12 with 18 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science
	Level 4	Windhoek	Level 3 NTA certificate in Welding or Boilermaker
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting	Level 1	Windhoek	Grade 10 (old curriculum), with 22 points and Minimum E symbols in English, Maths, Science, or Grade 11 with 20 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science, or Grade 12 with 18 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science
Automotive Mechatronics	Level 2	Windhoek	Grade 10 (old curriculum), with 22 points and Minimum E symbols in English, Maths, Science, or Grade 11 with 20 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science, or Grade 12 with 18 points and minimum F symbols in English, Maths, and Science
Occupational Health and Safety	Level 4	Windhoek	Grade 10 (old curriculum), with 23 points and Minimum E symbols in English, Maths, Science, or Grade 11 with 20 points and minimum E symbols in English, Maths, and Science, or Grade 12 with 18 points and minimum E symbols in English, Maths, and Science
Office Administration	Level 3	Windhoek, Ongwediva, Rundu, Otjivero	Level 2 NTA certificate in Office Administration

Application forms and more information available on our website www.namcol.edu.na

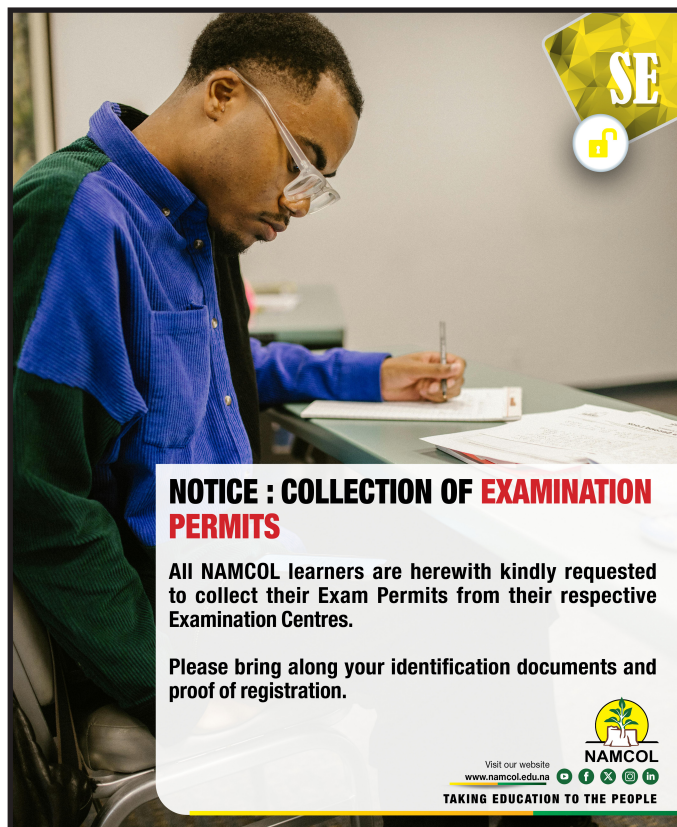
APPLY NOW!

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SE

NOTICE : COLLECTION OF EXAMINATION PERMITS

All NAMCOL learners are herewith kindly requested to collect their Exam Permits from their respective Examination Centres.

Please bring along your identification documents and proof of registration.

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Poems

BRAVE HEARTS

Brave hearts bend not so soon to care—
Firm minds uplift the load of fate;
They bear what others shrink to bear,
And boldly any doom awaits!
They rise above what would oppress
A weaker spirit to the ground;
And, though they feel no jot the less,
Their sorrows scorn to breathe a sound.

By: Charles Swain

ENCOURAGEMENT

My fainting soul had well-nigh droop'd
When sorrow's heavy hand was near;
But to the throne of grace I look'd,
And mercy soon dispel'd my fear.

"I'll never leave thee, nor forsake,"
Came sweetly to my tremb'ling heart;
His word I know He will not break,
He cannot from His oath depart.

Now cheerfully I onward speed,
His promises forbid my fear;
He will supply my every need,
And in distress be ever near.

"Where does the clerk of the weather
store

The days that are sunny and fair?"

"In your heart is a room with a close
shut door

And all of those days are there."

By: ENS

THE SECRET OF IT

Where does the clerk of the weather keep
The days that are dreary and blue?"
"In a second room in your heart they sleep,
And you have the keys of the two."

"And why are my days so often, I pray,
Filled full of clouds and of gloom?"

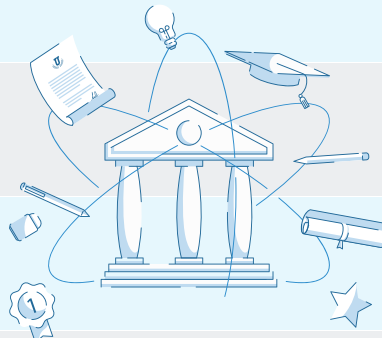
"Because you go at the break of day
And open the wrong heart-room."

By: Amos Russel Wells

UNIVERSITY GUIDE

Choosing the right course and the right institution for you may be one of the most important decisions of your life. Not only can it affect which career options are open to you after graduation, but you'll have to spend at least three years at this institution, so it's important to find one that you'll be happy at.

Below are some suggestions of the Institutions you can apply to.

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 University of Namibia T: +264 61 2063111 E: info@unam.na Website: www.unam.edu.na	 Welwitschia University T: +264 61 247238 E: info@welwitschiauniversity.com Website: www.wu.edu.na	 Prestige Academy T: 021995036 E: info@prestigeacademy.co.za Website: www.prestigeacademy.co.za
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 International University of Management T: +264 61 4336000 E: ium@edu.na Website: www.ium.edu.na	 Institute of Chartered Accountants of Namibia T: +264 61 220218 E: secretariat@icanpaab.com Website: www.icancpd.net	 University of the Free State T: +27 (0) 51 401 2000/ +27 51 401 9111 E: info@ufs.ac.za Website: www.ufs.ac.za
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