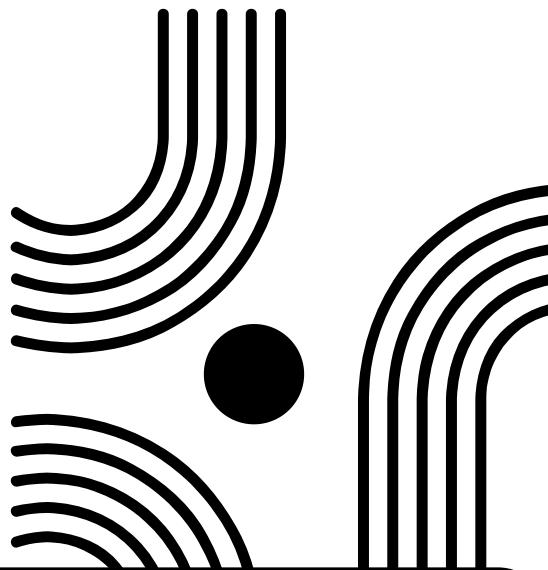


KITSO GAP YEAR

APPLICATIONS OPEN 25 JANUARY 2026



EMPOWERING SOUTH
AFRICAN MATRICULANTS
TO STUDY FURTHER, FIND
EMPLOYMENT AND CREATE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
THEMSELVES AND OTHERS

WWW.KITSOGAPYEAR.ORG



Turn your gap year
into a powerful
step toward
discovering your
purpose and
preparing for your
future.

WELCOME TO KITSO GAP YEAR

Matriculating is a right of passage into adulthood it represents a minimum of 13 years dedicated to learning and growth. In the 13 years of schooling a matriculant is expected to have developed written and spoken communication skills in at least two languages (your home language and English), you are also expected to have developed a habit of cleanliness, team work skills , as well as time keeping. You have just spent 13 years going to school at roughly the same time every employer expects you to continue do the same at work.

Whether You studied pure mathematics or mathematical literacy you have built up skills for basic algebra which you will require in some capacity in every job. As you studied and learned you became teachable, trainable and coachable, if you weren't teachable you wouldn't have made it through to matric, you developed discipline and the ability to study by yourself and to keep to a schedule and deadlines . There are also a host of other skills you developed through the other subjects you studied.

Your matric certificate is a representation of all those things and more, unfortunately, many do not realise this. If you tried to apply for jobs towards the end of last year you probably realised that most of the no experience jobs only required a matric certificate. Even tertiary graduates are resorting to applying using only their matric certificate because soe are convinced that will increase their chances of success. Our goal as an organisation is to enhance all the skills that you have learnt during your period in school and help you develop them even further.

Whether you will be looking for permanent employment right away or you will choose to first study further or try your hand in entrepreneurship you will gain skills that you will be able to use to ensure success in your career path and become economically active.

Through our short courses and workshops you will get to gain technical skills that you will be able to market to potential employers or use in your business. If you matriculated between 2020 and 2025 this program is for you. We work with various partner organisations and mentors to ensure that the program is provided free of charge all you have to do is pay the R150 application fee and sign the pledge indicating your commitment to the program .

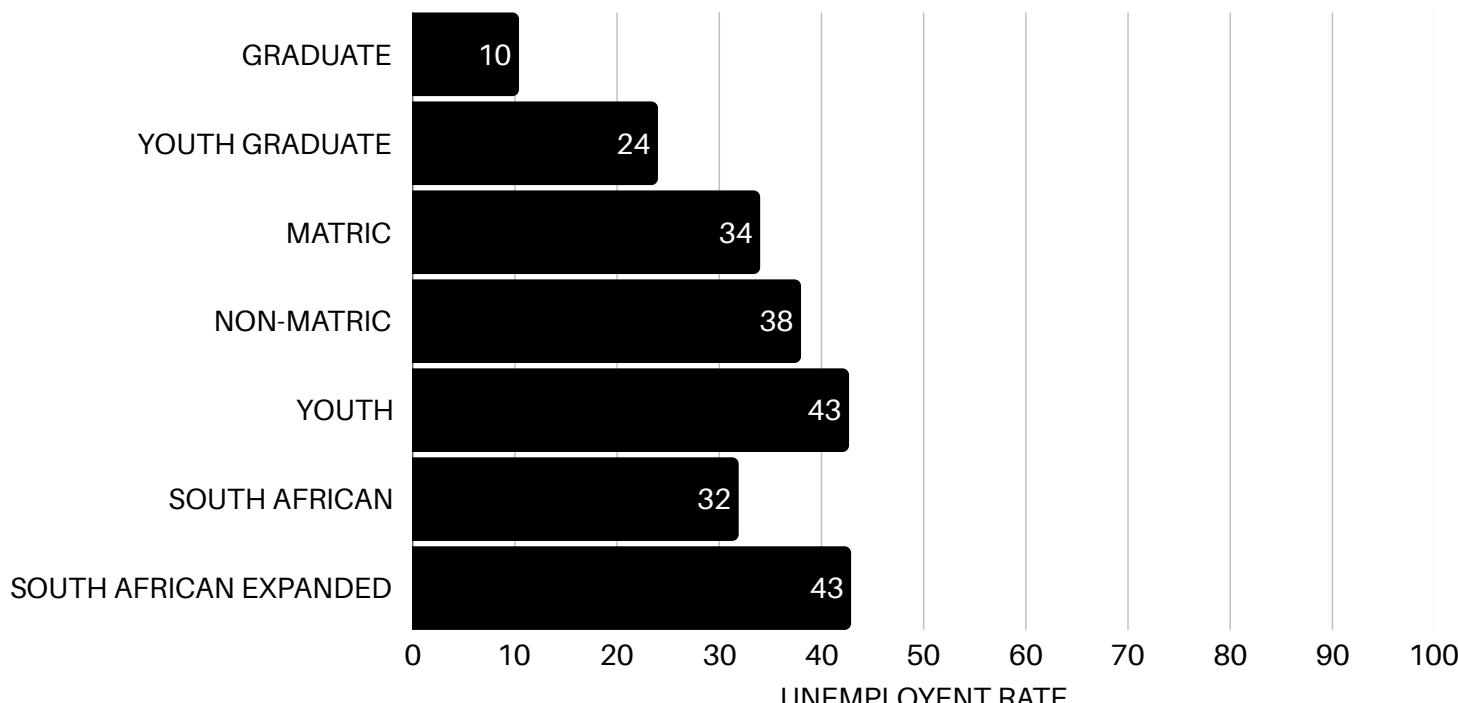
No one is going to give you opportunities that you do not deserve if you want to improve your chances of gaining employment and becoming financially secure you have to develop your skills and upskill, as bad as things are in South Africa there are still a lot of opportunities, make 2026 a year that you begin building a foundation for a great life, **APPLY TODAY.**



**APPLICATIONS OPEN 25TH OF JANUARY
2026**

YOUR MATRIC CERTIFICATE VS UNEMPLOYMENT

South Africa's expanded unemployment rate is 43% and a look at the stats for different age groups and qualification levels might make it seem like things will never change for you but they have for many. Whether you are going to be competing with other matriculants or graduates in the job market participating in this gap year will empower you to compete and emerge victorious.



SOURCE: STATSSA

South Africa's unemployment rate is one of the highest in the world and it gets worse in certain provinces like the North West province which has an unemployment rate of over 50%. We mention this statistics not to make you lose hope but to help you understand that your situation is not yours alone and the younger you are the higher those statistics. Take the graduate unemployment statistic for example, it increases to about 24% for graduates under 35 years of age so even if you graduate with a tertiary qualification you still have to upskill and make sure that you can add value to organisations and you can clearly articulate that during your interviews.

This does not mean all hope is lost there are still amazing opportunities available for individuals who are skilled and well prepared to take advantage of opportunities available to them. Hundreds of thousands of people get jobs every year in South Africa, you cannot sit back and expect things to fall in place, your matric certificate opens a lot of doors but you have to be willing to put in the work. Whether you are going to be studying further, getting a job or venturing into entrepreneurship your matric certificate can help you get started and succeed.

COURSES

We offer three carefully structured short courses that are fully integrated into the Gap Year Program. These courses are supported by a series of practical workshops, guided activities and projects planned throughout your volunteering journey, all intentionally designed to help you make meaningful progress during your gap year. Through the volunteering opportunities that all our students participate in, you will be able to put your newly acquired skills into practice in real-world settings.

All our courses and workshops exist to prepare you for further study, to enhance your employability by developing job-ready skills, and to support aspiring entrepreneurs in taking their first steps toward starting a business. Through this balanced approach, the Gap Year Program ensures that students do not simply take time off, but instead use their gap year to build a strong foundation for their future.



This course is a hybrid course that makes use of an online component and a face to face component. You cannot truly learn to use a computer effectively without ever touching one and using one physically. You will be provided with access to a laptop if you do not have access to one during the face to face component of the program.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the fundamentals of computer hardware and software.
- Master Microsoft Office tools: Word, Excel, PowerPoint.
- Develop basic typing and data entry skills.
- Participate in digital projects that demonstrate problem-solving and creativity.
- Master Computerised Record Keeping
- Understand online safety, email communication, and cloud storage.
- Develop a basic understanding of AI engineering and programming.



Prepare for the world of work with skills that employers value most. This course teaches professionalism, communication, time management and teamwork while helping you understand the job market.

Learning Outcomes:

- Create professional CVs and cover letters.
- Practice effective job interview techniques.
- Build time management, discipline, and workplace etiquette.
- Develop communication and teamwork skills.
- Understand workplace rights and responsibilities.



Turn ideas into reality! Learn how to start and run a small business, manage finances, and market your products or services. This course introduces you to real-world entrepreneurial thinking.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the basics of starting and managing a small business.
- Develop a simple business plan and financial strategy.
- Learn marketing, branding, and customer service fundamentals.
- Identify opportunities and problem-solving in business.

VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM



VOLUNTEERING AND WORK-BASED EXPERIENCE

Volunteering forms a core part of the Kitso Gap Year Program. Many young people struggle to gain employment not because they lack education, but because they lack practical experience. Our volunteering component is designed to bridge this gap by giving matriculants real-world exposure while they continue to develop skills.

Through partnerships with community organisations, NGOs, schools and small businesses, participants will be placed in structured volunteering opportunities that align with their interests and the skills they are developing through the program. These opportunities are carefully selected to ensure that students are not exploited and that the experience adds real value to their personal and professional growth.

Volunteering allows participants to apply what they are learning in a real environment, build confidence, develop responsibility, and gain references that can be used when applying for jobs, internships, or learnerships. Volunteering within this program is structured, supervised, and purposeful. It is not about free labour. Every placement is aligned with the program's goals of improving employability, supporting entrepreneurship, and preparing students for further study.

HOW VOLUNTEERING BENEFITS MATRICULANTS

Through the volunteering component, students will:

- Gain practical work experience to strengthen their CVs.
- Develop workplace habits such as punctuality, teamwork, communication, and accountability.
- Apply technical and life skills learned during the program in real situations.
- Build professional networks and access potential job or business opportunities.
- Receive letters of recommendation or references where applicable.

STIPENDS, CLOTHING, AND TRANSPORT SUPPORT

We understand that financial barriers often prevent young people from accessing opportunities. To reduce this burden:

- Some volunteering opportunities will include a stipend, depending on the nature, duration, and funding of the placement.
- Participants placed in volunteering roles will receive program-branded merchandise clothing (such as T-shirts or branded attire) at no cost.
- Transportation costs will be covered where necessary, especially for placements that require travel outside of the participant's immediate area.

These measures ensure that students can participate fully without financial strain, while maintaining professionalism and safety during their placements.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAM FOR?

This program is for you, if you :

Completed matric between 2020 and 2025 and looking to gain a competitive edge over your peers entering the job market.

Are serious about improving skills, increasing employability and developing entrepreneurial skills

Are ready to commit to a gap year of growth and development.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications to our program can be completed in four simple steps.

1

**NAVIGATE TO OUR WEBSITE
WWW.KITSOGAPYEAR.ORG
AND FILL IN OUR
APPLICATION FORM.**

2

**WAIT FOR EMAIL
CONFIRMING YOUR
APPLICATION STATUS .**
THIS STEP USUALLY TAKES 2 DAYS

3

**PAY YOUR
APPLICATION FEE OF
R150**

4

**WAIT FOR FURTHER
COMMUNICATION AND
SIGN YOUR
COMMITMENT PLEDGE**

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO APPLY



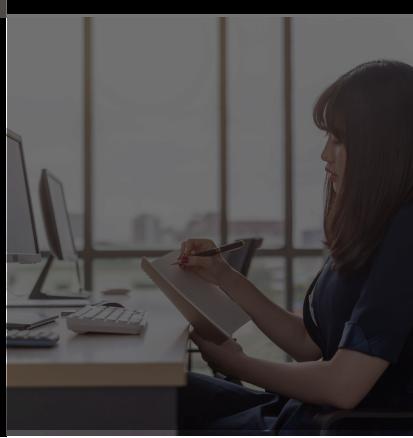
**BUILD A
FUTURE
YOU WANT**



**BE
FINANCIALLY
SECURE**



**STUDY
FURTHER**



**ACHIEVE
YOUR GOALS**



**START A
BUSINESS**