



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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TO: EXAMINATION CENTRES
CAMPUS MANAGERS
PRINCIPALS OF FET PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLEGES
SOUTH AFRICAN COLLEGE PRINCIPALS' ORGANISATION (SACPO)
HEDCOM SUB-COMMITTEE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT
UMALUSI

EXAMINATION INSTRUCTION NO. 2 OF 2011

ISSUING OF CERTIFICATES FOR FET COLLEGE QUALIFICATIONS AND PROGRAMMES

Upon the establishment of the new Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) in April 2010 to deal with the post-school system in South Africa, all policies impacting on the operations of DHET have been scrutinized to determine their implications for the workings of the Department. During this process it has come to light that the Department, as the national examining body, does not have the authority to issue certificates for FET College qualifications and/or programmes. According to the GENFETQA Act, this responsibility rests with the quality assessor.

The implication of this is that the Department may not continue with the issuing of certificates and has ceased this function with immediate effect. This has led to the Department having to review the process of issuing certificates. In this regard, it is important to note that the National Certificates (Vocational) Levels 2-4 are all registered and recognised qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) which culminate in a certificate. On the other hand, the Report 191 N1-N6 programmes are not currently registered or recognised as qualifications on the NQF. These programmes are considered part qualifications culminating in the issuing of a National N Diploma certificate on completion of N6 and on meeting the practical work place requirements attached thereto.

DHET has engaged with Umalusi regarding the release of certificates for the National Certificate (Vocational) Level 2 to 4 qualifications and Report 191 N1-N3 programmes and the following has been resolved in this regard:

a) National Certificates (Vocational) qualifications: Level 2-4

- DHET will cease to issue all certificates for NC (V) Level 2 and 3
- DHET will continue to issue an individual statement of results (i.e. black and white printout displaying DHET logo) to all NC (V) per examination cycle immediately on conclusion of the resulting process
- Umalusi will issue certificates to all past, present and future NC (V) Level 2 and 3 candidates offering this qualification since its inception in 2007
- Umalusi will implement a bulk certification of all NC (V) Level 2 and 3 candidates for previous academic years and issue these certificates by 28 February 2012
- Umalusi will continue to issue certificates to all NC (V) Level 4 candidates

b) Report 191 programmes: N1-N3

- DHET will cease to issue all certificates for N1-2
- DHET will continue to issue an individual statement of results (i.e. black and white printout displaying DHET logo) to all Report 191 N1-N3 candidates per examination cycle immediately on conclusion of the resulting process
- Umalusi will continue to issue a statement of results for all N3 candidates

The matter of who has the authority over Report 191 N4-6 programmes and the certification of the National N Diploma is being addressed with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). SAQA will make an announcement regarding developments in this regard.

From this point forward, the individual statement of results issued by DHET is a legal document and is to be used as proof of subject performance in achieving all the requirements related to the NC (V) qualifications and Report 191 programmes.

FET College principals are hereby requested to ensure that all candidates registered at the FET College are informed of the developments regarding the issuing of certificates for FET College qualifications and programmes.

Your cooperation in conveying this important message is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards



Mr GF Qonde

Director-General

Date: 01/11/2011