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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

NO. 7068 **2 February 2026**

DIRECTIVE ON THE INTERNALISATION OF THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) (NCV) LEVELS 2 AND 3 EXAMINATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND THE CESSATION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE THEREOF BY UMALUSI, THE COUNCIL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN GENERAL AND FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT NO. 16 OF 2006

I, Mr Buti Manamela, Minister of Higher Education and Training, in terms of section 43 (subsection 1 and 2) of the Continuing Education and Training Act, 2006, (Act No 16 of 2006) as amended, hereby retract the Directive published through Government Gazette No 53015, Notice No 6435 of 15 July 2025, and publish the directive on (1) the internalisation of the National Certificate (Vocational) [NC(V)] Levels 2 and 3 examinations; (2) the cessation of quality assurance of the National Certificate (Vocational) [NC(V)] Levels 2 and 3 examinations by Umalusi, the Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training; and (3) the amendments to the Policy for the Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC) (Vocational): A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).



Mr Buti Manamela
Minister of Higher Education and Training
Date: 17 / 12 / 2025

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DIRECTIVE ON THE INTERNALISATION OF THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) (NCV) LEVELS 2 AND 3 EXAMINATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND THE CESSATION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE THEREOF BY UMALUSI, THE COUNCIL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN GENERAL AND FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

BACKGROUND

1. The Minister of Higher Education and Training has determined to internalise the NC(V) levels 2 and 3 examinations.

2. The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) will assume responsibility for the quality assurance of the NC(V) Levels 2 and 3 examinations from the November 2025 examinations.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE DIRECTIVE ON THE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

3. Umalusi, the Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training, will cease the quality assurance and certification of the NC(V) Levels 2 and 3 examinations, effective from November 2025.

    (1) No certificates will be issued by Umalusi for learners currently registered for the November 2025 and future examinations for NC(V) Levels 2 and 3.

    (2) No certificates will be issued by Umalusi for learners who have not met the requirements for NC(V) Levels 2 and 3 on or before the March 2025 supplementary examinations.

    (3) For learners in paragraph 3 (1) and (2) above, the DHET will issue a statement of results to confirm achievement after March 2025.

    (4) NC(V) Levels 2 and 3 candidates who passed subjects over multiple examination cycles up to March 2025 can still apply for the combination of subject (s) to be issued with an NC(V) Level 2 or 3 certificate by Umalusi.

4. The NC(V) Level 4 examinations will continue to be externally assessed, quality assured, and certified by Umalusi, with the following requirements to the 2011 NC(V) *Policy for the Further*

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Education and Training Certificate (FETC) (Vocational): A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework:

(1) Candidates registered for the NC(V) Level 4 November 2025 examinations must comply with the minimum entrance requirements for the NC(V) qualification at Level 4, to comply with the requirements for the NC(V) Level 4 qualification.

(2) Candidates who have met the pass requirements for NC(V) Level 4 on or before the March 2025 supplementary examinations must comply with the minimum entrance requirements for the NC(V) qualification at Level 3 and 4, to comply with the requirements for the NC(V) Level 4 qualification.

(3) Candidates registering for NC(V) Level 4 examinations from November 2026 must comply with the progression requirements for NC(V) Level 2 and 3.

IMPLEMENTATION

5. This Directive is effective from the November 2025 examination cycle, and it applies retrospectively.

6. These transitional arrangements remain in place until the *Policy for the Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC) (Vocational): A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework* is reviewed.

AUTHORISATION

7. This Directive is issued by the Minister of Higher Education and Training in terms of section 43 (subsections 1 and 2) of the Continuing Education and Training Act, 2006, (Act No 16 of 2006) as amended.

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