



Education and Sport Development

Department of Education and Sport Development
Departement van Onderwys en Sportontwikkeling
Lefapha la Thuto le Tlhabololo ya Metsameko

NORTH WEST PROVINCE

Inset Building,
Dr Albert Luthuli Drive, Mmabatho,
Private Bag X2044, Mmabatho 2735
Tel.: (018) 384-1715 / 388-0800
Fax: (018) 384-1041
e-mail: bnothnagel@nwpg.gov.za
e-mail: pietersee@nwpg.gov.za

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

Enquiries:	D.Moroeng	Tel:(018) 384 8095 / Cell no.: 0836752017 / E-mail: dmoroeng@nwpg.gov.za	Fax (018) 3841041	Date: 2017/09/28
Enquiries:	D. de Klerk	Tel:(018) 297 5211 / Cell no.: 0835716803 /E-mail: ddeklerk@nwpg.gov.za	Fax (018) 293 0199	

ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 25 of 2017 (FET – NSC)

**TO: DISTRICT DIRECTORS
DIRECTORS
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT MANAGERS
DISTRICT CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS – PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT
SUB DISTRICT MANAGERS
AAOs
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
SUBJECT ADVISORY SERVICES
PRINCIPALS: ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS
TEACHER UNIONS**

**SUBJECT: MERGING OF NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) SUPPLEMENTARY
EXAMINATION WITH JUNE SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) EXAMINATION**

**COMPULSORY PRESENTATION OF A SOUTH AFRICAN IDENTITY
DOCUMENT (ID) ON REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018 NATIONAL SENIOR
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION**

See the attached Circular of E25 of 2017 National Department of Basic Education on the merging of National Senior Certificate (NSC) Supplementary Examination with the Senior Certificate (SC) Examination that is written in May/June with effect from 2019.

Secondly the compulsory submission of the South African Identity Document (ID) when registering candidates in January 2018, this means that no candidate will be registered without a valid South African Identity Document (ID), therefore school managers are urged to check that all candidates in Grade 11 presently are having South African Identity Document (ID), if not a candidate must be instructed to go to Home Affairs to request for one.

**MR. D. MOROENG
ACTING DIRECTOR: EXAMINATIONS**



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001, Sol Plaatje House, 222 Struben Street, Pretoria, 0002, South Africa
Tel.: (012) 357 3000, Fax: (012) 323 0601, www.education.gov.za

**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION SERVICES
UMALUSI COUNCIL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

CIRCULAR E25 OF 2017

(A) MERGING THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION WITH THE JUNE SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) EXAMINATION

(B) COMPULSORY PRESENTATION OF A SOUTH AFRICAN IDENTITY DOCUMENT (ID) ON REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

A. MERGING THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION WITH THE JUNE SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) EXAMINATION

1. The Council of Education Ministers (CEM) has endorsed the merging of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Supplementary Examination with the Senior Certificate (SC) Examination, with effect from 2019, and the Department of Basic Education (DBE) is in the process of inviting public comments on this new proposal.
2. This implies that as from 2018, Grade 12 learners who write the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination in November 2018, who would have qualified to write the supplementary examination in February/March 2019, will write the equivalent of the supplementary examination in June 2019.
3. The main purpose of the Supplementary Examination is to afford borderline candidates that are short of one or two subjects, or short of one subject to gain entry into higher education or a specific occupation, a second chance.

4. However, the observation of the Department of Basic Education, with regards to the Supplementary examination, over the last few years has been as follows:
 - (a) The short period, i.e. between the beginning of January and mid-February, that learners have available to prepare for the Supplementary examination, does not provide learners with adequate time to prepare for the Supplementary examination and hence, performance in the supplementary examination, has been very poor.
 - (b) There has been high levels of "No-shows" to each of these examinations as high as 50% per subject for the previous years consistently. This results in huge amounts of wasteful expenditure, given the amount of resources that go into the preparations for these examinations.
 - (c) Learners who sit for the Supplementary Examination do not qualify for admission to tertiary institutions in the same year that they write the supplementary examination, as the results are only released in May when the first University semester is almost concluded.
5. Therefore, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) has presented a plan to the Council of Education Ministers, which will allow for the Supplementary Examination in 2019 to be merged with the June Senior Certificate Examination. This implies that candidates that would have written the Supplementary Examination in February/March 2019 can now write the June Senior Certificate Examination in 2019.
6. The advantages of merging the Supplementary examination with the June examinations are as follows:
 - (a) It allows candidates more time to prepare for the June examinations and this will allow for improved performance and will also reduce the percentage of "No Shows", given that learners will be better prepared for this examination.
 - (b) The May/June Senior Certificate Examination will afford "open access" to learners since there would be no restrictions to writing the June examinations, as is the case with the current Supplementary examination. This implies that learners that failed to meet the requirements in the November examination, together with those that passed but seek to improve their performance, may register to write the June examination.
 - (c) There would be considerable saving for Government, as the current three examination opportunities i.e. November, Supplementary and June examinations will be reduced to two i.e. November and June Examinations.

7. It is therefore important that this new proposed arrangement relating to the merging of the Supplementary examination with the June Senior Certificate examination be brought to the attention of all current Grade 11 learners, who will be affected by this new dispensation in 2019.
8. It also needs to be noted that policy has not yet been amended to accommodate this change as the Department is currently in the process of inviting comments from the public on this new dispensation. But, nonetheless, schools are being informed of this proposal, so that the Grade 11 learners can be prepared for this new arrangement, if finally approved and promulgated as policy.

B. COMPULSORY SUBMISSION OF A SOUTH AFRICAN IDENTITY DOCUMENT (ID) ON REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) EXAMINATION

1. It has come to the attention of the Department of Basic Education that large numbers of learners registering to write the NSC examination in 2016 were unable to produce a South African Identity document.
2. As from January 2018, it will be compulsory for a candidate desirous of registering to write the NSC examination, to produce a South African identity document. Failure to produce an identity document will result in candidates not being registered for the 2018 NSC examination.
3. Schools are requested to bring this important notice to the attention of all its Grade 11 learners so that those that still do not possess an official South African identity document, can obtain same in the next few months.
4. The Department of Basic Education will also engage with the Department of Home Affairs to support all schools, in ensuring that their Grade 11 learners obtain their identity documents, before the commencement of the new year.
5. For any enquiries, please contact the Chief Director: National Assessments and Public Examinations, Dr RR Poliah, Tel: (012) 357 3900.



MR HM MWELI

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 29/08/2017