

öOFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL:

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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TVET NUMBERED CIRCULAR TC 0134

DATED: 24 July 2025

To: **Acting/TVET Colleges Principals** *[Distribution of circular by the office of the DDG: TVET]*
Acting/TVET Deputy Principals *[Distribution of circular by the office of the DDG: TVET]*
Management Staff at all TVET Colleges *[Distribution of circular by the principals]*
Private Colleges *[Distribution of circular by the Directorate Private Colleges]*
Acting/TVET Regional Manager/TVET Directors *[Distribution of circular by the office of the DDG: TVET]*
Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETA) CEOs *[Distribution of circular by the office of the DDG: Skills]*
Industry role-players *(Distribution of circular by the SETAs)*

RE: THE MINISTERIAL DIRECTIVE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRE-2009 QUALIFICATIONS.

Dear College Principals

The Ministerial Determination of 2012 indicated that all qualifications registered on the eight-level NQF will not be re-registered and must be replaced with qualifications as per the sub-framework policies. All pre-2009 qualifications allocated to the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF) were to reach their registration end date on **30 June 2015**. The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) requested extension until **30 June 2018** as it was a newly established council, and not enough occupational qualifications were developed to replace the pre-2009 qualifications, at the time. The QCTO thereafter requested the re-registration of the pre-2009 qualifications until **30 June 2023** to allow for the development and implementation of the new occupational qualifications.

On **03 June 2024** the Minister issued the directive on the implementation and transitional arrangements for all pre-2009 qualifications (Under the SAQA Act, 1995) published in Government Gazette 50742 which extend the last date of enrolment for pre-2009 qualifications for a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 2 years for qualifications that are in the process of realignment, development, evaluation and recommended to SAQA for registration. The NATED Report 191 programmes are part of these 374 qualifications.

Below is a guiding teach-out schedule which provides the last enrolment and examination dates for the different N-levels and the last achievement date of the National N Diploma for the **last cohort** of students on N4 – N6 programmes. Students will have a maximum of two chances to complete each level during the teach out period.

NATED REPORT 191: BUSINESS AND SERVICES STUDIES			
N-Level	First opportunity	Repeating opportunity	Last date of National Examination
N4	Semester 2 2025	Semester 1 2026	Semester 1 2026
N5	Semester 2 2026	Semester 1 2027	Semester 1 2027
N6	Semester 2 2027	Semester 1 2028	Semester 1 2028

NATED REPORT 191: ENGINEERING STUDIES			
N-Level	First opportunity	Repeating opportunity	Last date of National Examination
N4	Trimester 1 2026	Trimester 2 2026	Trimester 2 2026
N5	Trimester 3 2026	Trimester 1 2027	Trimester 1 2027
N6	Trimester 2 2027	Trimester 3 2027	Trimester 3 2027

The last date of achievement for the National N Diploma shall be 30 June 2029.

Note the following:

1. Students who complete the N-level programmes by 30 June 2026 will receive the QCTO accredited certificates as per current practice.
2. Students who complete the N-level certificates after 30 June 2026 will be issued with Statements of Results from the DHET.
3. The Statements of Results issued after 30 June 2026 will remain eligible for obtaining the National N Diploma.
4. The National N Diploma will be issued to all students who meet the requirements on or before 30 June 2029.
5. Relevant occupational qualifications replacing NATED Report 191 programmes are already registered on the NQF and their curricula may be accessed on the QCTO website: www.qcto.org.za

Colleges must continue conducting strategic and forward-looking reviews of their Programmes and Qualifications Mix (PQM) to align with the skills needs of industry and society and proactively address the planned phase-out of NATED Report 191 programmes in line with the transitional arrangements.

For further inquiries on the matter, please contact Mr. Thivhudziwi Vele at Vele.T@dhet.gov.za or 012 312 5546.

Yours sincerely



Mr SZ Zungu
Deputy Director-General
Technical and Vocational Education and Training
Date: 28 July 2025