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## GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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### DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

No. 494

18 June 2014

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 27 OF 1996)

#### CALL FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM STAKEHOLDER BODIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT POLICY PERTAINING TO THE CONDUCT, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

1. I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, hereby, in terms of *Sections 3(4)(l) and 7 of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (Act No. 27 of 1996)* and after consultation with the Council of Education Ministers give my intention to amend national education policy pertaining to the National Senior Certificate examinations as stipulated in the policy document, *National policy on the conduct, administration and management of the National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)*, promulgated in *Government Gazette No. 30048 of 6 July 2007*. In view of this, I invite stakeholder bodies and members of the public to comment on the relevant policy changes as set out in the **Schedule**.

#### AVAILABILITY OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT

2. The **Schedule** referred in paragraph 1 is available on the following Departmental websites: [www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za) <http://www.thutong.doe.gov.za>

#### SUBMISSIONS

3. It would greatly assist the Department of Basic Education if all submissions could be prepared under the headings of the various Policy Paragraphs listed in the **Schedule** available on the above-mentioned websites. If you do not wish to comment under a particular Paragraph, please indicate "No comment".

#### CLOSING DATE

4. The closing date for the receipt of comments is set as **21 days** after publication of this Notice.

#### ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS

5. Please send your submission to-

Dr R Poliah, Chief Director, Department of Basic Education, Private Bag X895, PRETORIA, 0001 Or Fax: 012 328 2898 Or E-mail: [poliah.r@dbe.gov.za](mailto:poliah.r@dbe.gov.za)

MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP  
MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION

## SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOLS ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 84 OF 1996)

## CALL FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM STAKEHOLDER BODIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENT POLICY PERTAINING TO THE CONDUCT, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1. I, Angelina Matsie Motshekga, Minister of Basic Education, hereby, in terms of *section 6A* of the *South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act. No. 84 of 1996)*, may determine –
  - (a) a national curriculum statement indicating the minimum outcomes and standards; and
  - (b) a national process and procedures for the assessment of learner achievement.
2. Minimum outcomes and standards, as contemplated in *paragraph 1(a)* above, means the minimum level at which a learner must attain the content and assessment requirements for all subjects listed in the *National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*.
3. Processes and procedures for the assessment of learner achievement, as contemplated in *paragraph 1(b)* above means the conduct, administration and management of internal assessment, end-of year examination, and the final National Senior Certificate examination.
4. After consultation with the Council of Education Ministers, I hereby give my intention to amend policy as set out in the **Schedule**, which will impact on the minimum outcomes and standards; and a national process and procedures for the assessment of learner achievement as stipulated in the policy document, *National policy on the conduct, administration and management of the National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)*, published in *Government Gazette No. 30048* of 6 July 2007.
5. Stakeholder bodies and members of the public are accordingly invited to comment on the amendment to policy which will impact on the minimum outcomes and standards; and a national process and procedures for the assessment of learner achievement.
6. The curriculum and the process for the assessment of learner achievement contemplated in *paragraph (1)* will be applicable to public and those independent schools that offer the *National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*.

**AVAILABILITY OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT**

7. The **Schedule** referred to in paragraph 4 is available on the following Departmental websites: [www.education.gov.za](http://www.education.gov.za) <http://www.thutong.doe.gov.za>

**SUBMISSIONS**

8. It would greatly assist the Department of Basic Education if all submissions could be prepared under the headings of the various Policy Paragraphs listed in the **Schedule** available on the above-mentioned websites. If you do not wish to comment under a particular Paragraph, please indicate "No comment".

**CLOSING DATE**

9. The closing date for the receipt of comments is set as **21 days** after publication of this Notice.

**ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS**

10. Please send your submission to:

**Dr R Poliah  
Chief Director  
Private Bag X895  
PRETORIA, 0001**

Or

**Fax: 012 328-2898  
E-mail: [poliah.r@dbe.gov.za](mailto:poliah.r@dbe.gov.za)**

11. The name, address, telephone number and fax number of the person or organization responsible for submitting comments must be provided.

**MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP  
MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION  
DATE:**

**NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 27 OF 1996)**

**DRAFT AMENDMENT POLICY PERTAINING TO THE CONDUCT,  
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE  
GENERAL EXPLANATORY NOTE**

[.....] Words in bold in square brackets indicate omissions from the existing policy.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Words underlined with a solid line indicate insertions into the existing policy.

**SCHEDULE**

**DEFINITIONS**

1. In this policy "policy" means the policy published as *Government Notice No. 564* in *Government Gazette No. 30048* of 6 July 2007 as amended by *Government Notices No. R872, Government Gazette No. 31337* of 29 August 2008, *No. 1327* and *No. 1328, Government Gazette, No.31680* of 12 December 2008, *Government Notices 1041 and 1042, Government Gazette, No.32678* of 3 November 2009, *Regulation Notice No. 188, Government Gazette No. 35103* of 2 March 2012; and *Regulation Notice No. 444, Government Gazette No. 35429* of 7 June 2012.

**Amendment of Paragraph 44 of the Policy**

1. Paragraph 44 of the Policy is hereby amended by the addition of sub-paragraph (3) following sub-paragraph (2) -
 

“(3) All Provincial Education Departments must ensure that-

  - (a) the category of top learners is based on the aggregate of the six best subjects, excluding Life Orientation; and
  - (b) The selection will be based on the learner data as at the date of the official release of results by the Minister and no appeals or outcome of supplementary examination results will be considered”.

**Amendment of Paragraph 45 of the Policy**

2. Paragraph 45 is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-paragraph (1)(a) of the following sub-paragraph-
 

“(1)(a) A candidate may apply for the re-marking or re-checking of his or her examination answer scripts, within **[twenty-one (21)]** fourteen (14) calendar days of the official release of the results.”.

### Amendment of Paragraph 50 of the Policy

3. Paragraph 48 is hereby amended by the substitution for sub-paragraph (3) of the following sub-paragraph-

“(3) The [national] security and confidentiality agreement relating to examination matters must be signed by all officials involved in managing and administering the examination process. In addition all examination officials must be subjected to a police clearance followed by a security clearance. The level of security clearance will be determined by the responsibility attached to the functions performed by the official.”

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