

NATIONAL POLICY PERTAINING TO THE CONDUCT, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

GENERAL EXPLANATORY NOTE

[.....]Words in bold in square brackets indicate omissions from the existing regulations.

_____ Words underlined with a solid line indicate insertions into the existing regulations.

SCHEDULE

CHAPTER 1

DEFINITIONS, OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND APPLICATION

Amendment of the National policy pertaining to the conduct, administration and management of the National Senior Certificate examination of 6 July 2007, as amended by the policies of 29 August 2008; 12 December 2008; 3 November 2009; 2 March 2012; 7 June 2012 and 16 May 2014

In this Policy, any word or expression to which meaning has been assigned in the Act, shall have the meaning so assigned to it, unless the content indicates otherwise[.] , and the singular shall include the plural and *vice versa*.

1. the policy;2007 is hereby amended by –

(a) by the substitution of the definition of “**candidate**” with the following-

“ ‘**candidate**’ - means a learner who has enrolled in his or her Grade 12-year for the National Senior Certificate programme and who has registered for the National Senior Certificate final examinations to be conducted in November of the year in which National Senior Certificate programme has been completed, or in June of the following year, or a learner who has enrolled for the Senior Certificate qualification and who has registered for the Senior Certificate examination;”;

- (b) by the deletion of the definition of “**District Assessment Irregularities Committee (DAIC)**” and the insertion after the definition of the “**deputy Chief marker**” of the following definition-

[“District Assessment Irregularities Committee (DAIC)” - means the District Assessment Irregularities Committee, established by the Provincial Head of Department, to coordinate the handling of examination and internal assessment irregularities at a district level;]

“ ‘District Assessment Integrity Committee’ - means the District Assessment Integrity Committee, established by the Provincial Head of Department, to promote the integrity of the National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate examinations and coordinates the handling of examination and internal assessment irregularities at a district level;”;

- (c) by the substitution of the definition of “**examination**” with the following definition-

“ ‘examination’ - means the National Senior Certificate examination conducted [at the end of the year] in November of the year in which National Senior Certificate programme has been completed, or the Senior certificate examination to be conducted in June;”;

- (d) by the substitution of the definition of “**examination sitting**” with the following-

“ ‘examination sitting’ – means [a main] an examination sitting, [excluding a supplementary examination sitting;] which is conducted in November or in June of the following year[.];” ;

- (e) by the substitution of the definition of “**full-time candidate**” with the following-

“ ‘full-time candidate’ – means:

(a) a learner who has enrolled for tuition in a full-time capacity at a public or independent school or any other registered education institution and who presents the required number of subjects as stipulated in the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades*

R – 12, Government Gazette No. 34600 of 12 September 2011[.]; and

(b) candidate who follows the multiple examination A progressed opportunity (MEO), option and writes a minimum of three subjects in the November examination, is also referred to as a full-time candidate. Such a candidate retains his/her full time candidate status until he/she has written the remaining subjects in the subsequent June examination;

- (f) by the insertion of the definition of “**Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO)**” after the definition of “**moderation**” -

“ **Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO)**’ – means a progressed candidate who writes a minimum of three subjects in the year in which he registers for the National Senior Certificate programme and then writes the remaining subjects in the June Senior Certificate Examination of the following year. The MEO status of the candidate terminates after the completion of the writing of the June examination;”;

- (g) by the deletion of the definition of “ **National Examinations Irregularities Committee (NEIC)**” and the insertion after the definition of the “**National Examination Board (NEB)**” of the following definition-

[“**National Examinations Irregularities Committee (NEIC)**” - means the body established by the Minister of Basic Education, to coordinate the handling of irregularities identified during internal assessments and examinations;]

“ **National Examination and Assessment Integrity Committee (NEAIC)**’ - means the committee, established by the Minister, to promote the integrity of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Senior Certificate (SC) examination and exercises oversight and coordinates the management of all irregularities relating to the examinations and assessment of the NSC and SC;”;

- (h) by the substitution of the definition of “**National Senior Certificate examination**” with the following-

“ **National Senior Certificate examination**’ – means the [final]_examination written [at the end of] in November of the Grade 12-year, or in June of the following year conducted by the Department of Basic Education or an assessment body accredited by Umalusi;”;

- (i) by the substitution of the definition of “**part-time candidate**” with the following-

“ ‘**part-time candidate**’ - means a Grade 12 learner who does not receive tuition on a full-time basis and who registers with an accredited assessment body for one or more subjects in **[an]** either the November NSC examination or the June Senior Certificate (SC) examination];”;

- (j) by the deletion of the definition of “**Provincial Examinations Irregularities Committee (PEIC)**” and the insertion after the definition of the “**Provincial Examination Board (PEB)**” of the following definition-

[“**Provincial Examinations Irregularities Committee (PEIC)**” - means the body contemplated in *Paragraph 47*;]

“**Provincial Examinations and Assessment Integrity Committee (PEAIC)**’- means the committee established by the Head of Department in each province, to promote the integrity of the NSC and SC examinations and to exercise oversight and coordinate examination and assessment irregularities in the province”;

- (k) by the substitution of the definition of “**preparatory examination**” with the following-

“ ‘**preparatory examination**’ - means an examination, conducted by an assessment body, prior to the final National Senior Certificate examination, **[in order]** to allow candidates an opportunity to write a full-scale examination in preparation for the said final examination;”;

- (l) by the substitution of the definition of “**repeat candidate** ” with the following-

“ ‘**repeat candidate**’ - means a candidate who has failed the November National Senior Certificate examination and/or the **[supplementary] examination] in June of the year following the November National Senior Certificate examination and who wants to satisfy the outstanding requirements for the National Senior Certificate**;”;

- (m) by the deletion of the definition of “**School Assessment Irregularities Committee (SAIC)**” and the insertion after the definition of the “**School**” of the following definition-

[“School Assessment Irregularities Committee (SAIC)” - means the body established by the school to deal with all irregularities identified during examinations and assessment;]

“ ‘School Assessment Integrity Committee (SAIC)’ - means the committee established by the District Director or his/her designee, to manage all irregularities relating to School Based Assessment, Practical Assessment, Language Oral Assessment and internal examinations conducted at the school;”;

- (n) by the deletion of the definition of **“supplementary examination”** in full.

[“supplementary examination” - means an examination granted under special conditions as contemplated in *Regulation 18* to a full-time and part-time candidate;]

- (o) by the substitution of the definition of **“Umalusi”** with the following-
“ ‘Umalusi’ - means the Quality Council [, contemplated in section 1 **Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training established by the *General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act, 2001 (Act No. 58 of 2001)*.] for In terms of the *National Qualifications Framework Act, 2008 (Act No. 67 of 2008)*, it is tasked to support the achievement of the objectives of the NQF and to develop and manage the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework.”.**

2. Paragraph 4 of the policy is hereby amended by –

- (a) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (5) with the following sub-paragraph –

(5) In Grades 10, 11 and 12, School-Based Assessment must be moderated by the Department of Basic Education, **[the assessment body]**, the Provincial Education Department, or the independent assessment body, in the case of independent schools, and Umalusi.

- (b) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (6) with the following sub-paragraph –

- (6) A Practical Assessment Task (PAT) or Oral Assessment is a compulsory component of the final promotion mark for all candidates registered for the following National Senior Certificate subjects-
- (a) Agriculture: Agricultural Management Practices and Agricultural Technology;
 - (b) Arts: Dance Studies, Design, Dramatic Arts, Music and Visual Arts;
 - (c) Languages: Oral **[mark]** assessment;
- (c) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (7) with the following sub-paragraph –
- (7) The Practical Assessment Task (PAT) mark must count 25% of the end-of-year examination mark (Annexure A).
- (d) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (9) with the following sub-paragraph –
- (9) The composition of the Practical Assessment Task and Oral Assessment of all subjects listed in sub-paragraph (6) is outlined in the policy document, *National Protocol for Assessment Grades R-12*.
- (e) the substitution for sub-paragraph (10) with the following sub-paragraph –
- (10) In Grade 12, Practical Assessment Tasks and the Oral Assessment must be moderated by the Department of Basic Education, the Provincial Education Department, or the independent assessment body, in the case of independent schools; and Umalusi.
3. Paragraph 5 of the policy is hereby amended –
- (a) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (4) with the following sub-paragraph –
- (4) The absence of a School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task or Language Oral mark in any subject, without a valid reason, will result in the candidate, registered for that particular subject, receiving an incomplete result. Such a candidate will not be resulted and he or she must **[repeat the subject, and if necessary the year and]** redo the School-Based Assessment and/or Practical Assessment Task/Language Oral component for that subject.
- (b) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (8) with the following sub-paragraph –

- (8) Where the subject teacher fails to give learners the minimum tasks for School-Based Assessment and/or Practical Assessment Task/Language Oral in the subject for which he or she is responsible, marks will be adjusted accordingly as stipulated in the policy document, *National Protocol for Assessment Grades R-12*. The matter must be resolved by the Assessment Body in consultation with Umalusi [**or the independent assessment body in consultation with the assessment body.**]

4. Paragraph 7 of the policy is hereby amended –

- (a) by the insertion, after sub-paragraph (2) with the following paragraphs –

7A External Examinations Conducted by the Department of Basic Education

- (1) The following two qualifications are registered at NQF Level 4 on the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework-
(a) Senior Certificate (SC) (as amended); and
(b) National Senior Certificate (NSC).
- (2) The Department of Basic Education will conduct two external examination sittings per year, commencing in 2019, one in October/November and one in June.
- (3) Learners writing the October/November examination may write the June examination as from 2019, and NSC learners writing the June examination may write the October/November examination.
- (4) Learners who are registered for the NSC and meet the programme and promotion requirements for the NSC qualification, will be awarded a National Senior Certificate. Learners who are registered for the Senior Certificate (as amended) and meet the programme and promotion requirements of the qualification, will receive the Senior Certificate (as amended).
- (5) The full set of approved subjects stipulated in *paragraph 27* and Annexure C of the policy document, *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R–12, Government Gazette No. 36042 of 28 December 2012* as amended, will be offered in both the October/November and June examination sittings.
- (6) The Independent Assessment bodies will also conduct two examination sittings. The first examination sitting will take place in October/November and

the dates for the second examination sitting will be determined by the Independent Assessment Body, in consultation with the Quality Assurance Council, Umalusi

- (7) All learners attending independent schools which offer the *National Curriculum Statement, Grades R-12*, must write the National Senior Certificate examination written in October/November, examined either by the Department of Basic Education, or an Independent Assessment Body.

7B Features of the National Senior Certificate

- (1) A learner wishing to achieve the National Senior Certificate must comply with the School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral Assessment requirements for Grades 10, 11 and 12.
- (2) The SBA, Practical Assessment Task and Oral marks obtained in a previous NSC examination will be valid and will be utilised in the resulting of subsequent examination opportunities.
- (3) The validity period attached to School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral Assessment requirements will be removed with promulgation of this policy.
- (4) A learner who wishes to improve his or her results for School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and/or Language Oral Assessment requirements must register with an education provider registered with the assessment body responsible for the conduct of the final National Senior Certificate examination to ensure that he or she complies with the assessment requirements. The candidate will only be expected to redo his/her School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and/or Language Oral Assessment requirements and not the written examination.
- (5) A candidate who did not write one question paper in one examination sitting in a specific subject, must write all examination papers for that subject, in the subsequent examination sitting.
- (6) NSC Candidates that write in one examination sitting, will be allowed to combine their subjects passed in that examination sitting with any other subjects passed in another examination sitting, based on the requirements relating to the issuing of a National Senior Certificate.
- (7) The NSC candidates who write subsequent examination sittings will retain their NSC qualification status, except in the case of learners who are 21 years or older and opt to change to the Senior Certificate (as amended).

- (8) NSC candidates are not limited in the number of examination sittings that they may register to write in order to fulfil the requirements of the qualification.

7C Features of the Senior Certificate Examination

- (1) The Senior Certificate examination is the examination conducted by the Department of Basic Education for the following learners-
- (a) adult learners who are 21 years and older;
 - (b) out of school youth 18-21 years old who could not complete their school education; and
 - (c) National Senior Certificate repeat and part-time candidates.
- (2) A Senior Certificate will be issued to all the learners contemplated in sub-paragraph (1)(a) and (1)(b) above, provided the learners and candidates have met all the programme and promotion requirements of the qualification as set out in the policy document *A Résumé of subjects for the Senior Certificate, Report 550, Government Gazette, No.41024 of 4August 2017.*

5. Paragraph 8 of the policy is hereby amended –

- (a) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (1) with the following sub-paragraph –

(1). Admission of full-time candidates to write the National Senior Certificate Examination

A full-time candidates who enters for the October/November National Senior Certificate examinations must comply with the following requirements-

- (a) enrol for tuition as a full-time learner at a public or an independent school offering a National Senior Certificate course of study as stipulated in *paragraph 27* and Annexure C of the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12.*
- (b) enrol for a National Senior Certificate course of study that will be completed prior to the date of commencement of the examination;
- (c) enrol for seven or more National Senior Certificate subjects as stipulated in *paragraph 27* and Annexure C of the policy document,

National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12.

- (d) comply with all School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral requirements where applicable.
- (e) comply with the promotion requirements for Grades 10 and 11 as contemplated in the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R–12.*

(b) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (3) with the following sub-paragraph –

(3) Admission of Part-time Candidates to write the National Senior Certificate examination post 2018

- (a) A part-time candidate is a Grade 12 learner who **[has registered]** registers for one or more subjects in an examination and does not receive full-time tuition.
- (b) The school at which the candidate registers, must ensure and verify that the part-time candidate has-
 - (i) completed the programme requirements for Grades 10, 11 and 12 separately;
 - (ii) complied with the School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral Assessment requirements for Grades 10, 11 and 12;
 - (iii) complied with the assessment requirements of Grade 12 as contemplated in the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements of the various subjects.
- (c) registered for the National Senior Certificate examination with an assessment body which must verify whether the part-time candidate has complied with *sub-paragraphs (3)(b).*

(c) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (5) with the following sub-paragraph –

(5) Admission of Repeat Candidates to write the National Senior Certificate examination

- (a) A repeat candidate need not receive full-time tuition at a public or independent school
 - (b) A repeat candidate may register to write the October/November examination or the June examination sitting, provided the School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral Assessment requirements have been completed.
 - (c) A repeat candidate must register for the examination with the assessment body or a registered exam centre.
- (d) by the insertion, after sub-paragraph (5A) with the following sub-paragraph –

5B. Writing of the June Senior Certificate examination by National Senior Certificate Candidates.

- (1) Candidates writing the November National Senior Certificate examination, that do not meet the requirements of the NSC or meet the requirements of the NSC but wish to improve their performance either in the terms of the subject, or the type of pass obtained, may register to write the June Senior Certificate examination.
- (2) If a candidate is indisposed due to ill health or if there is a death in the immediate family, or if for other special reasons the candidate is unable to write one or more question papers in the November examination, he or she may register for the June examination.
- (3) The June Senior Certificate examination is an examination that is identical to the November National Senior Certificate examination, and all subjects offered in the NSC examination will be offered in the June SC examination.
- (4) Candidates must register to write the June SC examination and the criteria for registration are as follows:
 - (a) The learner must have written the NSC examination.
 - (b) The learner must have completed his/her School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task, and Language Oral marks in a previous NSC examination.
 - (c) The learner may not register for a subject with a practical component, or for Languages, unless he has previously registered for such a subject, and has a mark for the PAT component in that subject or in the case of Languages, has an oral mark.

- (5) The SBA, practical and oral marks obtained in a previous NSC examination will be valid and will be utilised in the resulting of this examination opportunity.
 - (6) A candidate who did not write or complete the October/November NSC examination in one more question papers in a specific subject, must write the examination in the entire subject in the June SC examination, even though he or she has been absent for one or more examination question papers.
 - (7) NSC Candidates that write the June Senior Certificate examination, will be allowed to combine their subjects passed in the June Senior Certificate examination, based on the National Senior Certificate requirements to obtain a National Senior Certificate.
 - (8) The NSC candidates will write the SC examination, but will retain their NSC qualification status.
 - (9) The NSC candidates that write the June SC examination, may register to write the subsequent NSC examination in November, if necessary.
- (e) Sub-paragraph (6) of the policy is hereby deleted in full –

[(6) The School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task, and Language Oral marks obtained by a candidate in his or her last National Senior Certificate examinations will be valid for a period of five (5) years, after the completion of the first National Senior Certificate examination written by the candidate in that subject. From 2014 the maximum validity period will change from five (5) years to three (3) years, provided that an alternative qualification for repeaters and part-time candidates has been developed. However, should an alternative qualification not be implemented prior to the expiry date of the School-Based Assessment component, the validity period may be extended until such time as deemed expedient by the Minister.]

- (f) by the insertion, sub-paragraph (7) with the following sub-paragraph –

7. Admission of Progressed Learners and Multi Examination Opportunity Candidates to write the National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate examination

- (1) In compliance with paragraph 31 of the Admission policy for ordinary public schools, Government Notice 2432, Government Gazette, Vol. 400, No. 19377 of 19 October 1998, a learner in the Further Education and Training Phase may only be retained once in order to prevent the learner being retained in this phase for longer than four years.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-paragraph (1), a learner will only be progressed to the next grade if he or she has met the following additional criteria-
 - (a) pass four of the required seven subjects;
 - (b) pass the Language of Learning and Teaching (LOLT);
 - (c) attended school on a regular basis, absence of a maximum period of 20 days with a valid reason will be allowed; and
 - (d) complied with the School-Based Assessment requirement for all seven subjects.
- (3) A learner who has met the requirements, as contemplated in sub-regulations (7)(1) and (7)(2), will be categorised as a progressed learner.
- (4) A progressed learner who has does not meet the requirements of the Assessment Body, during the course of the Grade 12 year, will be allowed an opportunity to write the final National Senior Certificate examination as a Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO) Candidate.
- (5) MEO candidates must write three or more subjects in the October/November examination sitting and they will be allowed to write the remaining subjects in the subsequent June examination sitting.
- (6) MEO candidates must satisfy the following criteria in order to be allowed to write the June examination sitting-
 - (a) must be progressed candidates;
 - (b) must have written a minimum of three subjects, excluding Life Orientation, in the previous November National Senior Certificate examination; and
 - (c) must have completed their School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and Language Oral Assessment requirements in the previous year.
- (7) MEO candidates do not have to register to write the June examination sitting, but will be automatically transferred to the subsequent June examination sitting on the examination computer system.
- (8) MEO candidates that are absent, with a valid reason, for one or more subjects in the November examination sitting, will be allowed to write the

subjects for which they were absent in the subsequent June examination sitting

- (9) MEO candidates that intend to re-write a subject that they have written in the November examination sitting, either to obtain a pass or to improve their performance, may do so in the subsequent June examination sitting.
- (10) MEO candidates may also write in the November examination sitting, following the June examination sitting.
- (11) MEO candidates that are found guilty of an irregularity in one or more subjects that they have written in the October/November examination will be allowed to write the remaining subjects in the June examination sitting. The sanction period for the implicated subject/s will still apply.

6. Paragraph 9 of the policy is hereby amended –

(a) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (3) with the following sub-paragraph –

- (3) A learner may change a maximum of two subjects in Grade 10, provided this is done by the end of the second term subject to the approval of the Principal of the school where the learner is registered. Such change must be done before 30 June of the Grade 10 year.

(b) by the substitution for sub- paragraph (4) with the following sub-paragraph –

- (4) A learner may change two subjects in Grade 11, provided this is done before 31 March, subject to the approval of the Principal of the school where the learner is registered.

(c) by the substitution for sub-paragraph (5) with the following sub-paragraph –

- (5) In exceptional cases a learner may change one additional subject in Grade ~~[12]~~ 11, provided it is done before ~~[31 January]~~ 15 December of the Grade ~~[12]~~ 11-year.

7. Paragraph 11 of the policy is hereby amended –

(a) by the deletion of sub-paragraph (2) in full –

[(2) Candidates who write a supplementary examination and who are unsuccessful, will be given 15 working days, following the release of the supplementary examination results, to register for the end-of-year examination.]

8. Paragraph 17 of the policy is hereby amended by –

(a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (2) with the following sub-paragraph –

(2) Candidates who absent themselves **[without]** with a valid reason from the end-of-year external examination must **[not]** be permitted to register for the **[supplementary]** examination to be written in June the following year.

(b) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (3) with the following sub-paragraph –

(3) If a candidate is unable to write or complete one or more of the National Senior Certificate examination question papers for reasons other than illness or injury, the Principal of the school must submit a written report in which the circumstances are explained to the Head of the assessment body, who will then decide whether or not the candidate will be allowed to sit for the **[supplementary]** examination to be written in June the following year.

9. Paragraph 18 of the policy is hereby deleted in full –

[A supplementary examination will be granted under the following conditions to a full-time, repeat and part-time candidate-

(1) If a candidate has not met the minimum promotion and certification requirements, but requires a maximum of two subjects to obtain the National Senior Certificate, he or she may-

(a) register for a maximum of two subjects for the supplementary examination in the following year. These subjects, subject to *sub-regulation (c)*, must be subjects that he or she sat for in the previous end-of-year examination. This option may only be exercised once by a part-time candidate, namely, after the candidate has completed all subjects for the National Senior

Certificate examination that is after his or her final end-of-year examination.

- (b) Register for Life Orientation, comprising an internally assessed component and a Common Assessment Task, as one of the two subjects to be registered for the supplementary examination in *sub-regulation (a)*. The re-assessment of both components of Life Orientation must be completed within the period in which the supplementary examination is conducted.**

- (2) Candidates that repeat one or more subjects must be allowed to combine their subjects based on the current National Senior Certificate requirements to obtain a National Senior Certificate.**

- (3) A candidate that does not satisfy the minimum higher education, higher education faculty requirements or the requirements for the specific occupation in the end-of-year examination, may be allowed in terms of the following to register for a maximum of two subjects in the supplementary examination in the year following the end-of-year National Senior Certificate examination-**

- (a) a candidate who is one requirement short in meeting the minimum admission requirements for Higher Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor's degree programmes requiring a National Senior Certificate; or**

- (b) a candidate that provides documentary evidence that he or she qualifies for admission to a higher education institution or for an occupation, but does not satisfy the higher education faculty requirements or the requirements for the specific occupation. For this purpose, the end-of-year and the supplementary examinations will be regarded as one examination sitting.**

- (4) If there is a death in the immediate family of a candidate, or other special reasons for the candidate's absence, which meets the approval of the Head of the assessment body, he or she may register for the supplementary examination.**

- (5) In cases contemplated in *sub-regulations (1) to (4)* above, the School-Based Assessment, Practical Assessment Task and the Language Oral marks of the Grade 12-year will be used.
 - (6) In a case where an irregularity is being investigated, provisional enrolment for the supplementary examination may be granted to the candidate concerned, pending the outcome of the investigation.
 - (7) A candidate who did not write or complete the end-of-year examination with a valid reason has the opportunity to write the supplementary examination for the specific examination question paper that he or she did not write in the end-of-year-examination. However, should the candidate select to write the entire subject, even though he or she has been absent for one or more examination question papers, the candidate should be allowed to exercise this option.
 - (8) Candidates that repeat one or more subjects must be allowed to combine their subjects based on the current National Senior Certificate requirements to obtain a National Senior Certificate.
 - (9) In combining these subjects contemplated in *sub-regulation (1)*, the performance in the seven (7) subjects will be taken into consideration, provided that it meets the programme requirements of the National Senior Certificate as contemplated in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12.*]
10. Paragraph 19 of the policy is hereby amended –
- (a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (9) with the following sub-paragraph –

(9) Examinations must be conducted in terms of the South African Standard Time requirements, Central Africa Time for the particular examination question paper.
11. Paragraph 21 of the policy is hereby amended–
- (a) by Insertion after paragraph 21 of the following –

The various processes as described in the examination cycle is applicable to both the Senior Certificate (as amended) and the National Senior Certificate examinations.

12. Paragraph 23 of the policy is hereby amended –

(a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (4) with the following sub-paragraph –

(4) A person who is appointed as an examiner or internal moderator must declare whether his or her son, daughter, brother or sister is sitting for the National Senior Certificate or Senior Certificate examination during the period of appointment. Such an examiner or moderator must be relieved from the responsibility of setting or moderating examination question papers for that particular period.

13. Paragraph 24 of the policy is hereby amended –

(a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (1)(a) and (b) with the following sub-paragraph-

(1) The **[Department of Basic Education and the]** assessment body must ensure that-

(a) chief examiners and examiners set the examination question papers and prepare the marking guidelines for the examination question papers required, both for the **[final and the supplementary]** November and June examination, as well as an additional examination question paper that will serve as a backup examination question paper;

(b) the examination question papers for both the November and ensuing June examinations, and the back-up examination question papers **[and the supplementary examination question paper]** are set at the same time to ensure comparability of standards across all three examination question papers;

CHAPTER 9
PROCESSING OF MARKS

14. Paragraph 44 of the policy is hereby amended –
- (a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (1) and (2) with the following sub-paragraph–
- (1) The release date of the results of the National Senior Certificate and the Senior Certificate (as amended) examination of the State, must be decided upon by the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) on the recommendation of HEDCOM, and this must be done on an annual basis.
- (2) The date contemplated in *sub-regulation (1)* is subject to approval of the National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate (as amended) results by Umalusi.

CHAPTER 10
**RE-MARKING, RE-CHECKING AND VIEWING OF EXAMINATION ANSWER
SCRIPTS**

15. Paragraph 45 of the policy is hereby amended –
- (a) by the substitution of sub-regulation (1)(b) with the following sub-regulation –
- (b) This applies to both the **[end-of-year and supplementary examinations]** November and June examinations.

CHAPTER 12
SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

16. Paragraph 50 of the policy is hereby amended –
- (a) by the substitution of sub-paragraph (4) with the following sub-paragraph –
- (3) Employees who are involved in the National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate (as amended) examinations, and who have immediate relatives in Grade 12, must disclose such information within a period of 18 months before the

commencement of the **[final end-of-year National Senior Certificate]** November and June examinations to the relevant assessment body.

CHAPTER 17

17. Paragraphs 60 and 61 of the policy are amended as follows –

(a) by deletion of Paragraphs 60 and 61 in full –

[AMENDMENT OF THE POLICY DOCUMENT NATIONAL POLICY ON THE CONDUCT, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE: A QUALIFICATION AT LEVEL 4 ON THE NATIONAL QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK (NQF) UNDERPINNED BY THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM STATEMENT GRADES 10-12, TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, AND COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY]

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SHORT TITLE

[60. **Amendment of the Regulations pertaining to the *Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate* underpinned by the *National Curriculum Statement Grades 10-12***

(1) On 31 December 2013 the *Regulations Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate*, underpinned by the *National Curriculum Statement Grades 10-12*, will be replaced by the *Regulations Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management for the National Senior Certificate Examination* underpinned by the *National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12 as contemplated in Regulation 59(8).*]

[61. **Transitional arrangements**

(2) National education policy pertaining to part-time candidates as stipulated in the policy document, *National Policy Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate Examination* will continue to exist until such a date as determined by the Minister of Basic Education.

- (3) The Minister may also determine the date, contemplated in *sub-regulation 1* after-

 - (a) an alternative qualification for part-time candidates has been developed and implemented; and
 - (b) public and independent distance/correspondence education institutions have been identified and have become operational to assist part-time candidates to obtain the qualification presented by the Minister in the *Government Gazette*.
- (4) The policy pertaining to part-time candidates contemplated in *sub-regulation 2* will continue for a further period of three (3) years after the date referred to in *sub-regulation 1* In order to accommodate the candidates already enrolled as part-time candidates on the date determined by the Minister.
- (5) Part-time candidates must comply with the National Senior Certificate requirements as stipulated in the policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*.
- (6) Learners who register as part-time candidates for the first time in Grade 10 must register with an accredited assessment body to ensure that such learners comply with the National Senior Certificate requirements as stipulated in the policy document, *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*.
- (7) Once a learner as contemplated in *sub-regulation 5* has registered with an assessment body, such assessment body must provide guidelines regarding the National Senior Certificate with respect to the three year duration of the qualification and the compliance with the internal assessment and external examination requirements.
- (8) The following policy documents will be phased out on 31 December 2013-

- (a) ***National Curriculum Statement Grades 10-12 promulgated in Government Gazettes, No. 25545 of 6 October 2003, No. 27594 of 17 May 2005, No. 27819 of 20 July 2005 and No. 28300 of 7 December 2005.***
 - (b) ***National Senior Certificate: A Qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), promulgated in Government Gazette No.27819 of 20 July 2005;***
 - (c) ***The policy document, An Addendum to the Policy Document, the National Senior Certificate: A Qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), Regarding Learners with Special Needs, promulgated in Government Gazette, No.29466 of 11 December 2006; and***
 - (d) ***An Addendum to the Policy Document, the National Senior Certificate: A Qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), regarding the National Protocol for Assessment (Grades R – 12), promulgated in Government Gazette No. 29467 of 11 December 2006.***
- (9) On 31 December 2013 the ***National Policy on Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualification Framework (NQF)*** will be replaced by a new policy, namely ***National Policy Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate examination*** underpinned by the ***National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12.***
- (10) On 1 January 2014 the ***National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12*** comprising the following policy documents will replace the documents contemplated in ***sub-regulation (7)*** and will form the basis for all National Senior Certificate examinations post 2013-
- (a) ***Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements for all approved subjects listed in this document;***
 - (b) ***National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R – 12; and***
 - (c) ***National Protocol for Assessment Grades R – 12.***

(11) **The Minister may, if deemed necessary, amend the transitional arrangements as contemplated in *Regulation 59.*]**

(b) by the insertion of Paragraph 60 (A), after the deleted Paragraph 60-

60 A. Transitional Arrangements

This Policy make provision for the following transitional arrangements-

(1) The last supplementary examination for the National Senior Certificate examination will be February/March 2018 and candidates that write the November 2018 National Senior Certificate examination, will be allowed to write the June 2019 Senior Certificate examination, which replaces the supplementary examination.

(2) The Minister of Basic Education will determine the date on which the Senior Certificate examination will terminate. Based on this date the Senior Certificate examination written in June will be replaced by the National Senior Certificate examination.

62. Short Title [and commencement]

This Policy may be cited as *National Policy Pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate examination* and will come into effect on the date of publication in the *Government Gazette*.