



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA


**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION DIRECTORATES
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
UMALUSI COUNCIL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE
TEACHER UNIONS
SCHOOLS GOVERNING BODY ASSOCIATIONS
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

CIRCULAR E12 OF 2021

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS
TIMETABLE**

1. At the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) meeting held on Wednesday, 19 May 2021, the 2021 November/December Examination Timetable was discussed and approved (**Annexure A**).
2. The 2021 November/December examinations are scheduled to be written from **Monday, 1 November 2021 to Tuesday, 7 December 2021**.
3. The schools will close for learners on **Friday, 10 December 2021** and for teachers on **Wednesday, 15 December 2021**.
4. Examinations will start later than usual to allow for maximum teaching and learning time and the timetable will follow the timetable format of previous years, thus the examinations will extend over a period of 6 weeks.

5. The Life Orientation (LO) Common Assessment Task will be written on **Monday, 6 September 2021**, with its re-write (i.e. LO Common Assessment Task) scheduled for **Wednesday, 13 October 2021**.
6. Computer Applications Technology (CAT) and Information Technology (IT) Paper 1, practical, will be written on **Tuesday, 19 October 2021** and **Wednesday, 20 October 2021** respectively.
7. Candidates to also take note of the following important changes:
 - (a) Geography Paper 1 and Paper 2 are now both 3 hours and will be written on separate days:
 - (i) Geography P1: (Climate and Weather, Geomorphology and Mapwork).
 - (ii) Geography P2: (Rural and Urban Settlement, Economic Geography of SA and Mapwork).
 - (b) All Home Languages Paper 3 are now 3-hour papers compared to 2½ hrs previously.
 - (c) A third paper has been added to all Second Additional Languages. The duration of these SAL papers (P3) are 2½ hrs duration.
 - (d) Marine Sciences (Paper 1 and Paper 2) is offered for the first time at Grade 12 level.
8. The 2021 November/December examination timetable can also be accessed on the Department of Basic Education (DBE) website.
9. For any enquiries, please contact the Chief Director: National Assessments and Public Examinations, Dr RR Poliah, Tel: 012 357 3900.



DR RR POLIAH

ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CURRICULUM POLICY, SUPPORT AND MONITORING

DATE: 22/06/2021