

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 1663.

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1663. Mr B B Nodada (DA) to ask the Minister of Basic Education: to ask the Minister of Basic Education:

With regard to the National Education Excellence Awards ceremony held on 7 April 2022, what are the (a) criteria for each category of the awards, (b) reasons that her department has chosen to highlight the specific criteria and (c) reasons that the awards were not awarded during the National Senior Certificate examinations results announcement?

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Response

a)

2022 National Education Excellence Awards Categories and Criteria

Category	Criteria
1. Special Recognition Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Districts showing consistent National Senior Certificate (NSC) performance of above 85% (2019 – 2021)• Quintile 1 - 3 Secondary schools showing consistent NSC performance at 100% (2017 – 2021)
2. Top Performing District: 2021 NSC Highest Percentage Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Districts serving up to 400 schools• Districts serving more than 400 schools
3. Top Performing District: selected Quality Indicators – 2021 NSC Highest score: Overall Passes; Bachelors; Mathematics; and Physical Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Districts serving up to 400 schools• Districts serving more than 400 schools
4. Most Improved District 2020- 2021 NSC	Highest percentage improvement

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5. Top Performing District: NSC Bachelor Passes	Highest Percentage NSC Bachelor passes: 2019- 2021
6. Top Performing District: NSC Mathematics and Physical Science Passes	Highest Number of NSC Mathematics and Physical Science passes: 2019 – 2021
7. Excellence in District Leadership and Management	District with excellence in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management of the district• Innovations in the district• Management of partnerships
8. Excellence in Primary Schools Learning Outcomes Support	District with excellence in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear strategies to support improved quality of Grade R practices• Clear strategies to improve quality in Mathematics teaching: Grade R-6• Strategies to improve language teaching in all languages: Grade R-6

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Innovations to improve reading in all schools: Grade R-6
9. Top Performing Public Schools: 2021 NSC Highest percentage pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quintile 5• Quintile 4• Quintile 3• Quintile 2• Quintile 1
10. Best Full Service School 2021	Full Service School that has shown the most commitment to inclusion including: School policy on inclusion; Increased and successful accommodation of learners with diverse needs and learners with physical disabilities/ impairments; Functional School Based Support Team; and Evidence of steps taken to ensure physical access for all learners, including transport
11. Special Ministerial Award	Districts with the highest annual average percentage improvement between 2018 and 2021 in the number of Black African and Coloured candidates achieving 60% or more in

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	Mathematics and Physical Science
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b)

Reasons per Category Criteria

Criteria category	Reasons
1	To acknowledge and recognise districts for consistent NSC performance of above 85% over the last three years; and Club 100 Quintile 1 - 3 schools for consistent NSC performance at 100% over the last five years.
2	To reward small and large districts (separately by size comparison) that obtained the highest overall percentage passes.
3	To reward small and large districts (separately by size comparison) that obtained the highest sum score of selected quality indicators viz. Overall passes; Bachelors; Mathematics; and Physical Science.
4	To reward districts that obtained the highest percentage improvement in the two years of the Covid-19 pandemic
5	To reward districts that produced the highest percentage Bachelor passes over the last three years.
6	To reward districts that produced the highest number of learners that pass NSC Mathematics and Physical Science over the last three years
7	To reward districts that exhibited excellent leadership and management practices in 2021.

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8	To reward districts that showed excellent approaches and implemented best strategies towards improving the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy.
9	To reward public ordinary schools by quintile for excellent performance in the 2021 NSC taking into account their context including the socio-economic factors.
10	To reward Full Service schools that implemented excellent practices towards the achievement of imperatives on the policy on inclusion.
11	To to reward districts for improvement in their achievement levels especially among black learners in the gateway subjects of Mathematics and Physical Science in the NSC pre- and during- the Covid-19 pandemic.

c) The National Education Excellence Awards focus on rewarding excellence in performance, management and leadership, policy implementation, improvement strategies and innovation across the General Education and Training (GET) and Further Education and Training (FET) bands, thus going beyond the scope of the NSC results.