

CLASS OF 2014
NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE
INFORMATION BOOKLET



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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1. MINISTER'S MESSAGE



The Class of 2014 has succeeded in achieving an important milestone that will allow them access to the world of work and higher education. Their commitment and discipline during their schooling years have been

rewarded. The twelve years at school have prepared you, for the next phase in your journey to adulthood. There are a myriad of opportunities that await you and all that is now required is for you to make the right choices. If you are committed and you work hard you will actualise your dreams.

For those who did not do as well as expected, a second chance to improve your results is available. The Supplementary Examinations allow you to focus on the

one or two subjects where you need to improve in order to complete the NSC or improve your results. Establish the subject or subjects that you will write in this examination and dedicate the next few weeks to preparing for these examinations, which commence on 16 February 2015.

To those of you that were unsuccessful, all is not lost. There are various options that are available and advice may be obtained from your school on the best options for you. Do not abandon your studies, as this would be a decision that you might seriously regret in the years that lie ahead. It is only with an acceptable level of education that we as a country can break the chains of poverty. The country needs you to succeed so that we can build a prosperous nation. You can only transform the future if you have the requisite skills and knowledge which will allow you to take your rightful place in society.

2. SUMMARY REPORT CARD FOR CLASS OF 2014

Table 1: Overall performance of candidates in the 2014 NSC examination

Province	2014		
	Total (Wrote)	Total (Achieved)	% Achieved
Eastern Cape	66 935	43 777	65.4
Free State	26 440	21 899	82.8
Gauteng	99 478	84 247	84.7
KwaZulu-Natal	139 367	97 144	69.7
Limpopo	72 990	53 179	72.9
Mpumalanga	45 081	35 615	79.0
North West	26 066	22 061	84.6
Northern Cape	8 794	6 715	76.4
Western Cape	47 709	39 237	82.2
National	532 860	403 874	75.8

Figure 1: NSC performance, 2008-2014

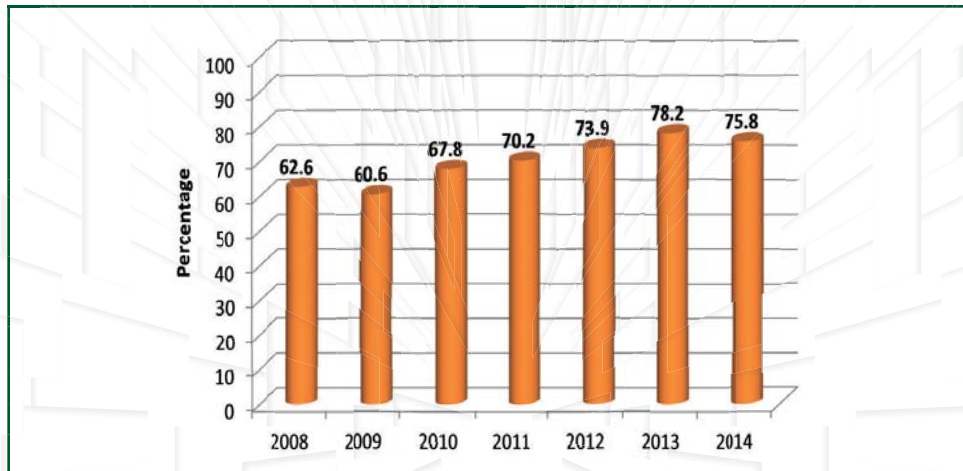


Table 2: NSC performance by type of qualification, 2014

Province	Total Wrote	Bachelor		Diploma		Higher Certificate		NSC		Total Achieved	% Achieved
		Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved		
Eastern Cape	66 935	13 435	20.1	18 339	27.4	11 958	17.9	45	0.1	43 777	65.4
Free State	26 440	7 987	30.2	9 754	36.9	4 107	15.5	51	0.2	21 899	82.8
Gauteng	99 478	36 843	37.0	35 034	35.2	12 295	12.4	75	0.1	84 247	84.7
KwaZulu-Natal	139 367	35 724	25.6	39 751	28.5	21 544	15.5	125	0.1	97 144	69.7
Limpopo	72 990	16 325	22.4	20 927	28.7	15 912	21.8	15	0.0	53 179	72.9
Mpumalanga	45 081	11 229	24.9	15 898	35.3	8 423	18.7	65	0.1	35 615	79.0
North West	26 066	8 509	32.6	9 472	36.3	4 079	15.6	1	0.0	22 061	84.6
Northern Cape	8 794	2 176	24.7	2 941	33.4	1 596	18.1	2	0.0	6 715	76.4
Western Cape	47 709	18 524	38.8	14 573	30.5	6 108	12.8	32	0.1	39 237	82.2
National	532 860	150 752	28.3	166 689	31.3	86 022	16.1	411	0.1	403 874	75.8

Table 3: Candidates' performance at 30% and above in selected subjects, 2013 – 2014

Subjects (Full-Time)	2013			2014		
	Wrote	Achieved 30% & Above	% Achieved	Wrote	Achieved 30% & Above	% Achieved
Accounting	145 427	95 520	65.7	125 987	85 681	68.0
Agricultural Sciences	83 437	67 308	80.7	78 063	64 486	82.6
Business Studies	218 914	179 329	81.9	207 659	161 723	77.9
Economics	150 114	110 869	73.9	137 478	94 779	68.9
Geography	239 657	191 834	80.0	236 051	191 966	81.3
History	109 046	94 982	87.1	115 686	99 823	86.3
Life Orientation	569 530	568 311	99.8	542 956	540 810	99.6
Life Sciences	301 718	222 374	73.7	284 298	209 783	73.8
Mathematical Literacy	324 097	282 270	87.1	312 054	262 495	84.1
Mathematics	241 509	142 666	59.1	225 458	120 523	53.5
Physical Sciences	184 383	124 206	67.4	167 997	103 348	61.5

For further assistance:

National	0800 202 933
Eastern Cape	040 608 4200/ 043 604 7709
Free State	051 404 8000/ 051 404 8318
Gauteng	011 355 0000/ 011 355 0588
KwaZulu-Natal	033 846 5000/ 031 327 0444
Limpopo	015 290 7611/ 015 290 7627
Mpumalanga	013 766 5000/ 013 766 0006
Northern Cape	053 839 6302/ 053 839 6500
North West	018 387 3312/ 018 388 0803
Western Cape	021 467 2000/ 021 467 2057

Please read the following information carefully. It will assist you with your future options and choices.

Remember: If you are disappointed with your results, do not panic or think you must deal with it on your own. You can seek advice and support from your teachers or Department counsellors. You may also wish to contact CHILDLINE on their toll free number – 0800 055 555 – and you will be redirected to the appropriate regional office.

3. RE-CHECKING, RE-MARKING AND VIEWING OF EXAMINATION SCRIPTS

How do I apply for re-checking or re-marking of examination answer scripts?

- Candidates may apply for re-checking or re-marking of examination answer scripts immediately after receiving their results.
- The closing date for application for a re-mark or re-check is **Wednesday, 21 January 2015**.

- Application forms for re-checking or re-marking of examination answer scripts are available from schools or examination centres.
- The fees of **R18 for re-checking, R80 for re-marking, and R160 for viewing** of an examination script apply. Viewing of a script can only be done, after re-checking and re-marking has been done.
- Candidates from no-fee schools and learners, whose parents have applied and have been granted a concession on the payment of schools fees, are exempted from payment of re-checking and re-marking fees.

4. WITHHELD EXAMINATION RESULTS

What should I do if my examination results are withheld?

Irregularities normally result in the candidates' results being withheld but those candidates whose results have been blocked or withheld have the right to appeal. When a candidate is informed that the results are withheld, they can do the following:

- Contact the Provincial Head Office (Exams Directorate), preferably in writing, and request the reasons for the withholding of the results. Candidates may also contact the district office or their school for assistance.

- You can visit the nearest office of the Department of Education in your area to enquire about your results or make any other examination related queries you may have. The following contact persons per province will point you in the right direction.

PROVINCE	OFFICIAL	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Eastern Cape	Mr. EM Mabona	043 604 7709/7701
Free State	Mr. JP Joubert	051 404 8318
Gauteng	Mr. P Masilo	011 355 0588/9
KwaZulu-Natal	Mr. B Mthembu	031 327 0245 / 031 327 0444
Limpopo	Mr. NW Mphahlele	015 290 7627
Mpumalanga	Mr. C Manyabeane	013 766 0006
Northern Cape	Ms P Phuzi	053 839 6302
North West	Mr. B Nothnagel	018 388 0803
Western Cape	Ms Z Modimakwane	021 467 2057

5. SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION REGISTRATION

Who may apply to register for supplementary examinations?

- Candidates that have not met the minimum promotion and certification requirements, but who require a maximum of two subjects to obtain the NSC;
- Candidates who could not sit or finish the examination due to medical reasons, a death in the immediate family or some other special reason, provided documentary evidence is submitted; and
- Candidates, who do not satisfy the minimum higher education entry requirements or higher education faculty requirements for a specific occupation with one subject, provided documentary evidence is submitted.

How do I register for supplementary examinations?

- Candidates who qualify for a supplementary examination can register at the centres where they sat for the examination immediately after receiving their results.
- The closing date for application for the supplementary examination is **Wednesday, 21 January 2015**.

Where can I access the NSC supplementary timetable?

If candidates meet the requirements, they should download the supplementary examination timetable at <http://www.education.gov.za> and begin their preparations immediately.

The Department has also made available the NSC past examination papers and study guides, and provinces will be offering support programmes where feasible. The Mind the

Gap series of study guides for Accounting, Economics, Geography and Life Sciences which are available on the DBE website at <http://www.education.gov.za/Learners/MindTheGap/tabid/793/Default.aspx> may also be referred to. The Mind the Gap study guide series have been designed to assist Grade 12 learners who have been underperforming due to lack of exposure to the content requirements of the Curriculum Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS).

What can I do if I do not qualify to write the Supplementary examination?

- Those who have not succeeded in their examinations and who do not qualify for the supplementary examination must re-enrol at a school without delay, as long as they meet the age requirement (which is under 21 years of age).

- Grade 12 learners, who failed and who are over 21, should register as part-time candidates or enrol at Public Adult Education Centres. Participation in programmes at these centres is free and is available for young people and adults who have not completed their formal schooling;
- If you were not successful in achieving the NSC, you may want to consider registering for the amended Senior Certificate which is a school leaving qualification for adults and out-of-school learners. The next section provides you with information about who is eligible to register for this qualification.

- Alternatively, candidates that were not successful in the examinations could consider vocational education and training. There are 50 public Further Education and Training Colleges spread across all provinces of South Africa comprising of over 300 campuses or teaching sites. Public Further Education and Training (FET) colleges offer vocational training courses and qualifications at various levels of study for learners who have a Grade 9 pass/certificate, an NQF level 1 qualification or a Grade 12 certificate. FET Colleges also offer courses (the NATED or 'N' Courses) which when, combined with practical work, lead to a qualification as an artisan in a wide variety of desperately needed skills for South Africa.

The amended Senior Certificate as an option to consider:

- A new Policy for the amended Senior Certificate for adults and out-of-school learners was published in August 2014. This policy allows adults, who are 21 years and older, who have no previous credits, to write the Senior Certificate examination, which will be based on the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), the curriculum that is currently being offered in schools.
- The first examination based on the amended Senior Certificate will be written in June/July 2015 but all Senior Certificate subjects passed prior to June 2015 at Higher Grade and Standard Grade levels, excluding Lower Grade conversions, will be recognised. The following categories of learners will qualify for admission to the amended Senior Certificate.

Category 1

Adult learners who are 21 years and older, who have:

- a General Education and Training Certificate (GETC) for Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET); or
- a Grade 9 (Standard 7) school report, stating that they have passed Grade 9; or
- a recognised equivalent qualification obtained at NQF Level 1 which requires two official languages.

Category 2

- Adult learners who are 21 years and older with an incomplete Senior Certificate qualification.

Category 3:

- Adult learners who are 21 years and older with an incomplete National Senior Certificate and whose School Based Assessment (SBA) validity has expired.

Category 4:

- In exceptional cases, out-of-school youth who are 18 - 21 years old and who could not complete their school education due to circumstances beyond their control, as verified by the Head of Department in the Provincial Education Department.

6. HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

What do I need to know if I intend to study further?

What are the minimum requirements for further study relating to Higher Certificate, Diploma or Bachelor studies?

Admissions to Higher Certificate, Diploma or a Bachelor's Degree studies have different requirements in terms of the National Senior Certificate, and they are as follows:

Higher Certificate

The minimum admission requirement for a Higher Certificate is a National Senior Certificate (NSC) as certified by Umalusi, with a minimum of a 30% pass in the language of learning and teaching of the Higher Education Institution. Particular institutional and programme

needs may require particular combinations of recognised NSC subjects and levels of achievement. For example, an institution may determine that a Higher Certificate in Architectural Design requires in addition to the NSC, a specified level of attainment in Design and an associated recognised subject.

Diploma

The minimum admission requirement for a Diploma is a National Senior Certificate (NSC) as certified by Umalusi with an achievement rating of 3 (Moderate Achievement, 40-49%) or better in four subjects chosen from the designated list of recognised NSC, 20-credit bearing subjects. Institutional and programme needs may require appropriate combinations of recognised NSC subjects and levels of achievement. For example, a Diploma in Data metrics might require a pass at a prescribed level in Mathematics or Information Technology.

Bachelor's Degree

The minimum admission requirement for a Bachelor's Degree is a National Senior Certificate (NSC) as certified by Umalusi with an achievement rating of 4 (Adequate Achievement, 50-59%) or better in four subjects chosen from the designated list of recognised 20-credit bearing NSC subjects.

What can I do if I need a study loan or bursary?

The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) is a government agency set up in terms of the National Student Financial Aid Scheme of 1999. The main function of NSFAS is to provide loans and bursaries to deserving students who need financial assistance to pay for their studies at public universities and Further Education and Training (FET) colleges in South Africa.

The criteria for application are as follows:

- South African citizenship;
- Enrolment for undergraduate studies including Report 191 Programmes;
- Registration at a public university or public FET college;
- A threshold for annual household income as specified by NSFAS; or
- Unemployed parents.

NSFAS does not allocate funds directly to students but here is the plan:

- First, apply at the educational institution where you are planning to study. Some institutions will issue you with an application for study together with an application for financial aid. You need to enquire from the institution about their processes and deadlines for both.
- Submit both applications to the institution and if you have any questions, contact the

Financial Aid Office (FAO) on campus, that will:

- o Evaluate your ability to succeed in your chosen study direction;
- o Advise you about study loans and help you with the student loan application; and
- o Explain how you'll access the money and repay your student loan.

Go to the NSFAS website for further information at www.nsfas.org.za or call 0860 067 327 or email info@nsfas.org.za.

How do I apply for a bursary to become a teacher?

The Funza Lushaka Bursary Programme is a multi-year programme that promotes teaching in public schools. Full-cost bursaries are available to enable eligible students to complete a full teaching qualification in an area of national

priority. Recipients of these bursaries will be required to teach at a public school for the same number of years that they receive the bursary.

The bursary is only awarded to South African citizens and will only be awarded if one of the priority specialization subjects is included as a teaching subject in the qualifications. Applications must only be made once students have been allocated a valid student number and have been accepted/provisionally accepted at their university of choice. Applications must be made online at www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za. New applications close on **09 January 2015**.

Go to the Funza Lushaka website for further information at www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za

Make the most of all the opportunities offered to you. Take advantage of all the options the Department has made available, and all the practical assistance that the provincial departments also offer.

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