



**higher education
& training**

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL:

TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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DATE: 02 FEBRUARY 2017

**RE: RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) LEVEL 4
BY PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS FOR ACCESS INTO
PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

**To: Principals and Acting Principals (hereafter referred to as Principals) [Distribution
of circular by Office of DDG: T]**

**CC: Chairpersons and members of TVET College Councils (Hereafter referred to as
Chairpersons of Council) [Distribution of circular by Principals]**

**Lecturing staff and Student Representative Councils (SRCs) [Distribution of circular
by Principals]**

**Acting Regional Manager and TVET Directors [Distribution of circular by Office of
DDG: T]**

**Acting/Chief Directors (hereafter referred to as Chief Directors) in the Branch Technical
and Vocational Education and Training. [Distribution of circular by Office of DDG: T]**

Dear Principal

The aim of this circular is to inform all TVET College Principals, Student Representative Councils (SRCs), Academic Boards, Lecturing staff, as well as the College Councils, of the joint communiqué between the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and Umalusi, attached as **ANNEXURE A**.

It has come to the attention of Umalusi and the Department of Higher Education and Training that many Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) do not consider applicants whose entry qualification is the National Certificate (Vocational) as an NQF Level 4 qualification rather than the well-known and recognised National Senior Certificate (NSC). This is, in some instances, caused by the fact that HEIs have not recognised the NC (V) as meeting its minimum requirements.

Research conducted by Umalusi indicates that the NC (V) should be accorded its proper place as a qualification comparable to the NSC and that public HEIs should recognise the qualification as an entry qualification in their published admissions policies, and should develop admission practices that ensure that holders of the NC (V), who apply, are given appropriate consideration in the application process. The minimum entry requirements into HEIs by NC (V) students are set out in Government Gazette No. 32743 of 26 November 2009, attached as an appendix to **ANNEXURE A**.

The Department requests TVET Colleges to note that the NC (V) is under review by Umalusi at the request of Minister Nzimande to strengthen the quality of implementation of the qualification, and to enhance the possibility of it being offered in a variety of ways.

Yours sincerely



Mr FY Patel

Deputy Director-General

Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Date: 02/02/2017