

ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 21 OF 2012

**TO: DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
DEPUTY CHIEF / SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL SCHOOLS OFFERING GRADE 12
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS**

DATE: 05 MARCH 2012

**CHANGE IN POLICY RELATING TO THE SHELF LIFE OF
SCHOOL BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)**

The contents of this Assessment Instruction are as per National Department of Basic Education (DBE) directive dated, 12 February 2012.

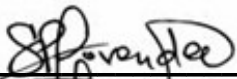
In terms of the Regulations pertaining to the conduct, administration and management of the NSC Examination, a candidate's SBA mark is valid for two years subsequent to the writing of a Grade 12 examination. The Inter-Provincial Examinations and Assessment Committee (IPEAC) in 2011 made a proposal to the Heads of Education Committee (HEDCOM) requesting that the Shelf Life of School Based Assessment be extended indefinitely.

However, HEDCOM has approved that the Shelf Life of SBA will be **extended for five years following the year in which the examination was written**. This implies that all learners who have written the NSC examination in 2008 will be able to repeat the examination in that subject until 2014 without having to redo the SBA.

This decision is currently in the process of being gazetted in order to effect the necessary policy change.

Therefore, it will be appreciated if Principals, District officials and other education stakeholders ensure that all matters and queries relating to the issue of the Shelf Life of SBA are handled according to this directive and that repeat candidates seeking admission to the 2012 NSC examination, are not excluded on the basis of the SBA mark.

The co-operation of all stakeholders in this process is appreciated.



S.P. GOVENDER
CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

