



**ASSESSMENT & EXAMINATIONS**

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**ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 50 OF 2011**

**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 PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (FET)  
TEACHER UNIONS / ORGANISATIONS  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

**DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

**APPROVAL FOR THE OFFERING OF MUSIC PROGRAMMES: EXTERNAL MUSIC EXAMINATION BODIES AS PART OF THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME UNDER RESTRICTED CONDITIONS**

**1. BACKGROUND**

National Department of Education circular S3 of 2011, dated 25 July 2011 and received by the Eastern Cape Department of Education on 17 August 2011, has reference.

In view of various management and administration problems caused by the inclusion of external music programmes in the list of approved National Senior Certificate subjects, the Minister of Basic Education subsequently decided to call for written submissions from stakeholder bodies and members of the public on a possible phasing out of these programmes offered by the following three External Music Examination Bodies:

- (a)** Unisa Practical Music Examination;
- (b)** Trinity College of London (TCL) Practical Music Examination; and
- (c)** Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Practical Music Examination.

However, the comments received, justified the value of the Music programmes of the External Music Examination Bodies and their retention in a more controlled and manageable way.

## 2. NEW PRESCRIBED CONDITIONS

In concurrence with the Council of Education Ministers' (CEM) decision, the Minister of Basic Education has decided that the Practical Music programme of one of the approved External Music Examination Bodies may be offered from January 2014 in Grade 12 in terms of the following conditions:

- (a) The external Music programmes may only be offered as an eighth National Senior Certificate subject.
- (b) A learner may only enrol for the selected external Music programme in his or her Grade 12 year.
- (c) The selected external Music programmes must be offered at Grade 7 Music level as follows:

Practical Music Examination	Prerequisite Theory
Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) Practical Music Examination	ABRSM Music Theory Grade 6
Trinity College of London (TCL) Practical Music	TCL Music Theory Grade 6
Unisa Practical Music Examination	UNISA Theory Grade 5

- (d) The submission of the final examination marks obtained by the candidate must be determined by the three external Music examination bodies.
- (e) The external Music examination bodies' final results based on the theory and practical components will be accepted as the final mark obtained by the candidate.
- (f) The prerequisite theory component for the three External Music Examination Bodies' Practical Music Examination, Grade 7 is as follows:
  - (i) Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music: Grade 6 Theory;
  - (ii) Trinity College of London: Grade 6 Theory; and
  - (iii) UNISA: Grade 5 Theory.
- (g) The practical component must be played by the candidate not later than June of the Grade-12 year.
- (h) The theory must be completed by the candidate, not earlier than October of the Grade 11 year.
- (i) The marks supplied by the three external Music examination bodies will be indicated on the National Senior Certificate as a subject passed by an approved and accredited assessment body in terms of the requirements as determined by that body. The actual mark obtained by the candidate will be reflected on the National Senior Certificate with an asterisk denoting that this subject was offered by an external assessment body in terms of that body's requirements.
- (j) A learner will be restricted to a maximum of one of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London, or the UNISA Practical Music Examinations.

- (k) A learner who offers Music as a Group B subject for the National Senior Certificate and one of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London, or the UNISA Practical Music Examination, Grade 7, as an eighth subject, may not offer the same main instrument as a first and second instrument.
- (l) A learner who offers one of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London, or the UNISA Practical Music Examination, Grade 7 as an eighth subject may not offer a Music programme, comprising a combination of components of the Music programmes of the three External Music Examination Bodies.
- (m) The Music programmes of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London or UNISA may not be offered during official school hours, but only as an extra-curricular subject.
- (n) A learner who offers one of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London, or the UNISA Practical Music Examination, Grade 7 as an eighth subject may not replace a failed subject offered by the learner in terms of the seven-subject package of the National Senior Certificate.

The Minister's decision that the Practical Music programme of one of the approved External Music Examination Bodies may be offered from January 2014 in Grade 12 under restricted conditions has been published in *Government Gazette, No. 34473* of 21 July of 2011.

The above requirements for the offering of the Music programmes of the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music, or Trinity College of London, or UNISA have been included in the new policy document, *National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R - 12* which form part of the *National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12*.

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION TIME FRAMES

The phasing-out of the existing external Music programmes and the implementation of the external Music programmes under restricted conditions are set out in the table below.

2011	2012	2013	2014
The existing external Music programmes continue in Grades 10-12	No new enrolments in Grade 10	No new enrolments in Grade 11	First cohort of learners to offer an external Music Programme only in Grade 12 under the restricted conditions
	Grades 11-12 continue with the existing programme	Grades 12 continue with the existing programme. This will be the last cohort of learners to offer the existing external Music programme in Grades 10-12.	



The *status quo* regarding the current policy and regulations pertaining to the external Music programmes as stipulated in the following documents will be maintained until the final phasing-out thereof in 2013:

- (a) *National Senior Certificate: A Qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), Government Gazette No. 27819 of 20 July 2005;*
- (b) *National Policy on the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate, a Qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), Government Gazette, No.30048 of 6 July 2007; and*
- (c) *Regulations pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of Assessment for the National Senior Certificate, Government Gazette No. 31337 of 29 August 2008.*

#### 4. CONCLUSION

All Teachers of Grade 12 Music and Subject Advisors of Music will benefit from the information in this Assessment Instruction. Kindly disseminate the information as soon as possible to all education stakeholders, especially learners and parents.



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**S. P. GOVENDER**  
**CHIEF DIRECTOR: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT**