

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

HIGHLIGHTS REPORT











SHAPING FREEDOM THROUGH EDUCATION









MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Class of 2017 sat for the National Senior Certificate examinations in an extraordinary year, affirmed by South Africans as the year of OR Tambo, a centenary celebration of the birth of a profound struggle hero, peoples' president and astute academic who left an indelible mark on shaping the freedom we enjoy today. As we celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2017, we are therefore privileged to align our successes to the astounding achievements of past heroes such as OR Tambo who have shaped our freedom through excellence in education. I am therefore, delighted to report on the performance of the Class of 2017 in the National Senior Certificate examinations.

The 2017 cohort wrote the NSC examinations at a time when the standard and quality of the public examinations system is considered to be maturing and stabilising. A total of 534 484 full-time candidates sat for the 2017 NSC examinations. The following data attest to the proficiency of our education system:



- An improvement in the pass rates for Mathematics and Physical Sciences
- An increase in the percentage of learners who achieved the NSC
- An increase in the percentage of learners qualifying for Bachelor's Studies

The above achievements are a confirmation that the National Strategy for Learner Attainment (NSLA), which targets all grades in the schooling system is beginning to take root. We are certainly not where we need to be, but this year's results confirm our assertion made in 2016, that we are a 'system on the rise'. We will continue to harness the gains made in 2017 and continue to ensure that the system is taken to the next level of performance.





The objective of the schooling system is to ensure that every learner attains a National Senior Certificate. Learners that fail to meet the requirements of the NSC in their first attempt, are offered a second opportunity in the Supplementary Examinations, scheduled from February 2018, provided they have missed the pass requirements by either one or two subjects. Further options to repeat the examinations is offered to learners in the subsequent NSC examination in the following year. The Department has also established a Second Chance Programme, which offers support to learners that would require to write either the supplementary examination of the following examination as a part-time candidate.

Well done to the Class of 2017! I would like to thank parents, teachers, principals, teacher unions, communities, district and provincial officials, and social partners for the support they have given to candidates who sat for 2017's NSC Examinations. Working together, South Africans can create a better life for all through the power of education.

Motorokgetry

MRS AM MOTSHEKGA, MP MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION 04 JANUARY 2018





REPORT CARD - CLASS OF 2017

Table 1: Overall Performance of the Class of 2017

Province	2017					
Province	Total Wrote	Total Achieved	% Achieved			
Eastern Cape	67 648	43 981	65.0			
Free State	25 130	21 631	86.1			
Gauteng	97 284	82 826	85.1			
Kwazulu-Natal	124 317	90 589	72.9			
Limpopo	83 228	54 625	65.6			
Mpumalanga	48 483	36 273	74.8			
North West	30 792	24 462	79.4			
Northern Cape	8 735	6 608	75.6			
Western Cape	48 867	40 440	82.8			
National	534 484	401 435	75.1			

Table 2: Comparison of NSC performance 2008 to 2017

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
62.6	60.6	67.8	70.2	73.9	78.2	75.8	70.7	72.5	75.1





Graph 1: Comparison of NSC performance 2008 to 2017

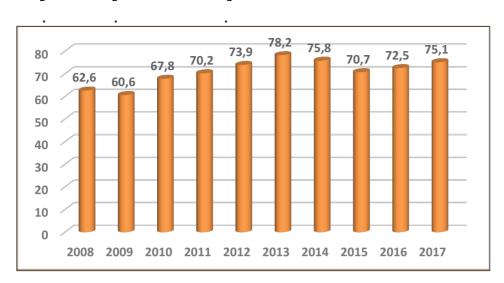


Table 3: Performance of the Class of 2017 by type of qualification

		Bachelor		Diploma		Higher Certificate		NSC			
Province	Total Wrote	Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved	Achieved	% Achieved	Total Achieved	% Achieved
Eastern Cape	67 648	15 380	22.7	17 908	26.5	10 672	15.8	18	0.0	43 981	65.0
Free State	25 130	8 822	35.1	9 076	36.1	3 713	14.8	2	0.0	21 631	86.1
Gauteng	97 284	35 012	36.0	34 444	35.4	13 296	13.7	1	0.0	82 826	85.1
Kwazulu-Natal	124 317	35 687	28.7	36 453	29.3	18 400	14.8	47	0.0	90 589	72.9
Limpopo	83 228	17 790	21.4	20 011	24.0	16 809	20.2	11	0.0	54 625	65.6
Mpumalanga	48 483	11 335	23.4	15 628	32.2	9 291	19.2	19	0.0	36 273	74.8
North West	30 792	8 278	26.9	9 968	32.4	6 216	20.2	0	0.0	24 462	79.4
Northern Cape	8 735	2 205	25.2	2 815	32.2	1 587	18.2	0	0.0	6 608	75.6
Western Cape	48 867	19 101	39.1	15 030	30.8	6 281	12.9	1	0.0	40 440	82.8
National	534 484	153 610	28.7	161 333	30.2	86 265	16.1	99	0.0	401 435	75.1





Table 4: Full-time candidates' performance at 30% and above in key subjects, 2016 to 2017

		2016		2017			
Subjects (Full-Time)	Wrote	Achieved 30% & Above	% Achieved	Wrote	Achieved 30% & Above	% Achieved	
Accounting	128 853	89 507	69.5	103 427	68 318	66.1	
Agricultural Science	106 386	80 184	75.4	98 522	69 360	70.4	
Business Studies	234 894	173 195	73.7	204 849	139 386	68.0	
Economics	155 908	101 787	65.3	128 796	91 488	71.0	
Geography	302 600	231 588	76.5	276 771	212 954	76.9	
History	157 594	132 457	84.0	147 668	127 031	86.0	
Life Orientation	663 975	661 903	99.7	620 626	619 336	99.8	
Life Sciences	347 662	245 070	70.5	318 474	236 809	74.4	
Mathematical Literacy	361 865	257 881	71.3	313 030	231 230	73.9	
Mathematics	265 810	135 958	51.1	245 103	127 197	51.9	
Physical Science	192 618	119 427	62.0	179 561	116 862	65.1	

3. Important information

3.1. Re-checking and re-marking of scripts

- a. Learners who are not satisfied with their subject results for the National Senior Certificate have until 19 January 2018 to register for re-marking, re-checking or viewing of the script.
- Application forms for re-checking and remarking are available at the District offices and the schools and centres where candidates sat for the examination.

c. The fees are:

- Re-mark: R98

- Re-Check: R23

- Viewing: R192

d. Viewing of scripts may be done only after a remark or re-check of results. The closing date for applications is 7 days after the release of re-mark or re-check results.





e. Candidates from no-fee schools, and learners whose parents have applied for and have been granted a concession on the payment of schools fees, are exempted from payment of fees for remarking and rechecking.

3.2. Withheld results

Why are my results withheld?

Results are withheld because of irregularities.

What could I do if my results are withheld?

- a. Contact your school or district office to request reasons for the withholding of the results.
- Appeal in writing if your results are blocked/ withheld.
- c. Contact the relevant provincial official to guide you on examination-related enquiries:

3.3. Supplementary examinations

A supplementary examination may be granted to an unsuccessful National Senior Certificate candidate, provided he/she meets specific criteria.

- 3.3.1 Who may apply for registration for the supplementary examination?
- a. A candidate who has not met the minimum promotion and certification requirements in the final external examination, but requires a maximum of two subjects to obtain the National Senior Certificate.
- A candidate who was medically unfit and, as a result, was absent from one or more external examinations, provided documentary evidence is provided.

PROVINCE	OFFICIAL	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Eastern Cape	Mr EM Mabona	(043) 604 7709
Free State	Mr K Basjan	(051) 404 8318
Gauteng	Mr B Ngubane	(011) 355 0307
KwaZulu-Natal	Mr R Penniston	(031) 327 0245/(031) 327 044
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 T Singh	(021) 467 2945





- c. A candidate who does not satisfy the minimum c. higher education entry requirements or requirements for a specific occupation, provided documentary evidence is provided.
 - 3.3.2 What is the closing date for application?

The closing date for applications to register for the supplementary examination is 19 January 2017.

3.3.3 Where and when do candidates register?

Registration is done by a candidate immediately after receiving his/her results and at the centre wherehe/she sat for the examination.

Where could I access the NSC Supplementary Examination Timetable?

The timetable could be downloaded at <u>www.education.</u>

4. Alternative options

Candidates who do not qualify to write the supplementary examination, have the following options:

- a. Re-enrol for the NSC at a school, provided that the candidate is younger than 21 years of age.
- Register as a part-time candidate at a Public Adult
 Education Centre provided that the candidate is older than 21 years of age.

- Register for vocational education and training at a Further Education and Training college.
- d. Register for the Senior Certificate (SC). This new policy for adults and out-of-school learners was published in August 2014. In line with this policy adults, who are 21 years of age and older and who have no previous credits, are allowed to write the Senior Certificate examinations. The SC is based on the Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS), the curriculum that is currently being offered in schools.

5. Second Chance Matric Programme

The aim of the Second Chance Matric Programme is to provide support to learners who have not met the requirements for the National Senior Certificate (NSC) or the Senior Certificate (SC), thereby meeting the goals of the National Development Programme (NDP) and the sector, thus increasing learner retention.

Admission requirements:

Supplementary Exam Candidates: Learners who wrote the NSC the previous year and qualify to write a maximum of 2 subjects to meet the requirements of the NSC Examination which are written in February-March. Face to Face Classes will take place in February and March for a period of 12 hours per subject.





Progressed Learners: Learners who wrote the NSC but did not sit for all 6 subjects (multiple options) and will write the examinations for the outstanding subjects in June. Face to Face Classes will take place in April and June for a period of 30 hours per subject.

Senior Certificate Examination Candidates: Learners registered to write the Senior Certificate examinations in June. Face to Face Classes will take place in April and June for a period of 30 hours.

NSC Examinations Part-time candidates: Learners who attempted the NSC examinations post-2008 and will write the examinations in November 2018. Face to Face Classes will take place in August and September for a period of 30 hours per subject.

6. Requirements for further studies

The minimum requirements for a candidate to obtain an NSC are that a candidate should achieve 40% in three subjects, one of which is an official language at Home Language level, and 30% in three subjects.

What are the requirements to be admitted to a tertiary institution?

(a) Higher Certificate

The minimum admission requirement is a National Senior Certificate with a minimum of 30% in the language of teaching and learning of the higher education institution as certified by Umalusi. Institutional and

programme needs may require additional combinations or recognised NSC subjects and levels of achievement.

(b) Diploma

The minimum admission requirement is the National Senior Certificate with a minimum of 30% in the language of learning and teaching of the higher education institution as certified by Umalusi, coupled with an achievement rating of 3 (moderate achievement, 40% - 49%) or better in four recognised 20-credit subjects.

Institutional and programme needs may require additional combinations of recognised NSC subjects and levels of achievement.

(c) Bachelor's Degree

To meet the minimum admission requirements to a Bachelor's Degree study at a higher education institution, a candidate must obtain, in addition to the National Senior Certificate, an achievement rating of 4 (Adequate Achievement, 50% - 59%) or better in four designated subjects chosen from the following recognised 20-credit subjects:



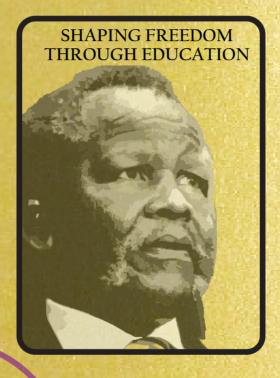


Accounting	Information Technology
Agricultural Sciences	Languages
Business Studies	Life Sciences
Consumer Studies	Mathematics
Dramatic Arts	Mathematical Literacy
Economics	Music
Engineering, Graphics and Design	Physical Sciences
Geography	Religion Studies
History	Visual Arts



THE 2017 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE
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Shaping Freedom Through Education



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