
OFFICE OF THE DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

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URGENT ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 1/2021

**TO : CLUSTER CHIEF DIRECTORS
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CES: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT
CES: SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION
DISTRICTS HEAD OF EXAMINATIONS
MARKING CENTRE MANAGERS
NSC/AET MARKERS
ALL MARKING PERSONNEL
TEACHER UNIONS**

**SUBJECT : COVID 19 RISK ADJUSTED MANAGEMENT OF 2020/21
NSC/AET LEVEL 4 MARKING CENTRES IN LINE WITH
APPROVED MARKING PROTOCOL.**

DATE : 02 JANUARY 2021

INTRODUCTION

The President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa, on 28 December 2020, announced the move to amended Lockdown Level 3. This has implications for the National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate examinations with specific reference to the marking of the examination scripts and the subsequent processing and resulting of the candidate's results.

The amended Regulations promulgated in terms of Disaster Management Act, 2002, *Amendment of Regulations issued in terms of section 27(2), Regulations 36(5) published in the Government Gazette Number 44044 on 29 December 2020*, states that ***“Gatherings at a workplace for work purposes are allowed, subject to strict adherence to all health protocols and social distancing measures”. Subject to these Regulations and the directions to be published, the marking of the examination scripts of the 2020 National Senior Certificate and Senior Certificate examinations will be conducted at designated schools as contemplated in the Regulations.***

1. The Department of Education held a series of meetings consulting with the Department of Health and all Education Stakeholders about the management of one of the key activities which is the marking of NSC/SC/AET Examination for the Grade 12 class of 2020 scripts. The marking process is scheduled to start from 04 January to 22 January 2021. The marking shall be administered under strict COVID 19 pandemic management protocols as outlined above.
2. It is the collective responsibility of all citizens in the to ensure the safety of oneself and others under the resurgence of COVID 19 pandemic which came as a second wave emitting a more lethal variant.
3. It is of prime importance for the Department to ensure that all the marking centres and marking centre personnel are safe and their lives are protected during the marking period.
4. A collective decision was taken by the Eastern Cape Department of Education in consultation with Eastern Cape Department of Health and other key stakeholders, on the following:
 - a. All marking centre personnel must come with their appropriate face masks (preferably cloth mask) and must always have their mask on covering the nose and mouth.
 - b. A mandatory free COVID 19 Rapid Testing will be taken by all marking centre personnel on arrival and before admission of all personnel at the marking centre. The testing will be done by the Department of Health.
 - c. A person who tested positive will not be allowed to continue with his or her marking centre responsibilities. The appropriate protocols as prescribed by Department of health will be activated.
 - d. If a potential marking centre personnel presents COVID 19 test results which are not older than 72 hours on the reporting day, those results will be accepted and will not be re- tested upon arrival.
 - e. Any marking centre personnel who refuses to subject himself/herself to mandatory Rapid COVID -19 Testing test will not be allowed the entry in to the marking centre.
 - f. A follow up test will be done on a date to be determined by the Department of Health for all marking centre personnel as it may take 4-5 days for any symptoms to display after infection.

- g. Marking centre personnel/markers who have comorbidities are strongly advised and encouraged NOT to report for marking as that may be detrimental and harmful to their own lives and endanger the lives of others.
- h. All marking centre personnel is advised to reside in the marking centre precinct for the entire duration of the marking period where possible in order to reduce chances of infection which may be caused by their exposure to the environment outside the marking centres.
- i. Travelling permits are only required for the markers who travel during the Lockdown level 3 curfew period imposed between 21h00 and 06h00.
- j. Travelling from home to report to the marking centres, the marking centre personnel may produce their release letters from their school Principal /Managers when required to do so by law enforcement agencies in lieu place of permit.
- k. All marking centre personnel are encouraged to download the Covid-19 cell phone application for the safety of yourself and others.
- l. All marking personnel are advised to bring their own bottles of sanitisers for own regular use for convenience even though sanitisers will be provided at the marking centre and at the marking venues.
- m. All marking centre personnel must all material times strictly adhere to marking centre COVID 19 management protocol and all Covid-19 regulations.

The co-operation of all Marking Centre Management, Chief Markers, Marking Moderators, Deputy Chief Markers, Senior Markers, Markers, Examination Assistants and Monitors are both anticipated and appreciated to curb the spread of Covid-19 and primarily to save lives.

Yours in Quality Education



MR R TYWAKADI
DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

02 January 2021
DATE