## **BOARD NOTICE 196 OF 2016**

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACY COUNCIL

## **QUALIFICATION FOR PHARMACY SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

## **DIPLOMA: PHARMACY TECHNICIAN**

The South African government, through both the introduction of National Health Insurance (NHI) and Operation Phakisa, has directed focus on the provision of health care at the primary health care (PHC) level. The re-engineering of the PHC platform is one of the key health reforms that is being implemented as part of the introduction of NHI in South Africa. This includes the optimisation of the delivery of pharmaceutical services at the PHC level. Delivery of pharmaceutical services at this level are provided by the Pharmacy Technician.

Employers in the pharmacy sector will gain access to suitably qualified Pharmacy Technicians to produce high-quality work in accordance with the scope of practice for a Pharmacy Technician. By creating career pathways in the sector, employees will be able to progress into pathways in the life sciences field. In addition, this qualification will create employment opportunities for the learners.

Learners exiting with the Pharmacy Technician qualification will be able to assist with:

- medicine supply management
- manufacture of medicines
- dispensing (supplying) of medicine to patients
- providing patient care
- managing pharmacy resources
- applying health and safety regulations and relevant medical and pharmaceutical law and ethics in the performance of their pharmaceutical duties, and
- housekeeping and administration relative to pharmaceutical services.

In light of the above, the South African Pharmacy Council hereby publishes for comment the Pharmacy Technician qualification **residing in the HET sub-framework**.

Interested parties are invited to submit, within 90 days of publication of this notice, substantiated comments on or representation regarding the proposed qualification. Comments must be addressed to the Registrar, the South African Pharmacy Council, Private Bag 40040, Arcadia, or fax (012)326-1496 or email BN@sapc.za.org.

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