
GENERAL NOTICES

NOTICE 917 OF 2007

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 27 OF 1996)

**APPROVAL TO CALL FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM
STAKEHOLDER BODIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON THE
POLICY AND REGULATION CHANGES EMANATED FROM THE
DECISION TO IMPLEMENT A COMBINED SUPPLEMENTARY AND END-
OF-YEAR SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION IN MAY/JUNE 2008,
AND ONE MAIN EXAMINATION IN MAY/JUNE FROM 2009 UNTIL 2011**

BACKGROUND

From 2008 the supplementary examination and the main Senior Certificate examination scheduled for February/March and October/November 2008 respectively, will be combined and written concurrently until May/June 2011.

IMPLICATIONS FOR SENIOR CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

1. The combination of the supplementary examination and the main Senior Certificate examination has the following implications for candidates:
 - 1.1 The Senior Certificate supplementary examinations will be moved from February/March 2008 to May/June 2008.
 - 1.2 The end-of-year examination for part-time candidates will be moved from October/November to May / June.
 - 1.3 The last Senior Certificate supplementary examination will be conducted in May/June 2008, there after only one Senior Certificate examination will be written in May/ June, on an annual basis until 2011.

- 1.4 The registration date for the 2008 supplementary examination and for the end-of-year examination for part-time candidates moves from 15 March to 31 January 2008.
- 1.5 All candidates must have registered and sat for the Senior Certificate examination previously to qualify for registration in this examination and/or subsequent May/June examinations.
- 1.6 Candidates who registered for the Senior Certificate examination for the first time in 2007, and who wish to enter for the 2008 and subsequent Senior Certificate examinations, will only need to prove registration in the 2007 examination.
- 1.7 Candidates registering for the May/June 2008 Senior Certificate examination as a supplementary examination will not be limited to a maximum of two subjects, as current Senior Certificate policy prescribes.
- 1.8 Candidates registering for the May/June 2008 Senior Certificate examination as a supplementary examination will be restricted to subjects and subject grades for which they have registered in the October/November 2007 examination sitting.
- 1.9 Candidates registering as part-time candidates for the May/June 2008 Senior Certificate must have registered for, and sat for a previous Senior Certificate examination sitting.

AMENDMENTS TO POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

2. Both the main and supplementary Senior Certificate examinations are independent examinations with their own individual status as stipulated in the relevant policy and regulations. In view of this, certain policy and regulation changes must be effected before the newly structured Senior Certificate could be implemented.

3. The combination of the supplementary examination and the main Senior Certificate examination requires changes to the following policy and regulations documents:
- (a) *National policy on the conduct, administration and management of the assessment of the Senior Certificate;*
 - (b) *The National Senior Certificate: A qualification at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF); and*
 - (c) *Regulations for the conduct, administration and management of the assessment for the Senior Certificate, Government Gazette Vol. 484, No. 28156 of 21 October 2005.*

INVITATION TO COMMENT

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Education, intend to declare policy in terms of *Sections 3(4)(l) and 7 of the National Education Policy Act, 1996 (Act No. 27 of 1996)*, and accordingly invite stakeholder bodies and members of the public to comment on the policy and regulation changes which emanated from the decision to implement a combined supplementary and end-of-year Senior Certificate examination from May/June 2008 until May/June 2011 as set out in Schedules A, B and C.

SUBMISSIONS

It would greatly assist the Department of Education if all submissions could be prepared under the headings indicating the relevant paragraphs for policy and regulation changes as contemplated in Annexures A, B and C. If you do not wish to comment under a particular heading, please indicate "No comment".

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for the receipt of comments is **Friday, 17 August 2007**.

ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Please send or deliver your submission to:

The Deputy Director-General (Further Education and Training)

Department of Education

Attention: Ms Z. Govender

Room 930

Sol Plaatje House

123 Schoeman Street

PRETORIA

Or

Private Bag X895

PRETORIA 0001

Or

Fax: (012) 312-5309

Tel: (012) 312-5303

E-mail: govender.z@doe.gov.za

GNM PANDOR, MP

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

DATE: