

No. 823

8 August 2008

**SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (SAQA)**

In accordance with Regulation 24(c) of the National Standards Bodies Regulations of 28 March 1998, the Standards Generating Body (SGB) for

**Medical Laboratory Assistants**

registered by Organising Field 09 – Health Sciences and Social Services, publishes the following Qualification and Unit Standards for public comment.

This notice contains the titles, fields, sub-fields, NQF levels, credits, and purpose of the Qualification and Unit Standards. The full Qualification and Unit Standards can be accessed via the SAQA web-site at [www.saqqa.org.za](http://www.saqqa.org.za). Copies may also be obtained from the Directorate of Standards Setting and Development at the SAQA offices, SAQA House, 1067 Arcadia Street, Hatfield, Pretoria.

Comment on the Qualification and Unit Standards should reach SAQA at the address below and **no later than 8 September 2008**. All correspondence should be marked **Standards Setting – Medical Laboratory Assistants** and addressed to

The Director: Standards Setting and Development  
SAQA

*Attention: Mr. D. Mphuthing*

Postnet Suite 248

Private Bag X06

Waterkloof

0145

or faxed to 012 – 431-5144

e-mail: [dmphuthing@saqa.org.za](mailto:dmphuthing@saqa.org.za)

**DR. S. BHIKHA**

**DIRECTOR: STANDARDS SETTING AND DEVELOPMENT**



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**QUALIFICATION:****National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance**

SAQA QUAL ID		QUALIFICATION TITLE	
63189		National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	
ORIGINATOR		PROVIDER	
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
QUALIFICATION TYPE	FIELD	SUBFIELD	
National Certificate	9 - Health Sciences and Social Services	Promotive Health and Developmental Services	
ABET BAND	MINIMUM CREDITS	NQF LEVEL	QUAL CLASS
Undefined	129	Level 3	Regular-Unit Stds Based

***This qualification does not replace any other qualification and is not replaced by another qualification.***

**PURPOSE AND RATIONALE OF THE QUALIFICATION****Purpose:**

This Qualification is intended for learners who work in a medical laboratory and who may be required to receive various types of human tissue samples for laboratory analysis, to prepare for pre-and post-analytical processing of laboratory samples, and/or to apply the fundamental principles of blood transfusion component preparation, distribution and fractionation.

Learners credited with this qualification will be capable of:

- > Identifying and solving problems related to the handling of human tissue samples.
- > Preparing various types of human tissue samples for pre-and post-analytical testing.
- > Interacting professionally with clients, including members of the multidisciplinary health team.

The successful completion of this Qualification will enable a qualified learner to be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as a Medical Laboratory Assistant.

**Rationale:**

A sizeable number of present employees within the medical laboratory sector have educational backgrounds that place them between NQF Levels 1 and 3 and are thus generally defined as "semi-skilled". Laboratory assistants are included in this category. Findings indicate that some employees in this category have gained experience and expertise in the workplace, neither of which is formally recognised. Laboratory assistants, once qualified, will be an asset in various departments of a medical laboratory and this Qualification would be the groundwork for further advancement. Furthermore, this Qualification will act as the mechanism for setting standards of performance, thus enhancing quality control within the industry.

This Qualification will contribute to the full development of the learner by providing recognition, further mobility and portability within the field of medical technology. The skills, knowledge and understanding demonstrated within this Qualification are essential for social and economic transformation and upliftment within the medical technology environment as well as contributing to alleviating the skills shortage in the country.

This Qualification also forms one of the bouquets of health services which require enhancement in order to meet the increasing demand for available health services from the ever growing numbers of foreign visitors to our country.

### **RECOGNIZE PREVIOUS LEARNING?**

Y

### **LEARNING ASSUMED IN PLACE**

- > Communication skills at NQF Level 2.
- > Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 2.

### **Recognition of Prior Learning:**

This Qualification may be achieved wholly, or in part, through recognition of prior learning. Evidence may be presented in a variety of forms, including previous international or local qualifications, reports, testimonials, portfolios, work records and performance appraisals.

Learners who have met the requirements of a Unit Standard that forms part of this qualification may apply for recognition of prior learning to the relevant Education and Training Quality Assurance (ETQA) body or ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the relevant ETQA. The applicant will be assessed in terms of the relevant specific outcomes and related assessment criteria.

### **QUALIFICATION RULES**

- > All 36 Fundamental Component credits are compulsory:
- > All 67 Core Component credits Unit are compulsory.
- > At least 26 of the Elective Component credits must be attained.

Minimum number of credits to be attained: 129.

### **Course Requirements:**

The learner is required to be registered with HPCSA as a Student Medical Laboratory Assistant for the duration of the period of learning.

### **EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES**

1. Identify and solve problems related to the handling of human tissue samples.  
> Range: Handling includes receiving, recording, processing dispatching and storing.
2. Prepare various types of human tissue samples for pre- and post-analytical testing.
3. Interact professionally with clients including members of the multidisciplinary health care team.

### **Critical Cross-Field Outcomes:**

This qualification addresses the following critical cross-field outcomes, in the indicated Exit Level Outcomes:

- > Identifying and solving problems are indicated in the assessment of human tissue samples received and the processing or the replacement of damaged or inadequate samples submitted.
- > Working effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organisation or community is indicated in the maintenance of the quality cycle, adequate communication and the adherence to standard operating procedures.

- > Responsible and effective organisation and management of self is shown in the throughput and output of human tissue samples and the submission of timeous reports of test results to the requestors.
- > Collating information is indicated by the output of samples and the successful submission of reports.
- > Effective communication is indicated in the maintenance of the quality cycle and the successful processing of human tissue samples.
- > Science and technology are effectively utilized throughout the laboratory, the success of which is indicated in the timeous completion of a sample test report.
- > Understanding the world as a set of related systems is demonstrated through team work and proper application of customer care to both internal and external clients
- > All of the above contribute to the full personal development of the learner and encourage the learner to learn more.

### **ASSOCIATED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

#### **Associated Assessment Criteria for Exit-Level-Outcomes 1:**

- 1.1 All samples are handled according to the protocols for infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to ensure safe working conditions for self and colleagues.
- 1.2 Data pertaining to human tissue samples is recorded, stored and/or dispatched as required by the Standard Operating Procedures.
- 1.3 Damaged or inadequate samples are removed from the processing chain and new samples are requested.
- 1.4 Procedures such as pipetting, centrifuging and sample storing are performed in a manner which ensures a quality cycle.

#### **Associated Assessment Criteria for Exit-Level-Outcomes 2:**

- 2.1 A safe working environment is maintained and, in the event of an accident or spill, appropriate action is taken and explained.
- 2.2 Samples are appropriately prepared for analysis, storage or transportation to the relevant processing department.
- 2.3 Pathology samples are handled in a manner that ensures sample content integrity.

#### **Associated Assessment Criteria for Exit-Level-Outcomes 3:**

- 3.1 Medical ethical guidelines and professional rules are applied at all times - both with internal and external clients.
- 3.2 Communication with all clients is clear and unambiguous to ensure understanding by the client.
- 3.3 Information is correctly retrieved and shared by using the existing organisational database.
- 3.4 Strict data capture is maintained and timeous reports are submitted.

#### **Integrated Assessment:**

Learners may be credited for individual unit standards as and when they can demonstrate that they can achieve the required competencies.

Workplace experience may be recognised when assessing this qualification.

A range of formative and summative methods may be used in assessing learners, which may include:

- > Written and oral tests/examinations.
- > Case studies and assignments.
- > Role-play and simulation sessions.

- > Written reports/work plans.
- > Demonstrations by the learner.
- > Research projects.

Formative assessment should be carried out at regular intervals throughout the period of study. It should be offered in an integrated manner where the theoretical and practical components are assessed together to measure learner competence.

Summative assessment is carried out on completion of all learning components required for the Qualification, whether theoretical or practical.

### **INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY**

This qualification was compared to similar qualifications in England, Australia, USA & Canada. They all have the equivalent of the laboratory assistant, variously classified as laboratory assistants, clerks, pathology aids and aliquoters / wanders. The training is basically in-house, although USA & Canada do have some formal training courses.

#### **England:**

Medical Laboratory Assistants (or Biomedical Support Workers), don't get any formal training. Trainees are given mostly on-the-job training, starting with general safety instructions and how the job role fits in the day to day working of the hospital. Trainees then move on to specialised individual training. Certificates of Competence can be awarded for the safe performance of various duties. The Institute of Biomedical Sciences (IBMS) produces a training manual for Medical Laboratory Assistants (MLA) staff and laboratories modify it to suit their particular requirement. It's the responsibility of the MLA to get this signed off as they rotate through the lab. It is a good record of their achievements. MLAs who work in the blood transfusion department are governed by certain guidelines from the British Blood Transfusion Society.

#### **Australia:**

Pathology aids and aliquoters / wanders don't get any formal training. Trainees are given on-the-job training by their supervisors. Training logs are completed as each competency is acquired.

#### **USA:**

College training is offered for the MLA. This training compares well to our qualification:

**MLAB 1101 INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE (1-1-0).** An introduction to clinical laboratory science, including quality control, laboratory math, safety, basic laboratory equipment, laboratory settings, accreditation, certification, professionalism, and ethics.

**MLAB 1201 INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANTS (2-1-4).** An introduction to clinical laboratory science, including quality control, laboratory math, safety, basic laboratory equipment, laboratory settings, accreditation and certification. The University training offered contains some relevant sections, but a fair amount compares more to our Medical Laboratory Technicians who perform testing.

#### **Core Courses**

- MLAP 112 Anatomy, Physiology and Medical Terminology (Yes)
- MLAP 113 The Electrocardiogram (Definitely not)
- MLAP 121 Professional and Safety Issues (Yes)
- MLAP 131 Laboratory Procedures and Protocols (Yes, but not analysis part)
- MLAP 051 Phlebotomy Workshop (Definitely not)
- MLAP 141 Evaluation of Competencies (Yes)

**Optional Advanced Courses**

MLAP 151 General Pre-Analytical Specimen Preparation (Yes, but not performing unanalysis or the collection of micro specimens)

MLAP 161 Pre-Analytical Histo-Pathology (Yes, but not the actual processing of the samples)

**Canada:**

There are many institutions offering MLA courses, including Career Canada and some community colleges. They receive a certificate if they pass the course. Some can also be trained on-site. It is not regulated at this time.

This qualification was also compared to Nigeria, Namibia, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Angola & United Arab Emirates (UAE). Some of these countries do not have the equivalent of the laboratory assistant. The training is basically in-house, although Ethiopia & UAE do have some formal training courses.

**Nigeria:**

O' Level holders are given apprenticeship in a laboratory and can become Lab Assistants.

**Namibia:**

Laboratory assistants have been largely phased out. No formal training courses were offered as the type of work they did was too varied to offer a specific training course. They have expressed interest in our course.

**Saudi Arabia:**

No training courses for MLAs are offered.

**Ethiopia:**

Most of the current lab assistants are trained in-house, informally. Recently, the government has allowed Health Colleges to offer a one and two year certificate programmes in laboratory technology and nursing and successful learners are certified as assistant laboratory technicians and nurse aids respectively when they graduate.

The middle level TVET programme, year 1 - less than 50% of the course is applicable to our laboratory assistant, it is more applicable to our medical technician.

The middle level TVET programme, year 2 - less than 20% of the course is applicable to our laboratory assistant, it is more applicable to our medical technician.

**Angola:**

Laboratory personnel must have at least a 12 Grade qualification with 1 or 2 years technical graduation in a laboratory. It would appear that Angola does not make use of laboratory assistants, as this level of qualification is much higher than ours. They have also expressed interest in our course.

**United Arab Emirates:**

The Higher Colleges of Technology offer a Diploma in Laboratory Technology - about 50% of the year 1 courses are similar to ours (Introduction to Human Life Science Laboratory Math, some of the Basic Laboratory Techniques, Personal & Professional Development I and Medical Terminology), but only about 10% of the year 2 courses are similar (Materials Control & Data Management and Laboratory Maintenance)

**Conclusion:**

The National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance, Level 3 compares favourably with what little formal training is offered internationally and in particular is aligned with the MLAB 1101 college training offered in the USA. Differences between international practice and the contents of the National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance relate to South African legislative and statutory limitations on laboratory assistant practice.

This qualification meets the needs of the medical laboratories in South Africa and it is envisaged that this qualification would be applicable in any developing country, especially in the SADC region.

**ARTICULATION OPTIONS**

Horizontally, this Qualification articulates with:

- > ID 50062: National Certificate: Occupational Hygiene and Safety, NQF Level 3.
- > ID 49992: National Certificate: Auxiliary Nursing, NQF Level 3.

Vertically, this Qualification articulates with:

- > ID 59345: Further Education and Training Certificate: Phlebotomy Techniques, NQF Level 4.
- > 16166: National Certificate: Biotechnology, NQF Level 5.

**MODERATION OPTIONS**

> Anyone assessing a learner against this qualification must be accredited as an assessor with the relevant Education and Training Quality Assurance body (ETQA) or with an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the relevant ETQA.

> Any institution offering learning against this qualification must be accredited as a provider with the relevant ETQA or with an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the relevant ETQA.

> Anyone moderating learners against this qualification must be proficient in the subject matter included in this Qualification at a Level above that of this Qualification and must be accredited as a moderator with the relevant ETQA or with an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding in place with the relevant ETQA.

> Assessment and moderation of assessment will be overseen by the relevant ETQA according to the ETQA's policies and guidelines for assessment and moderation Body.

**CRITERIA FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ASSESSORS**

N/A

**NOTES**

N/A

**UNIT STANDARDS**

	ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	LEVEL	CREDITS
Fundamental	119472	Accommodate audience and context needs in oral/signed communication	Level 3	5
Fundamental	9010	Demonstrate an understanding of the use of different number bases and measurement units and an awareness of error in the context of relevant calculations	Level 3	2
Fundamental	9013	Describe, apply, analyse and calculate shape and motion in 2-and 3-dimensional space in different contexts	Level 3	4
Fundamental	119457	Interpret and use information from texts	Level 3	5

	ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	LEVEL	CREDITS
Fundamental	9012	Investigate life and work related problems using data and probabilities	Level 3	5
Fundamental	119467	Use language and communication in occupational learning programmes	Level 3	5
Fundamental	7456	Use mathematics to investigate and monitor the financial aspects of personal, business and national issues	Level 3	5
Fundamental	119465	Write/present/sign texts for a range of communicative contexts	Level 3	5
Core	257201	Apply quality practice in a medical laboratory	Level 3	10
Core	257195	Chronicle interactions in a medical laboratory	Level 3	18
Core	13915	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS in a workplace, and its effects on a business sub-sector, own organisation and a specific workplace	Level 3	4
Core	257196	Handle samples in a centralised sample reception area	Level 3	20
Core	119078	Use a GUI-based word processor to enhance a document through the use of tables and columns	Level 3	5
Core	252170	Apply the principles of customer care in client interactions	Level 4	5
Core	252401	Comply with safety requirements in the medical pathology and blood transfusion fields	Level 4	5
Elective	14342	Manage time and work processes within a business environment	Level 2	4
Elective	116945	Use electronic mail to send and receive messages	Level 2	2
Elective	257199	Fractionate blood products for transfusion	Level 3	12
Elective	257216	Handle biological specimens for immunochemistry analysis in a medical laboratory	Level 3	8
Elective	257198	Handle biological specimens for processing in a histopathology laboratory	Level 3	13
Elective	257197	Handle biological specimens in a haematology laboratory	Level 3	6
Elective	257200	Handle blood components for transfusion	Level 3	13
Elective	13934	Plan and prepare meeting communications	Level 3	4
Elective	257202	Process human tissue specimens for testing in a cytology laboratory	Level 3	12
Elective	257215	Receive and prepare specimens for microbiological analysis and prepare culture media in a medical laboratory	Level 3	24

**LEARNING PROGRAMMES RECORDED AGAINST THIS QUALIFICATION**

**None**





## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

## UNIT STANDARD:

*Chronicle interactions in a medical laboratory*

SAQA US ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE		
257195	Chronicle interactions in a medical laboratory		
ORIGINATOR		PROVIDER	
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
FIELD		SUBFIELD	
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services		Promotive Health and Developmental Services	
ABET BAND	UNIT STANDARD TYPE	NQF LEVEL	CREDITS
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	18

*This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.*

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Record specimen, patient/donor details and make relevant labels.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Compile documents for specimen dispatch and batching.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

File, make enquiries/retrievals and issue documentation.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Communicate information effectively.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	ID	QUALIFICATION TITLE	LEVEL
Core	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

## UNIT STANDARD:

*Handle samples in a centralised sample reception area*

SAQA US ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE		
257196	Handle samples in a centralised sample reception area		
ORIGINATOR	PROVIDER		
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
FIELD	SUBFIELD		
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services	Promotive Health and Developmental Services		
ABET BAND	UNIT STANDARD TYPE	NQF LEVEL	CREDITS
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	20

*This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.*

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Receive and verify suitability of samples in a sample reception area.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Prepare samples for dispatch.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Store, retrieve and discard samples.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Complete required laboratory records.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

ID	QUALIFICATION TITLE	LEVEL
Core 63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:****Handle biological specimens in a haematology laboratory**

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257197	Handle biological specimens in a haematology laboratory		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>	<b>PROVIDER</b>		
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>	<b>SUBFIELD</b>		
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services	Promotive Health and Developmental Services		
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	6

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Receive and prepare biological specimens in the receiving area of haematology.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Operate and maintain laboratory apparatus.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Perform various staining procedures.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

## UNIT STANDARD:

*Handle biological specimens for processing in a histopathology laboratory*

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257198	Handle biological specimens for processing in a histopathology laboratory.		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>			<b>PROVIDER</b>
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>			<b>SUBFIELD</b>
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services			Promotive Health and Developmental Services
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	13

*This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.*

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Receive, record and label specimens.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Prepare specimens for processing and distribute slides for screening.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Operate and maintain laboratory equipment.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Prepare, store, replace and discard specified reagents and stains used in the Histology Laboratory.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 5**

File, retrieve and/or discard specimens after processing.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:*****Fractionate blood products for transfusion***

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257199	Fractionate blood products for transfusion		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>		<b>PROVIDER</b>	
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>		<b>SUBFIELD</b>	
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services		Promotive Health and Developmental Services	
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	12

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Handle packs of blood components for fractionation.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Prepare the fractionated product.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Inspect and package fractionated product.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Operate fractionation plant equipment.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:*****Handle blood components for transfusion***

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257200	Handle blood components for transfusion		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>			<b>PROVIDER</b>
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>			<b>SUBFIELD</b>
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services			Promotive Health and Developmental Services
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	13

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Operate and maintain laboratory equipment.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Demonstrate knowledge of temperature conditions and controls.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Receive and prepare Blood Transfusion Components.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Check, label, store and distribute Blood Transfusion Components.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:*****Apply quality practice In a medical laboratory***

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257201	Apply quality practice in a medical laboratory		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>			<b>PROVIDER</b>
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>			<b>SUBFIELD</b>
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services			Promotive Health and Developmental Services
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	10

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Demonstrate knowledge of laboratory measuring systems.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Comply with total quality management (TQM).

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Control stock in the workplace.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Core	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

## UNIT STANDARD:

*Process human tissue specimens for testing in a cytology laboratory*

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257202	Process human tissue specimens for testing in a cytology laboratory		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>	<b>PROVIDER</b>		
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>	<b>SUBFIELD</b>		
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services	Promotive Health and Developmental Services		
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	12

*This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.*

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Receive, sort, store and discard human tissue specimens in a cytology laboratory.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Label, preserve and stain slides for microscopic identification.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Operate and maintain laboratory equipment.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Prepare stock and working solution for staining.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3





## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:**

***Receive and prepare specimens for microbiological analysis and prepare culture media in a medical laboratory***

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257215	Receive and prepare specimens for microbiological analysis and prepare culture media in a medical laboratory		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>			<b>PROVIDER</b>
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>			<b>SUBFIELD</b>
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services			Promotive Health and Developmental Services
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	24

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Receive specimens in a microbiology laboratory.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Prepare specimens aseptically and incubate inoculated culture plates for analysis.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Operate and maintain laboratory apparatus.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4**

Stain pre-prepared slides for microscopic examination.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 5**

Prepare media for use in specimen processing.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**UNIT STANDARD:*****Handle biological specimens for immunochemistry analysis in a medical laboratory***

<b>SAQA US ID</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TITLE</b>		
257216	Handle biological specimens for immunochemistry analysis in a medical laboratory		
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>		<b>PROVIDER</b>	
SGB Medical Laboratory Assistants			
<b>FIELD</b>		<b>SUBFIELD</b>	
9 - Health Sciences and Social Services		Promotive Health and Developmental Services	
<b>ABET BAND</b>	<b>UNIT STANDARD TYPE</b>	<b>NQF LEVEL</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
Undefined	Regular	Level 3	8

***This unit standard does not replace any other unit standard and is not replaced by another unit standard.***

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1**

Process biological specimens in the receiving area of a particular department.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2**

Aliquot specimens into other tubes.

**SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3**

Operate and maintain laboratory apparatus.

**QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD**

	<b>ID</b>	<b>QUALIFICATION TITLE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>
Elective	63189	National Certificate: Medical Laboratory Assistance	Level 3