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## GENERAL NOTICE

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### NOTICE 704 OF 2012

#### DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

#### HIGHER EDUCATION ACT, 1997 (ACT NO. 101 OF 1997) AND NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT, 2008 (ACT NO. 67 OF 2008)

#### CALL FOR COMMENTS ON THE POLICY ON PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING COLLEGE LECTURERS

I, Bonginkosi Emmanuel Nzimande, MP, Minister of Higher Education and Training, in terms of section 3 of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), read with section 8(2)(b) of the National Qualifications Framework Act, 2008 (Act No. 67 of 2008), hereby publish the draft *Policy on Professional Qualifications for Further Education and Training College Lecturers* for public comment.

This draft policy aligns qualifications for further education and training college lecturers with *The Higher Education Qualifications Framework, 2007, published in Notice No. 928, Government Gazette No. 30353 of 5 October 2007* and it replaces all approved professional qualifications for FET college lecturers.

Existing legislation refers to further education and training college lecturers. This policy also uses this terminology to ensure alignment with existing legislation. The terminology used in the draft policy will be amended to align with new legislation if/once the new legislation is promulgated.

The draft policy has been developed in consultation with key role players in the field, including universities involved in the offering of professional qualifications for college lecturers, teacher unions, the South African College Principals Organisation, the ETDP SETA, the Council on Higher Education, JET Education Services, principals of public FET colleges and sections within the Department of Higher Education and Training responsible for FET colleges and conditions of service of college lecturers.

The draft policy describes minimum standards for different types of professional qualifications for further education and training college lecturers in accordance with their purpose and level. It provides clear guidelines to higher education institutions for the design of learning programmes for the professional preparation of lecturers at further education and training institutions, and describes the basic competences required of such lecturers. Specific emphasis is placed on the knowledge mix required to design purposeful qualification programmes. Integrated and applied knowledge is the umbrella term used to describe five types of learning within learning programmes for professional lecturer qualifications: disciplinary, pedagogical, practical, fundamental and situational. Such programmes should lead to the development of lecturers with strong academic and vocational subject content knowledge, who know how to teach specific subjects and fields effectively and confidently in

varying South African further education and training college contexts; how to teach and communicate in more than one official language, including an indigenous African language; and who are ICT competent.

The draft policy also describes minimum requirements for further post professional and postgraduate qualification paths for further education and training college lecturers to prepare them for further career advancement in, for example, lecturing, support to junior lecturers, curriculum development, financial and institutional management.

The draft policy also describes articulation and progression routes for further education and training college lecturers in possession of historical qualifications obtained before the implementation of *The Higher Education Qualifications Framework, 2007*, to ensure that clear pathways are created for these lecturers to access further qualifications for professional and career development purposes.

The training and development of well-qualified and competent college lecturers is an important requirement in ensuring that the further education and training college sector produces qualifying learners with the necessary competences and vocational skills required by the labour market and society and is a high priority for government.

All interested persons and organisations are invited to comment on the draft policy.

Copies of the draft policy may be downloaded from the website of the Department at [www.dhet.gov.za](http://www.dhet.gov.za). Hard copies are also available for collection in Room 825, Department of Higher Education and Training, 123 Francis Baard Street, Pretoria. Copies will be posted or e-mailed on request to any interested person.

Written comments may be submitted to:

**The Director-General, Office of the Ministry of Higher Education and Training, Private Bag X174, Pretoria, 0001, 123 Francis Baard Street, Pretoria.**

**For attention: Dr W Green, Acting Chief Director: Teacher Education and Development, Tel: 012 312 6232, fax: 012 312 6234, e-mail: [green.w@dhet.gov.za](mailto:green.w@dhet.gov.za)**

**All comments must reach the Department within 31 days of publication of this notice in the Government Gazette.**

Kindly provide the following contact information when submitting comments: name, address, telephone and fax number and e-mail address.

The final *Policy on Professional Qualifications for Further Education and Training College Lecturers* will be published after all comments have been considered.



**Dr BE Nzimande, MP**

**Minister of Higher Education and Training**

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