



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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TVET NUMBERED CIRCULAR TC 0122

DATED: 09 September 2024

To: **Acting/Principals** [*Distribution of circular by the Office of the DDG: TVET*]
Acting/Deputy Principals [*Distribution of circular by the principals*]
Acting/Campus Managers [*Distribution of circular by the Deputy Principals*]
SSS/Placement officers [*Distribution of circular by the Deputy Principals*]

Cc: **Acting/Regional Manager/Directors** [*Distribution of circular by the Office of the DDG: TVET*]
Chief Directorate: National Examinations and Assessment
[*Distribution of circular by the Office of the DDG: TVET*]

RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE N1 – N3 ENGINEERING SKILLS PROGRAMMES AS PART OF THE TRANSITION FROM NATED REPORT 191 PROGRAMMES TO OCCUPATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR TRADES

Dear Principals,

On the 25th of August 2023, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr BE Nzimande approved for publishing the Gazette on Determination of the phase out date of NATED Report 191 N1 – N3 Engineering Programmes. This Gazette numbered 49518 was then distributed to TVET colleges through circular **TC0106** of **06 September 2023**.

Circular **TC0108** dated **18 October 2023** was then distributed to TVET colleges outlining the teach out plan for NATED Report 191 N1 - N3 Engineering Programmes in all public and private colleges starting from **January 2024**.

The table below depicts the teach out schedule for each level of the phase out programmes:

N – programme level	First opportunity	Repeating opportunity	Last date of National Examination
NATED N1	Trimester 1 2024	Trimester 2 2024	Trimester 2 2024
NATED N2	Trimester 3 2024	Trimester 1 2025	Trimester 1 2025
NATED N3	Trimester 2 2025	Trimester 3 2025	Trimester 3 2025

As part of the transitional arrangements published in the Gazette, some of the N1 – N3 subjects are retained for the following purposes:

1. Providing articulation and a second chance to learners who have completed the National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification and would like to pursue studies towards National N Diploma: Engineering Studies or similar qualifications but did not meet the performance level required for admission.
2. Providing access to artisan training in those trades that currently do not have occupational qualifications and trade tests developed.

The retained subjects have been clustered into Engineering Skills programmes for each level (N1 – N3) and allocated new programme codes. **These skills programmes are NOT qualifications registered on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF); therefore, students complete them for non-qualification purposes (as indicated in 1 and 2 above) and will only receive statements of results at completion.**

Below is a table with the skills programmes and their respective subjects' codes:

Skills Programme	Programme Code	Subjects
N1: ENGINEERING SKILLS PROGRAMME	501118802	8090261 ENGINEERING DRAWING N1 15070391 ENGINEERING SCIENCE N1 16030121 MATHEMATICS N1
N2: ENGINEERING SKILLS PROGRAMME	502118802	16030192 MATHEMATICS N2 8090272 ENGINEERING DRAWING N2 15070402 ENGINEERING SCIENCE N2 one of the following Trade Subjects 11041102 AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE THEORY N2 11021102 AIRCRAFT METALWORK THEORY N2 11020042 ARMATURE WINDING THEORY N2 11010102 BRICKLAYING AND PLASTERING THEORY N2 8090012 BUILDING DRAWING N2 15070012 BUILDING SCIENCE N2 11022192 CARPENTRY AND ROOFING THEORY N2 11040192 DIESEL TRADE THEORY N2 11041872 ELECTRICAL TRADE THEORY N2 11022032 FITTING AND MACHINING THEORY N2 8080602 INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS N2 8080602 INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS N2 11040452 INSTRUMENT TRADE THEORY N2 8080262 LOGIC SYSTEMS N2 11040572 MOTOR BODYWORK THEORY N2 11040612 MOTOR ELECTRICAL THEORY N2 11040662 MOTOR TRADE THEORY N2 11021152 MOULDERS' THEORY N2 11020532 PATTERNMAKERS' THEORY N2

		11022182 PLATERS' THEORY N2 8090102 PLATING AND STRUCTURAL STEEL DRAWING N2 11022052 PLUMBING THEORY N2 11041572 REFRIGERATION TRADE THEORY N2 11041852 RIGGING THEORY N2 11020202 TOOLMAKERS' THEORY N2
N3: ENGINEERING SKILLS PROGRAMME	503118802	8090283 ENGINEERING DRAWING N3 15070413 ENGINEERING SCIENCE N3 16030143 MATHEMATICS N3

The subjects which form part of these Engineering Skills Programmes will continue to be examined nationally until further notice and their subject assessment guidelines / requirements remain the same.

The following should be observed by colleges when implementing these skills programmes:

- Only learners who have completed the NSC or equivalent qualifications may be enrolled for purposes of articulation to the National N Diploma: Engineering Studies or similar qualification.
- TVET Colleges may use their own admission requirements in determining the starting N-level of the students enrolled for articulation purposes. Below is an example of a scale that a college may use to admit students for articulation into the skills programmes:

NSC Mathematics / Physical Science performance level	Starting N-Level of the Engineering Programme	NSC Mathematical Literacy	Starting N-Level of the Engineering Skills Programme
30% – 39%	N3	40% and above	N3
10% – 29 %	N2	20% – 39%	N2

- Only apprentices with placement agreements/contracts or employees sent by their employers may be enrolled for purposes of providing artisan training
- Colleges which do not offer the National N Diploma: Engineering Studies or a similar qualification for articulation cannot enroll students on Engineering Skills Programmes for purposes of articulation.
- Private Colleges currently registered and accredited to offer National N Diploma: Engineering Studies or similar qualifications will not be required to apply anew to offer the Engineering Skills Programmes for articulation purposes
- Private Colleges which are currently registered and accredited to offer the phased out N1 – N3 programmes will not be required to apply anew to offer the Engineering Skills Programmes for providing artisan training to contracted apprentices and employees.
- The N1 – N3 Engineering Skills Programmes are NOT funded by the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

The Department of Higher Education and Training will monitor the number of students enrolled by colleges in these skills programmes and adherence to the observations outlined above.

Any queries must be directed to Mr T.W. Vele at Vele.T@dhet.gov.za .

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr S Zungu', written over a circular stamp or logo.

Mr S Zungu

Deputy Director-General

Technical and Vocational Education and Training

Date: 17 September 2024