FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAQA Congratulates Class of 2019

8 January 2020

The South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) applauds the National Senior Certificate (NSC) class of 2019 for their performance. The honourable Minister of Basic Education, Mrs Angie Motshekga, announced an overall achievement rate of 81.3%, an increase from 78.2% in the previous year. SAQA also congratulates the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training (Umalusi) for quality assuring the examinations and the subsequent results. SAQA similarly acknowledges the Department of Basic Education (DBE), the Independent Examination Board (IEB), and the South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute (SACAI) for administering the 2019 NSC examinations.

The NSC is an essential qualification that is registered at Level 4 of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). It is not the only qualification at NQF Level 4. There is the National Certificate Vocational (NCV). Both the NSC and the NCV allow access to further education or employment if those who’ve lawfully obtained them meet the admission requirements of their chosen institution or employer.

Higher education institutions, employers and lifelong learners should understand that both qualifications are at the same NQF level. However, learners achieve them in different contexts – the NSC in general education and the NCV in vocational education.

Learning outcomes are a vital part of the NQF and can assist in such cases. Learning outcomes are what a learner should know, understand and do after a learning intervention. Learning outcomes are meant to be the common language used in education and training even though the contexts in which education and training take place are different.
Higher education institutions or employers can use learning outcomes to reveal what the potential learner or employee knows and the skills they have obtained. SAQA urges institutions of learning and employers to familiarise themselves with learning outcomes to ensure that they do not prejudice candidates because they do not have a popular qualification at NQF Level 4.

The NQF and the learning outcomes underlying it are essential in transforming education and training as well as helping address inequality, poverty and unemployment by empowering learners to grow their skills.

SAQA wishes the class of 2019 the best and encourages learners to check before they enrol if their qualifications of choice are genuine. Authentic qualifications must be:

a) Registered on the NQF;

b) Offered by a registered and accredited educational institution or skills development provider; and

c) Lawfully obtained.

Learners can contact SAQA’s NQF Advisory Services on 0860 111 673, email: help@nqf.org.za, use the Twitter handle @SAQALive or via Facebook for more information.

If learners intend to study abroad, they must send an email to overseasinstitutions@saqa.org.za to check if the institution where they intend to study is legitimate.

Issued by: SAQA
Enquiries: Julie Reddy, Acting CEO
Contact details: 012 431 5027 or 082 786 7950 or jreddy@saqa.co.za ENDS