

NQFpedia

STANDARD GLOSSARY OF TERMS

THE SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

Standard Glossary of Terms

Terms related to the South African National Qualifications Framework

Version 3

September 2018



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Foreword

This standard glossary of terms defines and clarifies the core terminology relating to the development and implementation of the South African National Qualifications Framework (NQF). This booklet has been developed to bring consistency to the use of terminology in the broader education and training context, including legislation, policy and everyday usage by the public.

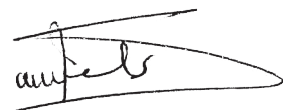
The South African NQF has become a key feature of the South African education and training landscape since it was introduced in 1995 through the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Act (Act 58 of 1995). Importantly, the SAQA Act was the first new education and training legislation to be promulgated in post-apartheid South Africa. As such, the NQF was positioned from the outset as an important government priority that would be used in the years to follow to transform the education and training system. The NQF set in motion a process that included the introduction of new terminology to describe the systems and processes being introduced.

With the development and implementation of the NQF several other changes took place in the education and training system. These included the promulgation of a range of legislative processes, such as:

- Higher Education Act (Act 101 of 1997)
- Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)
- General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance Act (Act 58 of 2001)
- NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)
- White Paper for Post-school Education and Training (Department of Higher Education and Training, 2013)

As a direct result of the many changes in the education and training landscape between 1995 and 2013, a wide range of terminology and definitions have emerged, often causing confusion and leading to ambiguity in the system. In an attempt to clarify and bring consistency to the use of standard terminology in the NQF system the Minister of Higher Education and Training directed SAQA in the *Guidelines on Strategy and Priorities for the NQF 2012/13* to develop a standard vocabulary. SAQA has responded by developing this standard glossary of terms in consultation with the Chief Executive Officers Committee¹.

This booklet is the outcome of our joint effort and I trust that it will prove to be an invaluable resource to the Quality Councils, education and training providers, professional bodies and the broader sector for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Samuels', enclosed within a large, stylized, horizontal oval shape.

Joe Samuels

CEO: SAQA and Chairperson: CEO Committee

¹ The CEO Committee consists of the CEOs of SAQA, Umalusi, the Council on Higher Education, the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations, and the members of the Interdepartmental NQF Steering Committee

Note on how to use this glossary

The glossary of terms draws on existing and emerging legislation, as well as on common understandings which have been agreed upon within the broader NQF community. In the instances where definitions are based on existing legislation or policies, the sources have been indicated. Where possible, terms have been contextualised to include the different approaches followed within the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF. International use of terms has also been considered. The purpose of the glossary is primarily to provide a comprehensive list of the most up-to-date terms used in the NQF environment and, as a result, does not include terms which are no longer used. This glossary will be updated on a regular basis to ensure that further developments are included as they are introduced.

The following format is used in this booklet²:

1	term	Interpretation of the term <i>Where relevant, the source on which the interpretation is based</i>
	Higher Education	examples of how the term is interpreted in the Higher Education sector
	General and Further Education and Training	examples of how the term is interpreted in the General and Further Education and Training sector
	Trades and Occupations	examples of how the term is interpreted in the Trades and Occupations sector
	Related terms in this glossary	
	a list of related terms contained in this glossary	

A list of acronyms is provided on the following pages as acronyms are used throughout the glossary.

² The format has been adapted from a booklet developed by the European Centre for the Development of Vocation Education (CEDEFOP): *Terminology of European education and training policy: a selection of 100 key terms* (CEDEFOP, 2008).

We welcome suggestions for the inclusion of important terms that may have been excluded. We also welcome comments on the current definitions to ensure that they remain relevant and of use to stakeholders in the sector. It is important to note that the list of terms should be used as a guide, while also considering the specific contextual interpretations.

The booklet is available in the following formats:

- A document in pdf format that can be downloaded from the SAQA website (www.saqa.org.za). The document will be updated at regular intervals.
- An interactive facility on the SAQA website (www.saqa.org.za) where comments can be made on the formulation of existing definitions, and where new definitions can be proposed.

List of acronyms and names

ABET	Adult Basic Education and Training
AET	Adult Education and Training
AQP	Assessment Quality Partner
CAPs	Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements
CASS	Continuous Assessment (in schools)
CAT	Credit Accumulation and Transfer
CC	Community College
CCFO	Critical Cross-Field Outcome
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CETC	Community Education and Training College
CHE	Council on Higher Education
CLC	Community Learning Centre
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DG	Director General
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DQP	Development Quality Partner
ECD	Early Childhood Development
ETDP	Education, Training and Development Practitioner
FET	Further Education and Training
GENFETQA	General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance
GET	General Education and Training
GFETQSF	General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework
HEMIS	Higher Education Management Information System
HEQC	Higher Education Quality Committee (of the CHE)
HEQSF	Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework

HET	Higher Education and Training
ICASS	Integrated Continuous Assessment (in FET Colleges)
ISAT	Integrated Skills Assessment Task (in FET Colleges)
NAMB	National Artisan Moderation Body
NEDLAC	National Economic Development and Labour Council
NLRD	National Learners' Records Database
NQF	National Qualifications Framework
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OFO	Organising Framework for Occupations
OQSF	Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework
PALC	Public Adult Learning Centre
PAT	Practical Assessment Task (in schools)
QC	Quality Council
QCTO	Quality Council for Trades and Occupations
QRG	Qualifications Reference Group
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning
SACE	South African Council for Educators
SAIVCET	South African Institute for Vocational and Continuing Education and Training
SAQA	South African Qualifications Authority
SETA	Sector Education and Training Authority
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
Umalusi	Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training
VET	Vocational Education and Training
WIL	Work Integrated Learning
YALE	Youth and Adult Learning and Education

Standard Glossary of Terms

1	access	Opportunity to pursue education and training, including relevant qualifications and part-qualifications, for all prospective learners
	Higher Education	entry to higher education, advanced standing
	General and Further Education and Training	promotion/advancement to a higher grade, entry to an FET college
	Trades and Occupations	entry to an occupational qualification, part-qualification or trade, entry to a final external summative assessment
Related terms in this glossary		
progression		
2	accreditation	A process followed by a competent recognition authority or quality assurance body to recognise a legally established institution as having the capacity to offer a qualification or part-qualification at the required standard; and/or to approve a learning programme as meeting the required standard
	Higher Education	the principles and processes whereby programmes leading to qualifications registered on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) are evaluated by the Higher Education Quality Council (HEQC), a permanent committee of the Council on Higher Education (CHE), for quality in terms of national criteria and are approved for delivery by institutions registered by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) that are confirmed to have the capacity to offer the programme

General and Further Education
and Training

the outcome of a quality assurance process of evaluating:

(a) a private assessment body, to determine whether its capacity, systems, processes and products are of the appropriate quality to deliver valid, reliable, fair and credible assessments and examinations; and

(b) an independent school/ private college, to determine whether it has, in accordance with the policy and criteria for quality assurance as set out in the policy/ regulations, the capacity to offer a qualification or programmes leading to a qualification on the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework (GFETQSF)

Trades and Occupations

the certification, usually for a particular period, of a person, a body or an institution as having the capacity to fulfil a particular function in the quality assurance system set up by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)

Related terms in this glossary

accredited learning programme, accredited provider, Council on Higher Education, Quality Council for Trades and Occupations, Umalusi, HEQSF, OQSF GFETQSF, institutional audit, national programme review, NQF, learning programme, private provider, provider, accredited provider, public provider, qualification, quality assurance, quality, Quality Council, registration of a private provider, SETA, skills programme

3	accredited learning programme	A learning programme, leading to one of the qualification types of the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF), that has gone through the process of approval by the CHE
		<i>Based on the HEQSF (CHE, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	accredited learning programme
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification type, HEQSF, CHE		
4	accredited provider	A legally established institution (public or private) that has been recognised, usually for a particular period of time, by a Quality Council (QC) or its appointed agent, as having the capacity or provisional capacity to offer a qualification or part-qualification registered on the NQF at the required standard
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	institutional accreditation
	General and Further Education and Training	accredited provider, capacity of an independent school, private Further Education and Training (FET) college or private adult learning centre to offer qualifications on the GFETQSF at the required standard, capacity of a private assessment body to assess a qualification on the GFETQSF at the required standard
	Trades and Occupations	accredited skills development provider, accredited assessment centre

Related terms in this glossary		
provider, Quality Council, HEQSF, GFETQSF, OQSF		
5	advanced standing	The status granted to a learner for admission to studies at a higher level than the learner's prior formal studies would have allowed, including exemption where applicable
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	advanced standing, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), exemption, mature age exemption
	General and Further Education and Training	exemption
	Trades and Occupations	RPL
Related terms in this glossary		
admissions procedures, RPL		
6	admissions procedures	The application of institution-specific selection criteria to select potential learners to pursue education and training opportunities in programmes offered by an education and training institution
	Higher Education	admission procedures
	General and Further Education and Training	admission procedures, access
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
advanced standing, access		

7	adult education and training (AET)	Learning and training undertaken by adults, including formal, non-formal and informal learning, for improving knowledge and skills, for personal development, further learning and/ or employment
		<i>Based on the Adult Basic Education and Training Act (Act 52 of 2000)</i>
	Higher Education	university education, continuing education, continuing professional development
	General and Further Education and Training	school education, college education, adult basic education and training, alternative education for adults
	Trades and Occupations	learning programmes, apprenticeships, workplace-based training, occupational-specific training
Related terms in this glossary		
lifelong learning, basic education, formal, non-formal, informal, post-school, learnership, apprenticeship		
8	appeal (against SAQA's foreign qualification recognition decision)	The formal petitioning, by an appellant, either to the Foreign Qualifications Appeal Panel against a recognition decision; or to the Foreign Qualifications Appeal Committee, against an appeal decision taken by the Foreign Qualifications Appeal Panel in
		Stage 1 of the appeal process
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable

Related terms in this glossary		
evaluation of a foreign qualification, foreign qualification, NQF, qualification, recognition of a foreign qualification, SAQA		
9	applied competence	The ability to put into practice in the relevant context, the learning outcomes acquired in the process of obtaining a qualification or part-qualification (applied competence encapsulates foundational, reflexive and practical competence)
		<i>Based on the Level Descriptors for the South African NQF (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	applied competence
	General and Further Education and Training	applied competence
	Trades and Occupations	applied competence
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, part-qualification, foundational competence, reflexive competence, practical competence		
10	apprenticeship	A learning programme in respect of an officially listed trade, which includes a trade-test in respect of that trade
		<i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	apprenticeship
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, part-qualification		

11	articulation	The process of forming possibilities of connection between qualifications and/or part-qualifications to allow for the vertical, lateral and diagonal movement of learners through the formal education and training system and its linkages with the world of work
	Higher Education	progression from the GFETQSF, within the HEQSF, and to the OQSF
	General and Further Education and Training	progression within the GFETQSF, to the HEQSF and OQSF
	Trades and Occupations	progression within the OQSF, to the HEQSF and GFETQSF
Related terms in this glossary		
access, credit transfer, credit accumulation, CAT		
12	artisan	A person certified as competent to undertake a listed trade in accordance with the relevant legislation <i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	artisan, tradesman, certified artisan
Related terms in this glossary		
trade, NAMB		
13	assessment	The process used to identify, gather and interpret information against the required competencies in a qualification or part-qualification in order to make a judgement about a learner's achievement <i>Based on the GENFETQA Act (Act 58 of 2001)</i>
	Higher Education	assessment takes place against a learning programme; portfolio of evidence

<p>General and Further Education and Training</p>	<p>the process of identifying, gathering and interpreting information about a learner's achievement in order to (a) assist the learner's development and improve the process of learning and teaching; and (b) evaluate and certify competence in order to ensure qualification credibility; assessment includes national examinations, end-of-term and/or once-off end-of-year examinations in order to ensure a national standard across providers</p>
<p>Trades and Occupations</p>	<p>external integrated summative assessment, in order to assist in the learner's development and improve the process of learning and teaching</p>
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>formative assessment, summative assessment</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>assessment body</p> <p>An entity accredited/delegated by a QC to conduct external summative assessment and moderate site-based assessment for specified qualifications, part-qualifications, or prior learning</p> <p><i>Based on the GENFETQA Act (Act 58 of 2001)</i></p>
<p>Higher Education</p>	<p>not applicable</p>
<p>General and Further Education and Training</p>	<p>a juristic body accredited by Umalusi Council to quality-assure internal assessment and conduct external examinations, and includes a department of education</p>
<p>Trades and Occupations</p>	<p>AQP: a body delegated by the QCTO to manage and co-ordinate the external integrated summative assessments of specified occupational qualifications and part-qualifications registered on the NQF</p>
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>assessment, summative assessment, QC, AQP</p>	

15	assessment criteria	The standards used to guide learning and to assess learner achievement and/or to evaluate and certify competence
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	assessment criteria
	General and Further Education and Training	assessment criteria
	Trades and Occupations	assessment criteria
Related terms in this glossary		
assessment, certification, applied competence		
16	Assessment Quality Partner (AQP)	A body delegated by the QCTO to manage and co-ordinate the external integrated summative assessments of specified NQF-registered occupational qualifications and part-qualifications
		<i>Based on the OQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	AQP
Related terms in this glossary		
assessment, QCTO, assessment body		
17	assessor	A person that is able to conduct internal and external assessments for specific qualifications and/or part-qualifications
	Higher Education	lecturer, professor (no registration required)

General and Further Education and Training	teacher (registration with SACE required), college lecturer (no registration required), registered assessor (ETDP SETA registration required), examiner, internal moderator, external moderator, marker
Trades and Occupations	a person registered by an AQP for the purposes of conducting external assessment, a constituent assessor registered by a SETA or Professional Body Quality Assurance Partner
Related terms in this glossary	
assessment, AQP, qualification, part-qualification	
18	basic education
	Education and training that takes place in primary and secondary schools, as well as in adult education and training centres
Higher Education	not applicable
General and Further Education and Training	basic education, initial education , basic adult education
Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary	
formal learning	
19	career advice
	<i>See career development services</i>
20	career development services
	Services and activities intended to assist people throughout their lives to make informed education, training and occupation choices
	<i>Based on the Framework for Co-operation in the Provision of Career Development Services (DHET, 2013)</i>
Higher Education	career counselling, career guidance
General and Further Education and Training	career guidance, Life Orientation, learner support
Trades and Occupations	career development, career pathing

Related terms in this glossary

lifelong learning

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career path

The sequence and variety of occupations which a person undertakes throughout a lifetime or the progression up an orderly hierarchy within an organisation or profession

Based on the Framework for Co-operation in the Provision of Career Development Services (DHET, 2013)

Higher Education

professional career path

General and Further Education and Training

career path

Trades and Occupations

occupational career path

Related terms in this glossary

occupation, pathway

22

certification

Formal recognition of a qualification or part-qualification awarded to a successful learner

Based on the GFETQSF

Higher Education

Degree, Diploma, Certificate

General and Further Education and Training

General Certificate e.g. General Education and Training Certificate for Adults (GETC), Elementary Certificate e.g. National Certificate Vocational Level 2 (NC(V) 2), Intermediate Certificate e.g. National Certificate Vocational Level 3 (NC(V) 3), National Certificate e.g. National Senior Certificate (NSC), National Certificate Vocational Level 4 (NC(V) 4), National Senior Certificate for Adults (NASCA); subject certificates, subject statements, learning area certificates/statements

Trades and Occupations

occupational certificate, occupational trade certificate, trade certificate

Related terms in this glossary		
formal, qualification, part-qualification		
23	college	<i>See Technical and Vocational Education and Training College</i>
24	continuing education and training	Various forms of education provided for adults consisting both of qualifications and part-qualifications, as well as short or part-time courses
	Higher Education	continuing education, short courses, adult education, CPD
	General and Further Education and Training	all learning and training programmes leading to qualifications or part-qualifications at levels 1 to 4 of the NQF contemplated in the NQF Act(Act 67 of 2008) provided for at a college in terms of this Act
	Trades and Occupations	industry-specific courses, CPD
Related terms in this glossary		
adult education and training, lifelong learning, short courses, non-formal		
25	continuing professional development (CPD)	A range of learning activities through which professionals ensure that they retain their capacity to practice safely, effectively and legally within their scope of practice
	Higher Education	continuing education, CPD
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	industry requirements, licensing
Related terms in this glossary		
professional body, professional designation		

26	Council on Higher Education (CHE)	An independent statutory body responsible for advising the Minister of Higher Education and Training on all Higher Education policy issues, and for quality assurance in Higher Education. The CHE is the council for quality assurance in Higher Education, mandated by the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008) to achieve the objectives of the NQF and to develop and manage the HEQSF
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	CHE including the HEQC
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
	Related terms in this glossary	
	Quality Council, NQF, HEQSF	
27	credential	An official certificate and accompanying documentation attesting to the achievement of a qualification
	Higher Education	credential
	General and Further Education and Training	credential
	Trades and Occupations	credential
	Related terms in this glossary	
	evaluation of foreign qualifications, foreign qualification	
28	credential evaluation	<i>See evaluation of foreign qualifications</i>

29	credit	<p>A measure of the volume of learning required for a qualification or part-qualification, quantified as the number of notional study hours required for achieving the learning outcomes specified for the qualification or part-qualification. One credit is equated to ten (10) notional hours of learning</p> <p><i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i></p>
	Higher Education	credit, credit points
	General and Further Education and Training	subjects, learning areas, credit
	Trades and Occupations	credit
Related terms in this glossary		
credit accumulation, credit transfer, qualification, notional hour, CAT		
30	credit accumulation	<p>The totaling of credits towards the completion of a qualification or a part-qualification</p> <p><i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i></p>
	Higher Education	recognition of modules and courses
	General and Further Education and Training	accumulation of subjects credits or learning area credits
	Trades and Occupations	credit accumulation
Related terms in this glossary		
credit, qualification, part-qualification, CAT		

31	credit transfer	The vertical, horizontal or diagonal relocation of credits towards a qualification or part-qualification registered on the same or different Sub-Framework
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	recognition of part-qualifications from another institution or from another faculty or discipline in the same institution
	General and Further Education and Training	recognition of credits between qualifications on the GFETQSF or credits of qualifications registered on another Sub-Framework; exemption
	Trades and Occupations	recognition of part-qualifications from another institution or workplace-based provider or within the same discipline, but another occupation
Related terms in this glossary		
credit, qualification, part-qualification, learning programme, CAT, access		
32	credit accumulation and transfer (CAT)	An arrangement whereby the diverse features of both credit accumulation and credit transfer are combined to facilitate lifelong learning and access to the workplace
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	CAT
	General and Further Education and Training	CAT
	Trades and Occupations	CAT
Related terms in this glossary		
credit, credit accumulation, credit transfer, lifelong learning		

33	critical cross-field outcomes (CCFOs)	The generic outcomes which inform all learning and teaching <i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	CCFOs, graduate attributes
	General and Further Education and Training	CCFOs
	Trades and Occupations	CCFOs
	Related terms in this glossary	
learning outcomes		
34	curriculum	A statement of the training structure and expected methods of learning and teaching that underpin a qualification or part-qualification to facilitate a more general understanding of its implementation in an education system <i>Based on the GFETQSF (Umalusi, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	curriculum
	General and Further Education and Training	the curriculum encompasses three components: intended curriculum, enacted curriculum and assessed curriculum; curriculum framework, CAPs; curriculum means the same as programme
	Trades and Occupations	curriculum
	Related terms in this glossary	
qualification, part-qualification		
35	designated group	Particular group of people identified in current employment equity legislation and applied in admission policies by education and training providers (currently black people, women and people with disabilities) <i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>

	Higher Education	designated group
	General and Further Education and Training	designated group
	Trades and Occupations	designated group
Related terms in this glossary		
provider		
36	Development Quality Partner (DQP)	A body delegated by the QCTO to manage the process of developing specific occupational qualifications, part-qualifications, curricula and assessment specifications
		<i>Based on the OQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	QRG
	Trades and Occupations	DQP
Related terms in this glossary		
QCTO, curriculum, assessment		
37	educator	An inclusive term referring to teachers at schools; lecturers at colleges, traditional universities, comprehensive universities, and universities of technology; trainers in workplaces; facilitators, assessors, moderators, and people teaching, educating, training, facilitating or assessing learners across the board
	Higher Education	lecturer
	General and Further Education and Training	teacher
	Trades and Occupations	trainer
Related terms in this glossary		
workplace-based learning, FET college		

38	enacted curriculum	The delivery of the curriculum in an education and training institution which includes consideration of the quality of leadership and management, ethos and values, teaching and learning, extra-curricular activities, learner support, institutional performance and the management of quality towards improvement of teaching and learning
		<i>Based on the GFETQSF (Umalusi, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	curriculum
	General and Further Education and Training	enacted curriculum
	Trades and Occupations	curriculum
Related terms in this glossary		
curriculum		
39	enrol	The process whereby a person formally registers at an institution for a specific learning programme
	Higher Education	enrolment, admission, registration
	General and Further Education and Training	enrolment, admission, registration
	Trades and Occupations	enrolment, registration, employment contract
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, part-qualification, learnership		

40	entry-level requirements	The minimum academic knowledge and/or practical competencies, and/or work experience that a learner must have completed in order to be admitted for study towards a qualification or part-qualification; this may include recognition of other forms of prior learning such as non-formal and informal learning and work experience deemed as comparable for entry
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	admission takes place in relation to a learning programme
	General and Further Education and Training	admission requirements
	Trades and Occupations	minimum workplace experience requirements; and/or minimum knowledge, skill and competence requirements to enter employment in a workplace
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, RPL, non-formal, formal, informal, work experience, admissions procedures		
41	equal opportunity	The principle and practice whereby learning programmes comprising common learning outcomes are provided which can be reached at different rates, by learners with specialised education needs, by adults, and by children, both inside and outside mainstream education and training
	Higher Education	equal opportunity
	General and Further Education and Training	equal opportunity
	Trades and Occupations	equal opportunity

Related terms in this glossary

learning outcomes

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evaluation of foreign qualifications

The process followed by SAQA to verify the authenticity of foreign qualifications and to compare foreign qualifications with South African qualifications registered on the NQF; the process includes authenticating the status of institutions and the qualifications offered by the institutions, investigating the authenticity of qualification documentation and verifying that the qualification was awarded to the individual in question; and comparing foreign qualifications with South African qualifications, considering the structure and outcomes of the foreign qualifications, and locating the foreign qualifications within the NQF

Higher Education

the Matriculation Board (previously the Joint Matriculation Board) evaluates foreign school leaving certificates for admission to South African universities and universities of technology

General and Further Education and Training

the Matriculation Board for purposes of access to Higher Education; function performed by SAQA

Trades and Occupations

professional bodies evaluate foreign qualifications for the right to practise in South Africa; function performed by SAQA

Related terms in this glossary

SAQA, foreign qualification, recognition of a foreign qualification, level, NQF, qualification type, qualification descriptor, Appeal (against SAQA's foreign qualification recognition decision)

An independent school registered by the relevant authority and accredited by a Quality Council or its delegate, and registered by a public or accredited private assessment body as a venue for their candidates to write the examination; or a centre other than an independent school, registered and managed by a private accredited or public assessment body in line with the Quality Council's requirements, as a venue for their candidates to write an external examination leading to a qualification or part-qualification on the NQF

Higher Education

not applicable

General and Further Education
and Training

an independent school registered by the relevant Provincial Education Department and accredited by Umalusi, and registered by a public or accredited private assessment body as a venue for their candidates to write the National Senior Certificate examination; or a centre other than an independent school, registered and managed by a private accredited or public assessment body in line with Umalusi's requirements, as a venue for their candidates to write an external examination leading to a qualification or part-qualification on the GFETQSF

Trades and Occupations

a centre accredited by the QCTO for the purpose of conducting external integrated summative assessments for specified NQF registered occupational qualifications and part-qualifications

Related terms in this glossary

assessment, assessment body, Assessment quality partner (AQP), external assessment, summative assessment, National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB), quality assurance, Quality Council, registered examination centre

44	examiner	A person appointed to develop, administer and oversee a formal assessment
	Higher Education	lecturer
	General and Further Education and Training	teacher, examiner, lecturer
	Trades and Occupations	examiner, facilitator, assessor
Related terms in this glossary		
assessment, external assessment		
45	exit level outcomes	The knowledge, skills and attitudes that a learner should have obtained or mastered on completion of a qualification and against which the learner is assessed for competence
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	exit level outcomes
	General and Further Education and Training	exit level outcomes
	Trades and Occupations	exit level outcomes
Related terms in this glossary		
learning outcomes, qualification, part-qualification, level		
46	external assessment	Assessment conducted by a person or body that is not directly involved in the development and/or delivery of the learning programme
	Higher Education	external moderator
	General and Further Education and Training	conducted by a public or accredited private assessment body, the outcomes of which count towards the achievement of a qualification; external moderation
	Trades and Occupations	moderator; or external summative assessment; AQP

Related terms in this glossary

assessment, learning programme

47 **exit point**

A point at which a learner is required to demonstrate competence through an assessment that leads to documentary proof (certification) of proficiency

Higher Education graduation, certification

General and Further Education and Training pass, certification

Trades and Occupations qualified for a trade or pass, certification (occupational certificate)

Related terms in this glossary

qualification

48 **foreign qualification**

A qualification that either: (1) forms an intrinsic part of an education and training system other than South Africa, and is awarded by an institution that is accredited or recognised in that system, in accordance with the relevant laws, policies, or generally accepted practice; or (2) meets other specific criteria as determined and published by SAQA

Higher Education foreign qualification, international student

General and Further Education and Training foreign qualification

Trades and Occupations foreign qualification

Related terms in this glossary

recognition of foreign qualifications, evaluation of foreign qualifications, SAQA, accredited provider

49 **Foreign Qualification Recognition Value Chain**

The various recognition responsibilities, undertaken by key South African role players, to recognise a foreign qualification for specific purposes

	Higher Education	entry to higher education and advanced standing
General and Further Education and Training		the policy and criteria for the quality assurance of independent schools and assessment bodies excludes education institutions which offer a foreign or alternative curriculum. Umalusi considers alternative or foreign curricula to be any curriculum that is not approved as policy by the Minister of Basic Education or any curriculum that does not comply in all respects with the requirement outlined in the National Protocol on Assessments, Grades R-12.
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		access, advanced standing, admission procedures, articulation, curriculum evaluation of a foreign qualification, foreign qualification, learning programme, level, lifelong learning, practical competence, professional body, professional designation, record of learning registration of a professional person with a professional body , trade, verification of a qualification
50	formal learning	Learning that occurs in an organised and structured education and training environment and that is explicitly designated as such <i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	learning programmes that lead to qualifications and part-qualifications registered on the NQF
General and Further Education and Training		qualifications and part-qualifications registered on the NQF

	Trades and Occupations	qualifications and part-qualifications registered on the NQF
	Related terms in this glossary	
		qualification, part-qualification, NQF, credits
51	formative assessment	A range of formal, non-formal and informal ongoing assessment procedures used to focus teaching and learning activities to improve student attainment, or which are required for the purpose of a year mark
	Higher Education	formative assessment
	General and Further Education and Training	formative assessment
	Trades and Occupations	formative assessment
	Related terms in this glossary	
		assessment
52	foundational competence	Learning that provides opportunities for the development of proficiency in one or more languages as well as in some form of mathematics or mathematical literacy and that is intended to support further learning, or competence required to pursue work in a professional environment
	Higher Education	foundational competence
	General and Further Education and Training	foundational competence
	Trades and Occupations	foundational competence
	Related terms in this glossary	
		applied competence, reflexive competence, practical competence

53	foundational learning	Basic learning that supports further learning and that is intended to provide learning opportunities for the development of proficiency in one or more languages as well as in some form of mathematics or mathematical literacy
		<i>Based on the GFETQSF (Umalusi, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	foundational learning
	General and Further Education and Training	mathematics, mathematical literacy, languages in schools and for adults
	Trades and Occupations	foundational learning
Related terms in this glossary		
adult education and training, lifelong learning, RPL		
54	Further Education and Training (FET) college	<i>See Technical and Vocational Education and Training College</i>
55	general education	<i>See basic education</i>
56	General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework (GFETQSF)	The Sub-Framework of the NQF for General and Further Education and Training that is developed and managed by Umalusi
		<i>Based on the Determination of the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF (DHET, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	GFETQSF
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
NQF, Umalusi, QC		

57	guidance of learners	The counselling of learners by specially trained individuals who meet nationally recognised standards for education, training and development practitioners
		<i>Based on the Framework for Co-operation in the Provision of Career Development Services (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	career guidance, career counselling
	General and Further Education and Training	career guidance, career counselling
	Trades and Occupations	career guidance, career counselling
Related terms in this glossary		
career development services		
58	Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF)	The Sub-Framework, of the NQF, for Higher Education that is developed and managed by the CHE
		<i>Based on the Determination of the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF (DHET, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	HEQSF
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
NQF, QC		
59	higher education	Education that normally takes place in public universities and registered private higher education institutions which offer qualifications that meet the requirements of the HEQSF
		<i>Based on the White Paper for Post-School Education and Training (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	higher education
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable

	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
	Related terms in this glossary	
	HEQSF, qualification, provider	
60	informal learning	Learning that results from daily activities related to paid or unpaid work, family or community life, or leisure <i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	informal learning
	General and Further Education and Training	informal learning
	Trades and Occupations	informal learning
	Related terms in this glossary	
	lifelong learning	
61	institutional audit	An improvement-orientated, external evaluation of institutional arrangements for assuring quality in teaching and learning, research and community engagement, based on self- and peer-evaluation
	Higher Education	institutional audit
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
	Related terms in this glossary	
	CHE	
62	integration	An approach to education and training in which relevant components of the education and training system are not isolated, but rather relate to each other to enhance learner access to the system, progression within the system, and lifelong learning
	Higher Education	integration

General and Further Education and Training	Integration
Trades and Occupations	Integration
Related terms in this glossary	
progression, lifelong learning	
63	Interdepartmental NQF Steering Committee
	A committee established by the DG: HET in agreement with the DG: Basic Education which co-ordinates the NQF responsibilities of the two departments; advises the DG:HET on matters relating to the Minister: HET's NQF responsibilities; and advises the CEO Committee
	<i>Based on the System of Collaboration (SAQA, 2012)</i>
Higher Education	not applicable
General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary	
ministerial guidelines for the NQF	
64	internal assessment
	Any assessment conducted by a provider, the outcomes of which count towards the achievement of a qualification
Higher Education	internal assessment
General and Further Education and Training	internal assessment e.g. CASS and PAT in the case of schools and ICASS and ISAT in the case of FET colleges, site-based assessment
Trades and Occupations	internal assessment, workplace-based assessment
Related terms in this glossary	
assessment, external assessment, provider, formative assessment	

65	international comparability	The outcome of an analysis of how a qualification compares with- and relates to- similar international qualifications
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	international comparability
	General and Further Education and Training	international comparability
	Trades and Occupations	international comparability
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, evaluation of foreign qualifications		
66	job	A set of tasks and duties carried out, or meant to be carried out, by one person for a particular employer, or in self-employment
		<i>Based on the OQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	career, profession, occupation
	General and Further Education and Training	career, occupation, job
	Trades and Occupations	occupation, job, career
Related terms in this glossary		
QCTO, OQSF, OFO		
67	learner	An inclusive term referring to anyone learning, including pupils at school; students at colleges, traditional universities, comprehensives, and universities of technology; apprentices, learners in learnerships, interns; people undergoing training, and people learning non-formally and informally as well as people enrolled for particular qualifications or part-qualifications
	Higher Education	student enrolled for a learning programme

<p>General and Further Education and Training</p>	<p>pupil, student (including an adult learner), person who attends an ECD centre, school or A(B)ET centre</p>
<p>Trades and Occupations</p>	<p>apprentice, trainee, worker</p>
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>learner achievement, qualification, part-qualification, learning programme</p>	
<p>68 learner achievement</p>	<p>The successful completion of a qualification or part-qualification that is captured on the NLRD</p>
<p>Higher Education</p>	<p>graduate</p>
<p>General and Further Education and Training</p>	<p>qualified learner, certificated learner</p>
<p>Trades and Occupations</p>	<p>competent learner, qualified learner</p>
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>learner, qualification, part-qualification, NLRD, record of learning</p>	
<p>69 learnership</p>	<p>A learning programme registered with the DHET which consists of a structured learning component, a practical work experience component of a specified nature and duration, and which leads to a qualification registered on the NQF which is related to an occupation; a learnership is based on an agreement entered into between the learner, the institution and the employer</p> <p><i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i></p>
<p>Higher Education</p>	<p>learnership</p>
<p>General and Further Education and Training</p>	<p>learnership</p>
<p>Trades and Occupations</p>	<p>learnership</p>

Related terms in this glossary		
learning programme, qualification, occupation, registration of a learnership		
70	learning	The acquisition of knowledge, understanding, values, skills, competence and/or experience
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	learning
	General and Further Education and Training	learning
	Trades and Occupations	learning
Related terms in this glossary		
learning outcomes, RPL		
71	learning outcomes	The contextually demonstrated end-products of specific learning processes, which include knowledge, skills and values
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	learning outcomes
	General and Further Education and Training	learning outcomes
	Trades and Occupations	learning outcomes
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, part-qualification, CCFOs		
72	learning programme	A structured and purposeful set of learning experiences that leads to a qualification or part-qualification
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	learning programme

General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
Trades and Occupations	learnership, apprenticeship, skills programme, based on a curriculum
Related terms in this glossary	
learnership, apprenticeship, skills programme, curriculum, qualification variant	
73	level
	One of the series of levels of learning achievement arranged in ascending order from one to 10 according to which the NQF is organised and to which qualification types are linked
	<i>Based on the Level Descriptors for the South African NQF (SAQA, 2012)</i>
Higher Education	levels 5-10 of the NQF
General and Further Education and Training	levels 1-4 of the NQF
Trades and Occupations	levels 1-8 of the NQF
Related terms in this glossary	
NQF, level descriptor, qualification type	
74	level descriptor
	A statement describing learning achievement at a particular level of the NQF that provides a broad indication of the types of learning outcomes and assessment criteria that are appropriate to a qualification at that level
	<i>Based on the Level Descriptors for the South African NQF (SAQA, 2012)</i>
Higher Education	level descriptor
General and Further Education and Training	level descriptor
Trades and Occupations	level descriptor

Related terms in this glossary

level, NQF, learning outcomes, assessment criteria, qualification, part-qualification

75

lifelong learning

See learning

Learning that takes place in all contexts in life - formally, non-formally and informally. It includes learning behaviours and obtaining knowledge; understanding; attitudes; values and competencies for personal growth, social and economic well-being, democratic citizenship, cultural identity and employability

Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)

Higher Education

lifelong learning

General and Further Education and Training

lifelong learning

Trades and Occupations

lifelong learning

Related terms in this glossary

adult education and training, continuing education, formal learning, non-formal learning, informal learning

76

Ministerial guidelines for the NQF

Guidelines developed by the Minister: HET that set out the strategies and priorities for the implementation of the NQF for a specific period

Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)

Higher Education

ministerial guidelines

General and Further Education and Training

ministerial guidelines

Trades and Occupations

ministerial guidelines

Related terms in this glossary		
NQF Implementation Framework		
77	monitoring and evaluation of the NQF	Oversight of the NQF by the appointed structures so as to ensure the advancement of the NQF objectives as a system of co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration for education, training, development and work
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	monitoring and evaluation
	General and Further Education and Training	monitoring and evaluation
	Trades and Occupations	monitoring and evaluation
Related terms in this glossary		
Sub-Frameworks, NQF Implementation Framework, System of Collaboration		
78	National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB)	The body responsible for the external summative assessment and moderation of all listed trades
		<i>Based on the OQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	NAMB
	General and Further Education and Training	NAMB
	Trades and Occupations	NAMB
Related terms in this glossary		
trade, artisan		

79	National Learners' Records Database (NLRD)	The electronic management information system of the NQF under the authority of SAQA, which contains records of qualifications, part-qualifications, learner achievements, recognised professional bodies, professional designations and all related information such as registrations and accreditations
	Higher Education	NLRD
	General and Further Education and Training	NLRD
	Trades and Occupations	NLRD
Related terms in this glossary		
NQF, qualification, part-qualification, learner achievement, provider, professional body, professional designation, accredited provider		
80	national programme review	A form of accreditation that focuses on the re-accreditation of existing programmes in a specific discipline area. National reviews have three main components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the re-accreditation of programmes; (ii) the follow-up process on the re-accreditation results; and (iii) the production of a report on the state of provision in a particular programme or disciplinary area <p><i>Based on the HEQSF (CHE, 2013)</i></p>
	Higher Education	programme review
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable

Related terms in this glossary

CHE, learning programmes

81 National Qualifications Framework (NQF)

The comprehensive system, approved by the Minister: HET, for the classification, registration, publication and articulation of quality-assured national qualifications and part-qualifications. The South African NQF is a single integrated system comprising three co-ordinated Qualifications Sub-Frameworks namely for: General and Further Education and Training; Higher Education; and Trades and Occupations

Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)

Higher Education NQF

General and Further Education and Training NQF

Trades and Occupations NQF

Related terms in this glossary

GFETQSF, HEQSF, OQSF, NLRD, qualifications, part-qualifications, formal learning, lifelong learning

82 National Qualifications Framework Implementation Framework

A document prepared by SAQA, after consultation with the QCs, that guides the implementation of the NQF

Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)

Higher Education Implementation Framework

General and Further Education and Training Implementation Framework

Trades and Occupations Implementation Framework

Related terms in this glossary

NQF, System of Collaboration, Ministerial guidelines

83	non-formal learning	Planned learning activities, not explicitly designated as learning towards the achievement of a qualification or part-qualification; often associated with learning that results in improved workplace practice
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	continuing education, short courses, adult education, CPD, non-credit bearing courses, popular education
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	CPD, non-aligned courses, popular education
Related terms in this glossary		
continuing education, short courses		
84	notional hours	The agreed estimate of the learning time that it would take an average learner to meet the defined learning outcomes; it includes consideration of contact time, research, completion of assignments, time spent in structured learning in the workplace, individual learning and assessment. Ten notional hours equate to one credit
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	notional hours
	General and Further Education and Training	notional hours
	Trades and Occupations	notional hours
Related terms in this glossary		
credits, learning outcomes		

85	occupation	A set of jobs or occupational specialisations where the main tasks and duties are characterised by a high degree of similarity (skill specialisation) and are grouped together on the OFO as an occupation; occupations include trades and professions
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	profession
	General and Further Education and Training	vocation, occupation
	Trades and Occupations	occupation
Related terms in this glossary		
job, OQSF, QCTO, trade, occupational qualification, OFO		
86	Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF)	The Sub-Framework of the NQF, for Trades and Occupations, that is developed and managed by the QCTO
		<i>Based on the Determination of the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF (DHET, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	OQSF
Related terms in this glossary		
NQF, QCTO, trade, occupation, OFO		
87	occupational specialisation	A skills set related to an occupation and which may be more or less complex than that of the occupations to which it relates
		<i>Based on the OQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>

	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	occupational specialisation based on the OFO
	Related terms in this glossary	
	QQSF, occupation, OFO	
88	Organising Framework for Occupations (OFO)	A coded classification system to encompass all occupations in South Africa, used as the DHET's key tool for identifying, reporting and monitoring skills demand and supply in the South African labour market
		<i>Based on the QQSF (QCTO, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	linked to HEMIS and other data management systems
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	classifications system that underlies the QQSF
	Related terms in this glossary	
	QQSF, occupation, QCTO	
89	part-qualification	An assessed unit of learning with a clearly defined purpose that is, or will be, registered as part of a qualification on the NQF
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	module
	General and Further Education and Training	subject, learning area
	Trades and Occupations	unit standard, module, skills programme
	Related terms in this glossary	
	assessment, unit standard, qualification	

90	pathway	Sequencing of qualifications that allows learners to move vertically, diagonally and, in some cases, horizontally, through NQF levels, giving learners recognition for full or partially completed qualifications or part-qualifications
	Higher Education	academic pathway, professional pathway, learning pathway, vocational pathway
	General and Further Education and Training	schooling pathway, vocational pathway, academic pathway, adult education pathway
	Trades and Occupations	occupational pathway, professional pathway
	Related terms in this glossary	
	CAT, articulation, qualification, level	
91	placement opportunity	Any opportunity for work or learning that could be offered to an individual and includes a vacancy for employment, an opportunity for self-employment, a learning programme and/or community service <i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
	Higher Education	learnership, internship
	General and Further Education and Training	in a programme, work-shadowing, community service
	Trades and Occupations	learnership, internship, apprenticeship
	Related terms in this glossary	
	learning programme	
92	portability	The transfer of learning from one context to another <i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	portability, access, credit transfer, credit accumulation, RPL
	General and Further Education and Training	credit transfer
	Trades and Occupations	portability

Related terms in this glossary		
credit transfer		
93	post-school education and training	Education and training opportunities for people who have left school as well as for those adults who may never have been to school but require education opportunities (the term <i>Youth and Adult Learning and Education</i> [YALE] is also used in some sectors)
		<i>Based on the White Paper for Post-School Education and Training (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	post-school education and training, specifically higher education
	General and Further Education and Training	post-school education and training, specifically in FET colleges and adult learning centres/ community learning centres/ community colleges/CETCs
	Trades and Occupations	post-school education and training, specifically occupationally-directed learning
Related terms in this glossary		
lifelong learning, adult education and training, continuing education		
94	practical competence	The demonstrated ability to perform a set of tasks and actions in authentic contexts
	Higher Education	practical competence
	General and Further Education and Training	practical competence
	Trades and Occupations	practical competence
Related terms in this glossary		
applied competence, reflexive competence, foundational competence		

95	private college	A private institution that is established or declared as a private college and registered under the Further Education and Training Colleges Amendment Act (Act 1 of 2013)
		<i>Based on the Further Education and Training Colleges Amendment Act (Act 1 of 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	private college
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
provider, accredited provider, registration of a private provider		
96	private provider	<i>See registration of a private provider</i>
97	professional body	Any body of expert practitioners in an occupational field; this includes an occupational body and statutory council
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	professional body, professional association
	General and Further Education and Training	professional body
	Trades and Occupations	occupational body
Related terms in this glossary		
professional designation		

98	professional designation	A title or status conferred by a professional body in recognition of a person's expertise and/or right to practise in an occupational field <i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	professional designation
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	professional designation, trade, license to practise, occupational designation
Related terms in this glossary		
professional body		
99	programme	See <i>learning programme</i> or in the case of General and Further Education and Training, See <i>curriculum</i>
	100	progression
	Higher Education	progression
	General and Further Education and Training	progression
	Trades and Occupations	progression
Related terms in this glossary		
credits, CAT		
101	provider	See <i>accredited provider</i>

102	Public Adult Learning Centre (PALC)	Public learning centres established through the Adult Basic Education and Training Act (Act 52 of 2000)
		<i>Based on the Adult Basic Education and Training Act (Act 52 of 2000)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	PALC
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
post-school education and training, adult education and training		
103	public provider	A state or partially state-funded body that offers any education or training programme that leads to a qualification or part-qualification registered on the NQF
	Higher Education	universities
	General and Further Education and Training	PALCs, FET colleges, public schools
	Trades and Occupations	public workplace providers
Related terms in this glossary		
accredited provider		
104	qualification	A registered national qualification consisting of a planned combination of learning outcomes which has a defined purpose or purposes, intended to provide qualifying learners with applied competence and a basis for further learning and which has been assessed in terms of exit level outcomes, registered on the NQF and certified and awarded by a recognised body
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>

	Higher Education	learning programmes are accredited based on the qualification types in the HEQSF
	General and Further Education and Training	qualification types and variants as defined on the GFETQSF
	Trades and Occupations	qualification types as defined on the OQSF
	Related terms in this glossary	
		learning outcomes, NQF, level descriptors, learning programme, HEQSF, GFETQSF, OQSF
105	qualification award	The formal acknowledgement, by the relevant authority, of achievement of the stated learning outcomes for a qualification
	Higher Education	Acknowledgement of the level of achievement and the graduate attributes that characterise, and are required for the award of the qualification.
	General and Further Education and Training	Certificates issued to learners who have achieved qualifications or part-qualifications
	Trades and Occupations	A document issued by the QCTO indicating attainment of an occupational qualification or part-qualification registered on the OQSF.
	Related terms in this glossary	
		certification, exit level outcomes, learner achievement, National Learners' Records Database, qualification, part-qualification, record of learning, summative assessment
106	qualification descriptor	A unique descriptor stating the purpose of the qualification and how it relates to other qualification types; it enables comparisons with other qualifications and provides a basis for designing, evaluating, approving and reviewing qualifications and their associated curricula
		<i>Based on the GFETQSF (Umalusi, 2013)</i>

	Higher Education	qualification descriptor
	General and Further Education and Training	qualification descriptor
	Trades and Occupations	qualification descriptor
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification, part-qualification, HEQSF, OQSF, GFETQSF, NQF, qualification type, curriculum		
107	qualifications frameworks	Systems for classification, registration, publication and articulation of quality-assured qualifications
	Higher Education	Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework
	General and Further Education and Training	General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework
	Trades and Occupations	Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework
Related terms in this glossary		
National Qualifications Framework, Organising Framework for Occupations (OFO), pathway, qualification type, Quality Council, SAQA, Sub-Framework of the NQF		
108	qualification type	The classification of a qualification within a Sub-Framework of the NQF
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	eleven qualification types, as described in the HEQSF, ranging from certificates to doctorates
	General and Further Education and Training	four qualification types, as described in the GFETQSF, ranging from general certificates to national certificates

	Trades and Occupations	one qualification type, as described in the OQSF, namely the Occupational Certificate
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>qualification descriptor, qualification, part-qualification, NQF, OQSF, HEQSF, GFETQSF</p>		
109	qualification variant	A qualification based on a specific qualification type that is described with a qualifier
	Higher Education	designator, nested approach, qualification standards, e.g. a <i>BSc</i> complies with the generic requirements for a <i>Bachelor's degree</i>
	General and Further Education and Training	e.g. the <i>NC(V)</i> is a variant of the <i>National Certificate</i>
	Trades and Occupations	occupational title as the designator, e.g. <i>National Occupational Certificate: Chemistry Technician</i>
<p>Related terms in this glossary</p> <p>qualification descriptor, qualification, part-qualification, NQF, OQSF, HEQSF, GFETQSF</p>		
110	Quality	Meeting the requirements of nationally agreed outcomes and performance/assessment criteria, thus facilitating both provision and monitoring
	Higher Education	fitness for purpose in the context of mission differentiation of institutions within a national framework; value for money; transformation in the sense of developing the personal capabilities of individual learners, as well as advancing the agenda for social change
	General and Further Education and Training	qualifications, curricula, assessments and provision that meet the standards and requirements set by Umalusi
	Trades and Occupations	meeting industry standards and requirements

Related terms in this glossary

learning outcomes,
assessment criteria

111 **quality assurance**

The processes of ensuring that specified standards or requirements for teaching, learning, education administration, assessment and the recording of achievements have been met

Higher Education

standards and criteria that will inform a range of quality assurance processes such as programme accreditation, institutional audits, monitoring and evaluation

General and Further Education
and Training

the process of measuring, evaluating and reporting on quality against standards, and monitoring for ongoing improvement in the qualification, the curriculum/programme, the assessment, the implementation and delivery of the curriculum and the capacity of the institution or assessment body to offer and/or assess the qualification

Trades and Occupations

systems and procedures to ensure that occupational qualifications meet industry standards and requirements

Related terms in this glossary

QCs, institutional audit,
accredited provider, monitoring
and evaluation

112 **quality assurance
body**

A body that is either legally mandated to undertake quality assurance within a national education and training system, or officially recognised within a framework as compliant with agreed quality assurance standards in a geographical area

Higher Education

CHE

General and Further Education
and Training

Umalusi

Trades and Occupations

QCTO

Related terms in this glossary		
assessment body, Assessment Quality Partner, NAMB, quality assurance, Quality Council, SETAs		
113	Quality Council	One of the three Councils tasked with developing and managing each of the Sub-Frameworks of the NQF in order to ensure that agreed quality standards are met: CHE for the HEQSF; Umalusi for the GFETQSF; and QCTO for the OQSF
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	CHE
	General and Further Education and Training	Umalusi
	Trades and Occupations	QCTO
Related terms in this glossary		
QCTO, OQSF, CHE, HEQSF, Umalusi, GFETQSF		
114	Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO)	The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations established in terms of the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008) and mandated to achieve the objectives of the NQF and to develop and manage the OQSF
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	QCTO
Related terms in this glossary		
Quality Council, OQSF, pathway		

115	recognition agreement	A formal arrangement, signed between two or more countries at a designated political level, confirming the intent to mutually recognise each other's qualifications and outlining the agreed mechanisms and responsibilities
	Higher Education	recognition agreement
	General and Further Education and Training	recognition agreement
	Trades and Occupations	recognition agreement
Related terms in this glossary		
qualification		
116	recognition decision (regarding foreign qualifications)	The outcome of the evaluation of a foreign qualification by SAQA
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
foreign qualification, evaluation of a foreign qualification, NQF, record of learning, SAQA, verification of a qualification, appeal (against SAQA's foreign qualification recognition decision)		
117	recognition of a foreign qualification	The formal acceptance of the appropriateness of a foreign qualification for a specific purpose
	Higher Education	recognition of a foreign qualification
	General and Further Education and Training	recognition of a foreign qualification
	Trades and Occupations	recognition of a foreign qualification

Related terms in this glossary		
foreign qualification, evaluation of a foreign qualification, professional body, level		
118	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	The principles and processes through which the prior knowledge and skills of a person are made visible, mediated and assessed for the purposes of alternative access and admission, recognition and certification, or further learning and development
		<i>Based on the National Policy for the Implementation of RPL (SAQA, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	RPL
	General and Further Education and Training	RPL
	Trades and Occupations	RPL
Related terms in this glossary		
non-formal, informal, admission, assessment		
119	recognition of professional bodies	A status assigned by SAQA to a statutory or non-statutory professional body for the purposes of the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008) when it fulfils set criteria, including the registration of its professional designation(s) on the NQF
		<i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	recognition of a professional body
	General and Further Education and Training	recognition of a professional body
	Trades and Occupations	recognition of a professional body

Related terms in this glossary		
SAQA, professional body, professional designation		
120	record of learning	A statement of all learning for which a student is enrolled or which the student has completed that is issued by an authorised issuing organisation
	Higher Education	academic transcript, academic record
	General and Further Education and Training	certificate, statement of results, subject certificate, learning area statement
	Trades and Occupations	occupational certificate; statement of results
Related terms in this glossary		
accredited provider, NLRD		
121	reflexive competence	The demonstrated ability to integrate performances with understanding in order to adapt to changed circumstances and explain the reason behind these adaptations
	Higher Education	reflexive competence
	General and Further Education and Training	reflexive competence
	Trades and Occupations	reflexive competence
Related terms in this glossary		
applied competence, foundational competence, practical competence		
122	registered examination centre	A registration process undertaken by an assessment body to recognise an institution as having the capacity to conduct an examination
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	school, FET college, Adult Learning Centre, examination centre
	Trades and Occupations	AQP

Related terms in this glossary		
assessment, assessment body, AQP		
123	registration of a learnership	The inclusion of a learnership by the DHET, against a specific qualification, on a list of learnerships on the recommendation of a SETA
		<i>Based on the Learning Programme Regulations (DHET, 2012)</i>
		Higher Education not applicable
		General and Further Education and Training not applicable
	Trades and Occupations registration of learnership	
Related terms in this glossary		
learnership, SETA, qualification		
124	registration of a learner on a learnership	A process undertaken by the employer and the learner on the basis of the prescribed procedures and forms of the relevant SETA responsible for that learnership
		Higher Education not applicable
		General and Further Education and Training not applicable
		Trades and Occupations registration of a learner on a learnership
Related terms in this glossary		
learnership, SETA		
125	registration of a private provider	The inclusion, by the DHET, of a non-state-funded body that offers any education or training programme that leads to a qualification or part-qualification registered on the NQF, and that meets the minimum criteria set by the DHET for providers allowed to operate in South Africa. Registration is a pre-requisite for accreditation by the relevant Quality Council
		Higher Education private higher education institution

General and Further Education and Training	private FET college, private AET centre (in this case, registration has not yet been activated although it is a requirement)
Trades and Occupations	private skills development providers are currently exempt from this requirement; private FET college
Related terms in this glossary provider, accredited provider, QC	
126 registration of a professional person with a professional body	The inclusion of a person on a list of professionals who have met the requirements of a specific professional body for practice in that profession; requirements usually include a specified initial qualification as well as CPD requirements, registration fees and adherence to a code of conduct
Higher Education	registration of a professional person with a professional body
General and Further Education and Training	registration of a professional person with a professional body
Trades and Occupations	registration of a professional person with a professional body, registration with an industry body, inclusion on a list of approved tradesmen/women
Related terms in this glossary professional designation, professional body, CPD	
127 registration of a professional designation	The approval by SAQA for the inclusion of a professional designation on the NQF, linked to the relevant professional body, as well as to the underlying qualification <i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for Recognising a Professional Body and Registering a Professional Designation (SAQA, 2012)</i>
Higher Education	registration of a professional designation

General and Further Education and Training	registration of a professional designation
Trades and Occupations	registration of a professional designation, trade test
Related terms in this glossary	
professional designation, professional body, qualification, NQF	
128 registration of an independent school	A process of registration that independent schools must undertake with Provincial Departments of Education in order to operate in South Africa in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of South Africa and the South African Schools Act, No 84 of 1996
Higher Education	not applicable
General and Further Education and Training	registration of an independent school
Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary	
provider	
129 registration of a qualification or part-qualification	The formal inclusion of a qualification or part-qualification by SAQA on the NQF, with an identification of the relevant Sub-Framework, when the qualification or part-qualification meets the SAQA policy and criteria for the registration of qualifications and part-qualifications on the NQF, and as recommended by the relevant QC <i>Based on the Policy and Criteria for the Registration of Qualifications and Part-Qualifications on the NQF (SAQA, 2013)</i>
Higher Education	registration of a learning programme
General and Further Education and Training	registration of a qualification or part-qualification

	Trades and Occupations	registration of a qualification or part-qualification
Related terms in this glossary		
Sub-Framework, OQSF, HEQSF, GFETQSF, qualification, part-qualification, QC, learning programme		
130	revocation	The withdrawal of a prior decision by SAQA to recognise a foreign qualification and the action taken to invalidate, annul, cancel or rescind a SAQA Certificate of Evaluation, to render such certificate to have no legal status and effect
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary		
Foreign qualification, evaluation of a foreign qualification, NQF, record of learning, SAQA, Verification of a qualification, Appeal (against SAQA's foreign qualification recognition decision)		
131	SAQA Certificate of Evaluation	A certificate issued by SAQA indicating the authenticity of the foreign qualification and its location on the NQF
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	not applicable

Related terms in this glossary		
foreign qualification, evaluation of a foreign qualification, NQF, record of learning, SAQA, verification of a qualification, appeal (against SAQA's foreign qualification recognition decision)		
132	Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA)	A body established in terms of the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998) to develop and implement sector skills plans and promote learning programmes, including workplace learning. The QCTO has delegated quality assurance powers to the SETAs
		<i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
	Higher Education	SETA
	General and Further Education and Training	SETA
	Trades and Occupations	SETA
Related terms in this glossary		
QCTO, quality assurance, learning programmes		
133	skills programme	A QCTO-accredited learning programme that is occupationally based and which, when completed, may constitute credits towards a qualification registered on the NQF
		<i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	skills programme, occupational qualification

Related terms in this glossary

learning programme, part-qualification, credits

134 South African Institute for Vocational and Continuing Education and Training (SAIVCET)

An institute established through the FET Colleges Amendment Act (Act 1 of 2013) to assist the Minister: HET in the development of distance education and training, to support public colleges in the areas of curriculum development, and to research and advise the Minister on vocational and continuing education and training

Based on the FET Colleges Amendment Act (Act 1 of 2013)

Higher Education SAIVCET

General and Further Education and Training SAIVCET

Trades and Occupations SAIVCET

Related terms in this glossary

vocational education and training, continuing education, FET college, curriculum

135 South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

The statutory authority established in terms of the SAQA Act (Act 58 of 1995) and continuing in terms of the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008), which oversees the further development and implementation of the NQF, the achievement of the objectives of the NQF, and the co-ordination of the three Sub-Frameworks

Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)

Higher Education SAQA

General and Further Education and Training SAQA

Trades and Occupations SAQA

Related terms in this glossary		
NQF, qualifications, Sub-Frameworks		
136	short course	A short learning programme through which a learner may or may not be awarded credits towards a qualification or a part-qualification, depending on the purpose of the programme
	Higher Education	short course, continuing education, adult education, non-formal course, CPD
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	workplace training, CPD
Related terms in this glossary		
learning programme, credits		
137	Sub-Framework of the NQF	One of three co-ordinated qualifications Sub-Frameworks which make up the South African NQF as a single integrated system, namely: the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF); the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework (GFETQSF); and the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF)
		<i>Based on the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008)</i>
	Higher Education	HEQSF
	General and Further Education and Training	GFETQSF
	Trades and Occupations	OQSF
Related terms in this glossary		
Quality Councils, NQF, HEQSF, GFETQSF, OQSF		

138	summative assessment	Assessment conducted at the end of sections of learning, at the end of a whole learning programme, or at any point in the learning programme, to evaluate learning related to a particular qualification, part-qualification, or professional designation
	Higher Education	summative assessment, examination
	General and Further Education and Training	summative assessment, final examination; ISAT, PAT
	Trades and Occupations	summative assessment, integrated assessment
Related terms in this glossary		
assessment		
139	System of Collaboration	An agreed mechanism to guide the mutual relations of SAQA and the QCs in such a manner as to promote constructive co-operation <i>Based on the System of Collaboration (SAQA, 2012)</i>
	Higher Education	System of Collaboration
	General and Further Education and Training	System of Collaboration
	Trades and Occupations	System of Collaboration
Related terms in this glossary		
SAQA, QCs		
140	Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College	A public or private institution that is established or declared as: (i) a technical and vocational education and training college; or (ii) a private college that is registered <i>Based on the White Paper for Post-School Education and Training (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	FET college, Community Education and Training Centre, private college

Trades and Occupations	not applicable
Related terms in this glossary	
provider, registration of a private provider	
141 trade	An occupation for which an artisan qualification and relevant trade test is required in terms of the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998). SETAs are required to apply to NAMB to have an occupation listed as a trade <i>Based on the Skills Development Act (Act 97 of 1998)</i>
Higher Education	profession
General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
Trades and Occupations	trade, artisan
Related terms in this glossary	
artisan, OFO, SETA, NAMB	
142 Umalusi	The Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training established by the GENFETQA Act (Act 58 of 2001). In terms of the NQF Act (Act 67 of 2008), it is tasked to support the achievement of the objectives of the NQF and to develop and manage the GFETQSF
Higher Education	Umalusi
General and Further Education and Training	Umalusi
Trades and Occupations	Umalusi
Related terms in this glossary	
QC, GFETQSF	

143	unit standard	A part-qualification registered on the NQF developed under the SAQA Act (Act 58 of 1995). Currently, registered unit standards remain valid until they are replaced or reach the end of their registration period
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	not applicable
	Trades and Occupations	knowledge, practical and work experience unit standards are required for an occupational certificate
Related terms in this glossary		
part-qualification, qualification		
144	verification of a qualification	Confirmation that a credential is authentic and represents a qualification awarded to an individual by an institution at a specific time
	Higher Education	verification
	General and Further Education and Training	verification
	Trades and Occupations	verification
Related terms in this glossary		
credential, part-qualification, qualification		
145	Vocational Education and Training (VET)	A continuum of socially and economically necessary and desirable technical knowledge, skills and competencies required to orient and prepare people for work from low skill to high skill, involving an appropriately varied mix of humane, scientific and technological learning
		<i>Based on the TVET discussion document (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	VET, FET
	Trades and Occupations	VET

Related terms in this glossary		
vocational orientation		
146	vocational orientation	To provide the knowledge and skills to enter the economy through a general, broad orientation in vocational areas, as well as general learning in essential areas such as Language and Mathematics
		<i>Based on the TVET discussion document (DHET, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	not applicable
	General and Further Education and Training	vocational orientation
	Trades and Occupations	occupational orientation
Related terms in this glossary		
VET, foundational learning		
147	volume of learning	Specification of the total number of credits required for a qualification or part-qualification
		<i>Based on the GFETQSF (Umalusi, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	duration, credits, years of study
	General and Further Education and Training	duration, credits, years of study
	Trades and Occupations	duration, credits, years of study
Related terms in this glossary		
credit, notional hours, qualification, part-qualification		
148	work experience	Exposure and interactions gained through being in the workplace
	Higher Education	internship, candidacy, learnership
	General and Further Education and Training	work-shadowing, work simulation, practical
	Trades and Occupations	internship, candidacy, learnership, apprenticeship

Related terms in this glossary		
workplace-based training, WIL, learnership		
149	Work Integrated Learning (WIL)	A characteristic of vocational and professionally oriented qualifications that may be incorporated into programmes at all levels of all three Sub-Frameworks. WIL may take various forms including simulated learning, work-directed theoretical learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning and workplace-based learning
		<i>Based on the HEQSF (CHE, 2013)</i>
	Higher Education	WIL
	General and Further Education and Training	simulated learning, work-directed theoretical learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning
	Trades and Occupations	learnership, workplace-based learning
Related terms in this glossary		
HEQSF, vocational orientation, learnership, workplace-based learning		
150	workplace-based learning	The exposure and interactions required to practice the integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes required in the workplace
	Higher Education	WIL
	General and Further Education and Training	simulated learning, work-directed theoretical learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning
	Trades and Occupations	work integrated learning
Related terms in this glossary		
QCTO, OQSF, quality assurance, WIL		



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