

NEWSLETTER 14 OF 2025

22 July 2025

TERM 3 FURTHER INFORMATION

1. Important information for parents and learners

It is of vital importance to draw the attention of parents and learners to the information here below. Please assist with the dissemination of the information.

2. Examination registrations for NSC 2025

- a. Registrations finalised: Please be advised that grade 12 registrations have now been finalised, and no new registrations will be accepted at this stage. This is due to several key processes that have already been completed, including the release of Entry Schedules, which confirm each candidate's registration details and subjects.
- b. Distribution and verification of Entry Schedules:
 - i. Institutions are requested to distribute copies of the Entry Schedules to all parents/guardians.
 - ii. Each parent/guardian must sign the schedule to confirm the accuracy of the subject registration. Kindly note that Life Orientation is not listed on the entry schedule as it does not form part of the external assessment.
 - iii. Institutions must retain all signed copies for their records, as these will serve as evidence in the event of future disputes, particularly in cases involving incorrect subject registration (e.g., Mathematics vs. Mathematical Literacy or English Home Language vs. English First Additional Language), etc.
 - iv. Any enquiries must be brought to SACAI's attention immediately, i.e. incorrect subjects, correction of Identity details, etc. (Please include copies of ID documents)
 - v. Accommodations: See Newsletter 13/25 for full particulars.
- c. Invoicing and Deregistration:
 - i. Invoices were issued on 1 July 2025, based on the second registration upload submitted. Please refer to the financial communication previously shared for further guidance.
 - ii. Deregistration requests will only be processed upon submission of the prescribed deregistration form. No candidate will be removed from the system unless this official form is completed and submitted to SACAI. Refer to the email sent on 4 April 2025 where the forms were attached.
 - iii. In advance, we record sincere appreciation for every institution's cooperation to ensure that parents are fully informed of their candidates' registration status.

3. Allocation of examination centres

- a. The printing of examination material has commenced, and it is important to note that we need to avoid the incidence of wrong examination venues or irregularities based on inaccurate information.
- b. SACAI has finalised the allocation of the examination venues as indicated on the Entry Schedules. It is important to note that venues have limited capacity, and we are unable to accommodate all candidates at their first choices. SACAI gives the assurance that all venues have been visited and vetted, and they comply with SACAI's requirements and in terms of the regulations pertaining to the conduct and management of the NSC.
- c. Accommodations:
 - i. A link was shared with parents and candidates to confirm the separate room accommodations as SACAI has also secured accommodation/ concession venues.
 - ii. In Cape Town candidates have been reallocated from their previous allocated examination venues as indicated from the proof of registration to a specific venue that only caters for accommodations.
 - iii. It is of vital importance that parents/ candidates must be *au fait* with the following:
 1. The exact status of the accommodation(s);
 2. The compliance requirements in connection with the accommodation(s);
 3. The cost(s) associated with the accommodation(s); and
 4. The geographical location of the accommodation venue.
- d. If SACAI does not receive any further enquiries regarding the allocations as specified on the Entry Schedules, the Admission Letters will be disseminated as this will confirm the correctness of the information supplied and verified by parents and candidates. No changes will be possible once the Admission Letters have been dispatched to the examination venues.

4. NSC 2025

- a. Timetable- [FINAL NSC TIMETABLE 2025.pdf](#)
- b. Visual Arts and Design Practical assessment will be conducted from 29 September until 3 October 2025. [Exam Instruction 12/2025](#)
- c. Please take note of the following question papers that will be used from IEB and DBE.
Please ensure learners are aware for adequate preparation.

DBE Question Papers – indicated in Blue	IEB Question Papers – indicated in Green
Indigenous Languages HL, FAL, SAL	Arabic, French, Portuguese SAL
Music P1 & P2	Equine Studies
Religion Studies P1 & P2	Marine Studies P1 & P2
Design Theory	Music P1 & P2

5. Certification

- a. Status regarding the Umalusi certificates for NSC 2024
 - i. Our initial submission for certification of the NSC November 2024 examinations included 5 368 candidates of which 20 had errors. We have since then managed to certify 10 of the candidates with errors.
 - ii. Presently, 160 candidates are yet to be certified from the 2024/11 cohort.
 - iii. The reasons for this are:
 1. There are marks outstanding (MO) for PATs, Orals, and SBAs; or

2. The ID number or date of birth is incorrect.

b. Marks outstanding (MOs):

- i. Outstanding PATs/Orals/SBA components continue to serious cause challenges, as learners will not be certified until an outstanding mark has been captured.
- ii. Learners with valid reasons for outstanding marks have three months from the release date of the results to resubmit the marks via the institution. Thus, it is the institution's responsibility to submit the outstanding marks and the sooner we receive these marks, the earlier we can submit mop-ups (updated mark records) to Umalusi for approval.
- iii. SACAI annually aims to submit the first certification dataset by or before the 31st of March as a new Umalusi price structure is implemented with effect from 1 April. This implies that approved MOs submitted before then are likely to be included in this first certification submission.
- iv. Institutions play the most critical role when it comes to the PATs/Orals/SBAs. Timely submission of these marks prior to the commencement of the NSC examination. Institutions must query any "777" and provide the necessary feedback to SACAI.
- v. Learners and their parents should be informed, assisted, and empowered regarding the relevance of these three components, particularly the PATs and Orals, which **form part of the external exam mark**.
- vi. The implication of non-submission of the PATs and Orals before or by November of the exam year include non-compliance with the required capture rate for standardisation. A lower capture rate is considered irregular by Umalusi.
- vii. Learners and parents should be informed of the differences between the "777" and "999" codes:
 1. "777": An SBA component is outstanding.
 2. "999": The learner was absent in one or more subject papers, including the outstanding PATs and Orals.
- viii. Institutions can also assist with the early submission of declaration forms from the learners and parents who have no intention to submit any outstanding components of the PATs/Orals/SBAs and where applicable, to submit a calculated mark as per the Regulations pertaining to the Conduct, Management, and Administration of the National Senior Certificate examinations. However, bear in mind that an outstanding assessment component implies non-certification.

6. **Finances, Invoices and Payments**

- a. Invoices relating to Invoice 3 in connection with the registration of candidates for the NSC Exam, were distributed on the 1st of July 2025.
- a. Outstanding amounts pertaining to Invoice 3 are payable on or before 31 July 2025.
- b. The 4th and final invoice run will be regarding Accommodations & Concessions. In this regard note the following:
 - a. Gr 12: The invoices will be issued on the 1st of August and are payable on or before the 31st of August; and
 - b. Gr 10 and 11: The invoices will be issued on the 1st of October and are payable on or before the 31st of October.

7. **Preliminary examination for Grade 12**

- a. The same process will be followed as with the Common Examinations; however, papers will be uploaded in batches per week with individual passwords to be released 48hrs before the examination

is scheduled. Passwords will be shared via email with the current email address(es) of the head of examination as in our mailing list. The institution is responsible to prevent premature release of assessment material.

- b. SACAI will host marking guideline discussions in most of the subjects written in the Preliminary examinations.
- c. For the subjects that will not have marking guideline discussions, the same process of comments and marking guideline additions as with the common examinations will be followed.
- d. The marking guideline discussion roster will be released with Examination Instruction 13.
- e. Timetable- [Prelim Timetable 2025.pdf](#)

8. **Common examinations: November 2025 for Grade 10 and 11**

- a. The same process will be followed as with the Common Examinations; however, papers will be uploaded in batches per week with individual passwords to be released 48hrs before the examination is scheduled.
- b. Passwords will be shared via email with the current email address(es) of the head of examination as in our mailing list. The institution is responsible to prevent premature release of assessment material.
- c. Timetable- **please take note of the time changes for the sessions.**
[FINAL Gr 10 & 11 Nov.pdf](#)