

13 August 2025

1. 2.95%: FEE INCREASE FOR 2026

The SACAI Council is acutely aware that educational institutions are also subject to tough economic realities and that parents are sensitive to increased financial obligations. As stated during the most recent Client Forum an inflation linked increase of 4% was under consideration, but after resharpening our pencils, an increase of 2.95% for 2026 was approved.

Considering the comprehensive assessment programme of common examinations, more intensive moderation and close monitoring for grades 10 and 11, it was also decided to increase the subject fees for the affected learners to R35 per learner per annum.

We trust that the 2.95% increase will enable institutions to also finalise their budgets for 2026.

2. PREPARATIONS FOR THE NSC 2025 EXAMINATION: IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Considering the forthcoming examination that will commence shortly, the following is confirmed:

- a. Examination registrations finalised: Institutions and candidates have been advised that the registrations have been finalised.
- b. Entry Schedules: Institutions have been requested to assist with the following:
 - i. Distribute copies of the Entry Schedules to all parents/guardians.
 - ii. Parents/guardians must sign the schedules to confirm the accuracy of the subject registration.
 - iii. Retain all the signed copies for their records, as these will serve as evidence in the event of future disputes.
- c. Examination centres: The allocation has been finalised, and all candidates must be aware of the geographical location, and the identity and contact details of the Chief Invigilator.
- d. Accommodations:
 - i. Status of accommodations: This must be clarified with candidates because the results of candidates who do not adhere strictly with the formal status of the accommodation, may be declared null and void. It is of vital importance that parents/ candidates must be cognisant of 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.
 - ii. Urgent request to institutions:
 1. SACAI must communicate directly with the parents of the candidates with accommodations/ concessions who must be accommodated during the forthcoming NSC examination.



2. “Live link”: SACAI does not have the contact information of such parents. The assistance of institutions is urgently requested. SACAI has already uploaded a “live link” to each institution’s Share Point. Please complete the list with the affected parents’ email addresses and cell phone numbers before or on Tuesday, 19 August 2025. The deadline for payment is 25 September 2025.
- e. Errors: Any error must be brought to SACAI's attention immediately, i.e. incorrect subjects, correction of identity details, etc. (Please include copies of ID documents).
 - f. Admission letters:
 - i. The Admission Letters are being prepared. If SACAI does not receive any further enquiries regarding the above, the Admission Letters will be disseminated as this will confirm the correctness of the information supplied to and verified by parents and candidates.
 - ii. No changes will be possible once the Admission Letters have been dispatched to the examination venues.
 - iii. Please note the following important dates:
 1. 15 August 2025: Admission letters will be disseminated.
 2. 30 August – 13 September 2025: Compulsory Parents’ meetings that will be scheduled at the examination centres by the Chief Invigilators.
 - g. SBAs:
 - i. Timeous submission: Institutions are reminded to finalise all the SBAs, PATs and orals timeously. If outstanding, the candidate will not be resulted.
 - ii. Incomplete SBA/PAT/Orals:
 1. As stated during Client Forum 02, institutions must supply SACAI with all grade 12 outstanding SBA/PAT/Oral marks by 18 August 2025. These candidates will be issued with warning letters (sent to the institutions to disseminate).
 2. Any candidate who still has an outstanding SBA/PAT/Oral mark by 19 September, will not be granted access to write the final examinations for that subject.
 3. An assessment instruction with more information on the process will be sent later this week.
 - iii. Average SBA range provided by SACAI: Unrealistic high SBA marks that do not reflect a candidate’s true academic prowess have in the past caused great dissatisfaction among parents and learners, as well as led to avoidable negative publicity and reputational damage to institutions. Institutions are respectfully implored to –
 1. Refrain from this undesirable practice; and
 2. Adhere to the SBA range provided for each subject as provided by SACAI.
 - iv. SACAI will formally interface with institutions regarding the SBA ranges and timeous submission of the SBA marks.
 - h. 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.
 - i. Final NSC examination timetable: [FINAL NSC TIMETABLE 2025.pdf](#)

- j. Final PATs: The following practical assessments will be conducted from 29 September to 3 October 2025:
- i. Dramatic Art;
 - ii. Visual Art; and
 - iii. Design.
 - iv. Note:
 1. See Exam Instruction 12/2025
 2. The affected learners will be accommodated at their designated exam writing centres under the authority of the relevant Chief Invigilator. However, there is an additional cost that applies for said period.
 3. SACAI must communicate directly with the parents regarding this matter.
 4. "Live link": SACAI does not have the contact information of such parents. The assistance of institutions is urgently requested. SACAI has already uploaded a "live link" to each institution's Share Point. Please complete the list with the affected parents' email addresses and cell phone numbers before or on Tuesday, 19 August 2025. The deadline for payment is 25 September 2025.
- k. Appreciation recorded: In advance, we record sincere appreciation for every institution's cooperation to ensure that parents are fully informed of candidates' registration status and the correctness thereof.

3. GRADE 12: PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

All the relevant information regarding the forthcoming grade 12 preliminary examination are dealt with in Examination Instruction 13 of 2025. However, it is deemed prudent to draw attention to the following:

- a. The preliminary examination serves two very important purposes:
 - i. It is a final opportunity to ensure credible SBA marks; and
 - ii. It is an important preparatory step for the final NSC examination.
- b. The examination commences on 18 August and ends on 12 September 2025.
- c. The question papers will be uploaded per week. The responsibility lies with the institution to timeously ensure that the papers correctly reflect in its folder.
- d. The passwords for the different question papers will be released as follows:
 - i. Mondays: Thursday & Friday papers
 - ii. Thursdays: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday papers
- e. Marking guidelines:
 - i. It will be uploaded the day after the examination to include changes as per the marking guideline discussion.
 - ii. Subjects for which no marking guideline discussions are scheduled: Comments can be made on the following link: <https://forms.gle/ifiGYcjkXZcqZqz9>.
 - iii. Comments received after 24hrs after the release of the marking guideline will not be considered.
- f. Errata:
 - i. The link for the report of possible errata: <https://forms.gle/RkvoKBm2HUm2znS46>.
 - ii. Errata will only be sent out 48hrs before the time of the applicable paper for logistical reasons.
 - iii. Errata picked up during writing must urgently be reported to SACAI to be addressed in the marking guidelines.
 - iv. NO ERRATA will be addressed during the examination sessions.

4. SURVEY: GRADE 12 PRESCRIBED LITERATURE WITH EFFECT FROM 2027

It is common cause that the selection of prescribed literature is contentious and that it is difficult to satisfy the needs of all institutions, educators and learners. In our endeavour to ensure that a transparent process will henceforth be implemented, SACAI is in the process of revising the current grade 12 prescribed literature list, for implementation with effect from 2027.

Possible guidelines to guide us in future could be the following:

- A combination of classical and contemporary works and poetry
- Social and historical context
- Inclusivity
- Prescriptiveness
- Language varieties
- The living world of Grade 12 Students
- Self-directedness of teachers

Considering the afore mentioned, a survey is conducted to ascertain institutions' input regarding the current prescribed literature list, as well as to assist SACAI in making informed recommendations to the AAC for the new 2027 list.

Kindly assist SACAI in completing this survey to obtain every role player's input to inform the new literature list from 2027 onwards, as well as to provide more feedback on the current list of prescribed literature (2025/2026): <https://forms.office.com/r/PYaK10s4Mp>.

Please note that the closing date for feedback is before or on Friday, 29 August 2025.

5. CONFIRMATION OF COMMUNICATION RECEIVED

Institutions are requested to click on the following link to affirm that you have received this newsletter: <https://forms.gle/8m7L95MaCbmQSNd67>



The advertisement features the Finsa logo (a stylized atom) in the top left corner. The main heading is "Why FINANCE WITH FINSA". Below this, there are three key points in dark blue boxes with white text: "Experts in Education Sector needs" (with a sub-point about understanding challenges), "Tailored financing that fits" (with a sub-point about flexible options), and "Empowering education through smart financing" (with a sub-point about asset financing solutions). At the bottom right, there is a section titled "ASK US HOW" with contact information: email (info@finsa.co.za), phone (+27 12 436 0900), website (www.finsa.co.za), and another phone number (+27 76 864 2639). The background of the ad shows a modern classroom with computers and desks.