



CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 43 OF 2021

TO: DEPUTY DIRECTORS-GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (GRADE 12)
TEACHER UNIONS/ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

DATE: 01 OCTOBER 2021

PARTICIPATION IN THE PLEDGE SIGNING CEREMONY RELATING TO THE 2021 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC)

1. Following the approval, in 2013, by the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) that candidates registered to write the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination sign a pledge committing to comply with the Examination Code of Conduct applicable to all candidates, the schools together with the Provincial Education Department are required to convene a formal ceremony for the signing of the pledge by the candidates writing the examination for that particular year.
2. The rationale for the Pledge is to assist with the curbing and control of examination irregularities and is an attempt to adopt a more proactive rather than a reactive approach to the reduction of examination irregularities.



3. Furthermore, for this year 2021 the pledge is also to ensure that the candidates understand and commit to abiding by the rules and regulations relating to the curbing of COVID -19.
4. The Pledge Signing Ceremony has been scheduled to take place on **Friday, 22 October 2021**, at **10:00 am** at each of the public schools participating in the 2021 NSC examination. Independent schools writing the State NSC examinations must also be requested to participate in the Pledge Signing Ceremony.
5. Provincial Education Departments (PEDs), Districts and schools are requested to ensure that the Pledge Signing Ceremony takes place as scheduled, by adopting the uniform date and time for the signing of the Pledge, across the country will also assist in setting the national tone for the writing of the examination in all grades.
6. The Pledge Signing Ceremony should be arranged to coincide with the orientation session that all Grade 12 learners are normally subjected to as part of the briefing on examination regulations and procedures.
7. Schools are urged to ensure that all candidates including part-time candidates are made to sign the pledge before they sit for their first examination.
8. Find attached the NSC Examination Pledge (**Annexure A**) and Guidelines on the Administration of the National Pledge Signing Ceremony (**Annexure B**). The Guidelines will assist schools with the procedure to be followed at the Pledge Signing Ceremony.
9. Districts are requested to ensure that all schools with candidates registered to write the 2021 NSC are provided with the copy of the Pledge and Guidelines for the administration of the Pledge Signing Ceremony, to enable them to participate in this nationwide initiative, which will serve to announce the commencement of the 2021 NSC examinations.



10. Candidates should be encouraged to participate in the Pledge Signing Ceremony; however, participation is on a voluntary basis and candidates may not be coerced into signing the pledge.
11. In light of the positive impact of the Pledge Signing Ceremony on the reduction of irregularities during the NSC examination in previous years, it is recommended that the signing of the pledge should also be extended to Grade 10 and 11 to ensure a uniform standard in the conduct of the examination in the Further Education and Training (FET) Band.
12. If there are any queries regarding the Pledge Signing Ceremony relating to the 2021 NSC examination, these should be directed to Ms F Bikitsha, Telephone: (040) 602 7039; E-mail: funiwe.bikitsha@ecdoe.gov.za.
13. Your co-operation and support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY
MR R. TYWAKADI

01 October 2021
DATE



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ANNEXURE A

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION PLEDGE

I hereby solemnly pledge:

- (a) To do my best in the forthcoming examinations so that I can achieve the personal and academic goals I have set for myself.
- (b) To focus on my studies and devote all my time to revise the work that I have covered during the course of the year and strengthen all the skills that I need to be successful in these examinations.
- (c) I will also be supportive of my peers as we prepare in earnest for these examinations.
- (d) I will not be deterred by personal or other circumstances as I strive to achieve my National Senior Certificate qualification.
- (e) I pledge to uphold the principles of honesty and integrity in this examination by:
 - (i) Complying with all the rules and regulations relevant to the National Senior Certificate examinations.
 - (ii) Following the lawfully recognised instructions of the invigilator during the taking of the examinations.
 - (iii) Not being influenced, in any way, to cheat in the examinations by any person including the invigilator.
 - (iv) Not participating in any wrongdoing which includes, but is not limited to: copying, being in possession of unauthorised material, accepting or providing assistance to another candidate, writing on behalf of another candidate or any other unauthorised action.
 - (v) Reporting any form of wrongdoing that I am aware of to the school principal.
 - (vi) Ensuring that I do not have a cellphone or any other electronic device in my possession during the examinations.
 - (vii) Ensuring that should I receive any information relating to the question paper that is still to be written, I will immediately inform my subject teacher and the principal.
 - (viii) Complying with all the COVID-19 protocols and requirements, at all times, so as to ensure my own safety and that of my fellow candidates.
- (f) I solemnly make this promise and acknowledge that this pledge is binding on my conscience.

Name:	
Examination No.:	
Centre Name:	
Signature:	
Date:	



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

BYLAE A

NASIONALE SENIORSERTIFIKAAT-EKSAMEN-ONDERNEMING

Ek onderneem plegtig:

- (a) Om my bes te doen in die komende eksamen sodat ek die persoonlike en akademiese doelwitte kan bereik wat ek vir myself gestel het.
- (b) Om te fokus op my studie en al die tyd tot my beskikking te gebruik vir hersiening van die werk wat deur die jaar behandel is om al die vaardighede wat ek nodig het om sukses in die eksamen te behaal, te verbeter.
- (c) Ek sal ook my mede-skoliere ondersteun tydens ons voorbereiding vir die eksamen.
- (d) Ek sal nie deur persoonlike of ander omstandighede van stryk gebring word in my strewe om my Nasionale Senior Sertifikaat-kwalifikasie te verwerf nie.
- (e) Ek onderneem om die beginsels van eerlikheid en integriteit in hierdie eksamen te handhaaf deur:
 - (i) Te voldoen aan al die reëls en regulasies wat op die Nasionale Senior Sertifikaat-eksamen van toepassing is.
 - (ii) Die wettig erkende instruksies van toesighouers gedurende die aflê van die eksamens uit te voer.
 - (iii) My nie deur enige persoon, die toesighouer ingesluit, te laat beïnvloed om op enige manier tydens die eksamen oneerlik te wees nie.
 - (iv) Nie aan enige oneerlike praktyke deel te neem nie, wat insluit, maar nie beperk is tot, afskryf, besit van ongeoorloofde materiaal, aanbied (of aanvaar) van hulp aan/van ander kandidate, skryf namens 'n ander kandidaat of enige ander ongeoorloofde optrede nie.
 - (v) Enige vorm van oneerlikheid waarvan ek bewus is aan die skoolhoof te rapporteer.
 - (vi) Te verseker dat ek gedurende die eksamen nie 'n selfoon of enige ander elektroniese toestel in my besit het nie.
 - (vii) Te verseker dat indien ek enige inligting met betrekking tot 'n vraestel wat nog geskryf moet word, ontvang, ek onmiddellik my vakonderwyser en die skoolhoof sal inlig.
 - (viii) Ten alle tye aan al die COVID-19-protokol en-vereistes te voldoen, om sodoende my eie en my mede-kandidate se veiligheid te verseker.
- (f) Ek maak hierdie belofte plegtig, uit eie keuse en erken dat dit bindend op my gewete is.

Naam:	
Eksamennommer:	
Sentrumnaam:	
Handtekening:	
Datum:	



GUIDELINES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NATIONAL PLEDGE SIGNING CEREMONY BY THE 2021 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

1. The National Pledge Signing Ceremony should take place on **Friday, 22nd October 2021** at **10:00 am** at all participating schools.
2. Schools must make copies of the Pledge for each Grade 12 candidate.
3. Schools must inform Grade 12 candidates that the signing of the Pledge is voluntary. No candidate should be coerced into signing the pledge against their will.
4. On the **22nd October 2021**, a formal assembly of all Grade 12 candidates must be convened by the principal as part of their orientation and preparation for the conduct of the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination.
5. During the principal's address the examination rules on the reverse side of the Admission Letter must be read out to candidates.
6. All candidates should be asked to read the Pledge aloud and in unison with each other. After the Pledge has been taken by all candidates, they should be allowed to sign it.
7. Where possible, copies of the signed Pledge should be made so that a copy can be retained by the school as part of the candidate's records.
8. Where it is NOT possible to make photocopies of the signed Pledges, then the original should remain with the Grade 12 candidates so that they can keep it in the same folder as their Admission Letter which must be in their possession for the duration of the 2021 NSC examination, so that it is a reminder of their commitment to conduct themselves with honesty and integrity during the 2021 NSC examination.
9. The part time candidate who may not be able to participate during the pledge signing ceremony must be given an opportunity before the examination.