



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EXAMINATION SECTIONS
PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS OFFERING GRADE 10, 11 AND 12 IN 2019
TEACHERS OF GRADE 10, 11 AND 12 IN 2019**

CIRCULAR E19. OF 2019

PARTICIPATION IN THE PLEDGE SIGNING CEREMONY RELATING TO THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

1. In 2013, the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) approved 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.
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. The Pledge Signing Ceremony has been scheduled to take place on **Friday, 11 October 2019, at 10:00 am** at each of the public schools participating in the 2019 NSC examination. Independent schools writing the State NSC examinations must also be requested to participate in the Pledge Signing Ceremony.
4. Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) are requested to ensure that the Pledge Signing Ceremony takes place as scheduled, as adopting a 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.

7. PEDs are requested to ensure that all schools with candidates registered to write the 2019 NSC examination 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 2019 NSC examinations.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. If there are any queries regarding the Pledge Signing Ceremony relating to the 2019 NSC examination, these should be directed to Dr RR Poliah, Telephone: (012) 357 3900; Fax (012) 328 6878; E-mail: Poliah.R@dbe.gov.za.
13. Your co-operation and support in this matter is greatly appreciated.



MR HM MWELI

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

DATE: 15/08/2019



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GUIDELINES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NATIONAL PLEDGE SIGNING CEREMONY BY THE 2019 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES

1. The National Pledge Signing Ceremony should take place on **Friday, 11th October 2019** 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 **11th October 2019**, 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 2019 NSC examination, so that it is a reminder of their commitment to conduct themselves with honesty and integrity during the 2019 NSC examination.



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NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION PLEDGE

I hereby solemnly pledge:

- (a) To do my best in the forthcoming examination 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 this examination.
- (c) I will also be supportive of my peers as we prepare in earnest for this examination.
- (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 examination.
 - (ii) Following the lawfully recognized instructions of the invigilator during the writing of the examination.
 - (iii) Not being influenced, in any way, to cheat in the examination by any person including the invigilator.
 - (iv) Not participating in any wrongdoing which includes, but not limited to: copying, being in possession of unauthorised material or electronic devices (example cellphone), 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.
- (f) I solemnly make this promise and acknowledge that this pledge is binding on my conscience.

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



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NASIONALE SENIOR SERTIFIKAAT-EKSAMEN-ONDERNEMING

Ek **ondernem 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 Seniorsertifikaat-kwalifikasie te verwerf nie.
- (e) Ek ondemeem 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 Seniorsertifikaat-eksamen van toepassing is.
 - (ii) Die wettig erkende instruksies van toesighouers gedurende die skryf 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 deel te neem aan enige oneerlike praktyke wat insluit, maar nie beperk is nie tot, afskryf, besit van ongeoorloofde materiaal of elektroniese toestelle (bv. selfoon), aanbied (of aanvaar) van hulp aan/van ander kandidate, skryf namens ander kandidaat of enige ander ongeoorloofde optrede.
 - (v) Enige vorm van oneerlikheid waarvan ek bewus is aan die skoolhoof te rapporteer.
- (f) Ek maak hierdie belofte plegtig, uit eie keuse en erken dat dit bindend op my gewete is.

Naam:	
Eksamennommer:	
Sentrumnaam:	
Handtekening:	
Datum:	