



CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION NO 7 OF 2025

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
DEPUTY CHIEF/SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
TEACHER UNIONS/ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

DATE: 20 JANUARY 2025

SUBJECT CHOICES GRADES 10-12

1. This Assessment Instruction has reference to the Department of Basic Education Circular E 22 of 2022.
2. The National Senior Certificate Examination is administered and conducted in terms of the Regulations pertaining to the Conduct, Administration and Management of the National Senior Certificate Examination.
3. **TECHNOLOGY SUBJECTS**
 - 3.1 The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS) for all Technology Subjects including Technical Mathematics and Technical Sciences were promulgated in July 2014 and implemented for the first time in Grade 10 in 2016.
 - 3.2 During the Review visits to Provinces and district offices, the Department of Basic Education (DBE) officials discovered that there were challenges relating to the subject combination for some learners following the technical pathway in grades 10, 11 and 12.
 - 3.3 According to subject rules, **these learners will not be certified or resulted** when they write the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination.
 - 3.4 As a result, a special concession to deviate from the programme requirements was granted by the Minister to **Grade 12 in 2022 learners only** and that the grade 10 learners be advised to change the subjects in line with the required subject combination.

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3.5 The Districts and Schools are reminded of the programme requirements for the technical pathway as prescribed in paragraph 28(A) of the National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12, as well as the Regulations pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12 regulations 4; sub-regulations (4A – 4F), which states:

(a) Learners should offer one of the following three technology subjects (specialisation):

- (i) Civil Technology (specialisation)
- (ii) Electrical Technology (specialisation) or
- (iii) Mechanical Technology (specialisation)

AND

- (b) Engineering Graphics and Design.
- (c) Mathematics or Technical Mathematics; and
- (d) Physical Sciences or Technical Sciences

3.6. The above-mentioned requirements must be read in conjunction with the following provisos:

- (a) A learner from the technical pathway may **not offer Mathematical Literacy.**
- (b) A learner from the Academic (General) pathway may **not offer Technical Mathematics.**
- (c) A learner from the technical pathways may **not offer both Mathematics and Technical Mathematics.**

4. PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

4.1 The concession also granted to Grade 12 learners in 2022 who offered Physical Science with Mathematical Literacy for the last time and the Grades 10 and 11 will be expected to change the subject and in line with programme requirements take Physical Science with Mathematics.

4.2 Furthermore, it must be understood that the concession was granted to the Grade 12 learners in 2022 for the last time as it was clearly indicated in the Circular S7 of 2017 and Circular E18 of 2019 that the concession to deviate shall not be extended in future and that the “Provinces and schools are required to comply henceforth”.

4.3 Learners who are offering Physical Sciences requesting for subject changes from Mathematics to Mathematical Literacy will not be accepted and approved.

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5. You are kindly requested to bring the contents of this Assessment Instruction to the attention of all District officials, Principals and Teachers of both public and independent schools.



DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY
MR R TYWAKADI