



CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

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ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 39 OF 2025

**TO: DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
CHIEF DIRECTORS
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
DISTRICT CURRICULUM COORDINATORS
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT OFFICIALS
PROVINCIAL SUBJECT PLANNERS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
DEPUTY CHIEF AND SENIOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
PRINCIPALS OF ALL PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (GRADE 12)
TEACHER UNIONS/ORGANISATIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES**

DATE: 28 JULY 2025

**PARTICIPATION OF SCHOOLS/ LEARNERS IN THE PRE-PLEDGE SIGNING
SESSION IN RELATION TO THE 2025 PREPARATORY EXAMINATION**

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The Eastern Cape Department of Education expects all candidates registered to write the National Senior Certificate examinations to sign a commitment agreement/pre-pledge before the writing of the 2025 Preparatory Examination, committing to comply with the Examinations Code of Conduct applicable to all candidates.
- 1.2 The pre-pledge session will assist the 2025 class of Grade 12 to understand the meaning of examination irregularities as the mediation will be conducted in a calm or tranquil environment with at least eight weeks before the commencement of the 2025 final National Senior Certificate examination.
- 1.3 The session will alleviate anxiety and create an environment of open interaction and mediation of examination irregularities that may compromise the future of candidates. The pre-pledge session will prepare and condition

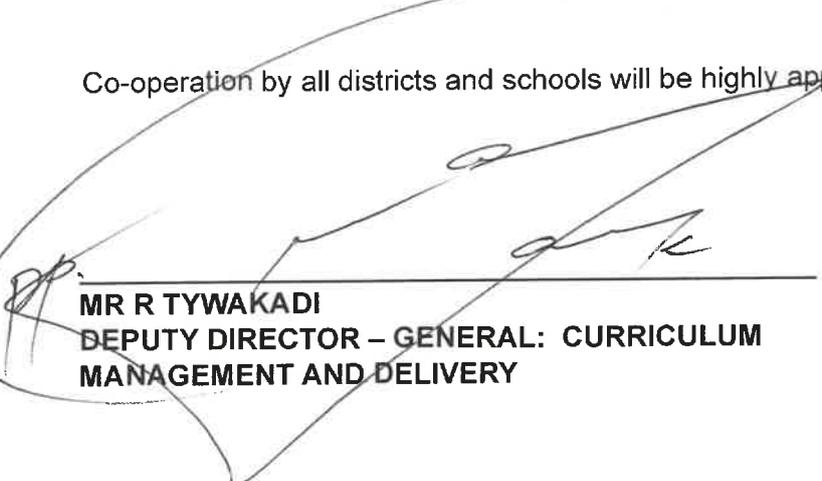


candidates for easy participation in the main National Pledge Signing Ceremony that will be held in October 2025.

2. EXPECTATIONS OF THE CONDUCT OF THE PRE-PLEDGE SESSION

- 2.1 The pre-pledge signing session will be held on **Friday, 22 August 2025**. The session is not meant to disrupt the normal school routine processes; a **maximum of two hours** should be utilised for this session.
- 2.2 The districts must ensure that all schools are provided with the brochures of the Pre-pledge to enable all learners to read and understand that the rationale for the pre-pledge session 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.
- 2.3 **The school principal must preside** over the pre-pledge session and, with the assistance of teachers, must ensure that each phrase of the pre-pledge brochure is well mediated to relay a clear message pertaining to the explanation of the do's and don'ts, how candidates must conduct and behave during the writing of examinations.
- 2.4 The consequences of possession of unauthorised material and other examination transgressions to get an advantage in the examination venues must be well clarified with an articulation of the meanings of words like '**nullification and barring**'.
- 2.5 The Education Social Support Service (ESSS) Unit must be part of the session to assist learners with strategies to alleviate anxiety through stress management and ~~coping skills techniques~~.

Co-operation by all districts and schools will be highly appreciated.



MR R TYWAKADI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR – GENERAL: CURRICULUM
MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY