



## CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

Steve Vukile Tshwete Complex, Zone 6, Zwelitsha, 5608, Private Bag X0032, Bhisho, 5605 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:  
Enquiries: Mrs P. Japhta Tel: 040 608 7099. Fax: 040 608 7295. E-mail: [Penelope.Japhta@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:Penelope.Japhta@ecdoe.gov.za) Website:  
[www.ecdoe.gov.za](http://www.ecdoe.gov.za)

### ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION 40 OF 2025

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

DATE: 28 JULY 2025

#### 2025 GRADE 12 NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE – PREPARATORY 2025 EXAMINATION FINAL TIMETABLE

1. The 2025 NSC Grade 12 Preparatory Examination is attached as **ANNEXURE A**. It is important to note that the examination will take place during a period designated by the DBE. The objective is to ensure that teaching time is protected. The examination serves as an important barometer of the preparations for the final Grade 12 National Senior Certificate. It provides an opportunity for both learners, educators, and other role players to measure their readiness.
2. The preparatory examination is offered to full-time candidates at public schools and accredited independent subsidised schools in August/September 2025 with the aim of adequately preparing the registered candidates for the Grade 12 National Senior Certificate October/November 2025 examinations.
3. All the public schools and accredited independent subsidised schools are expected to participate in the Preparatory Examination as administered by the Eastern Cape Department of Education. The Preparatory Examination forms a vital component of candidates' final School Based Assessment (SBA) Marks.
4. The Grade 12 Preparatory examination is scheduled as follows:

Examination	Commencement date	End date
Grade 12 Preparatory Examination 2025	25 August 2025	23 September 2025

5. The Life Orientation (LO) Common Task will be written on **Monday, 1 September 2025**, with its rewrite (i.e. LO Common Assessment task) scheduled for **Tuesday 14 October 2025**.
6. Districts/clusters/schools are required to slot in the subjects which do not appear on the timetable and are offered by them on available slots in developing their internal timetables. In using the available timeslots, districts/cluster/schools are advised to be mindful of religious considerations.
7. District offices will convey the arrangements regarding the collection of question papers. The arrangements at district level will be aligned with the protocols that will be observed for the Grade 12 NSC October/November 2025 examination in term of norm times for collection as well as the monitoring of examinations.
8. Schools are reminded to set their own question papers for the subjects that do not appear on this timetable. Question papers set at school level, must be moderated by expert teachers/district subject advisors.
9. The question papers set by any means other than by the PED must adhere to the following conditions:
  - It must replicate the Grade 12 NCS October/November question paper in their duration.
  - The standard must be comparable
  - The mark allocation, time allocation and format must be similar.
  - The applicable CAPS and Subject Assessment guidelines must be consulted.
10. The Life orientation (LO) Common Task will be written on Monday 1 September 2025 with its rewrite (i.e. LO Common Task) scheduled for Wednesday ,7 October 2025. The Life orientation examination is **COMPULSORY** as it forms an integral part of the final School-Bases assessment mark for the subject.
11. It is imperative that all the protocols regarding the security of the question papers are observed to protect the integrity of the examination.
12. Feedback regarding question papers can be sent to [Penelope.Japhta@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:Penelope.Japhta@ecdoe.gov.za)
13. It is imperative that all the protocols regarding the security of question papers are observed to protect the integrity of the examination.

14. The heads of educational institutions should ensure that the content of this assessment instruction is distributed to all Grade 12 teachers, learners, subject advisors, and other relevant stakeholders.

Yours in Quality Education

  
MR R. TYWAKADI

DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

05/08/2025  
DATE





## ANNEXURE A

<b>2025 GRADE 12 PREPARATORY EXAMINATION: FINAL TIMETABLE</b>		
<b>WEEK 1</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>
Monday 25/08/2025	Business Studies P1 (2 hrs) Mechanical Technology (3 hrs)	English HL P3 (3hrs) English FAL P3 (2½ hrs)
Tuesday 26/08/2025	Life Sciences P1 (2½ hrs)	Afrikaans HL P3 (3 hrs) Afrikaans FAL P3 (2½ hrs)
Wednesday 27/08/2025	IsiXhosa HL P3 (3hrs) IsiXhosa FAL P3 (2½ hrs) Sesotho HL P3 (3 hrs)	Agricultural Sciences P1 (2½ hrs)
Thursday 28/08/2025	Economics P1 (2 hrs)	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY P1 (3 hrs) PRACTICAL
Friday 29/08/2025	Geography (Climate and Weather Geomorphology and Mapwork) P1 (3 hrs)	
<b>WEEK 2</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>
Monday 01/09/2025	Life Orientation (LO CAT) (DBE) (2½ hrs)	Computer Applications technology (P2) (3hrs) THEORY
Tuesday 02/09/2025	Agricultural Sciences (P2) (2½hrs)	Religion Studies (P1) (2½hrs)
Wednesday 03/09/2025	Life Sciences P2 (2½ hrs)	IsiXhosa HL P2 (2½hrs) IsiXhosa FAL P2 (2½ hrs) Sesotho HL P2 (2½ hrs)
Thursday 04/09/2025	Afrikaans HL P2 (2½ hrs) Afrikaans FAL P2 (2½ hrs)	Engineering Graphics and Design P1 (3 hrs)
Friday 05/09/2025	Mathematics P1 (3 hrs) Mathematical Literacy P1 (3 hrs) Technical Mathematics P1 (3 hrs)	Information Technology P2 THEORY (3hrs)

<b>WEEK 3</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>
Monday 08/09/2025	Mathematics P2 (3 hrs) Mathematical Literacy P2 (3 hrs) Technical Mathematics P2 (3 hrs)	
Tuesday 09/09/25	Geography (Rural and Urban Settlements, Economic Geography of South Africa and Mapwork) P2 (3 hrs)	Civil Technology (3 hrs)
Wednesday 10/09/2025	Accounting P1 (2 hrs)	English HL P2 (2½hrs) English FAL P2 (2½hrs)
Thursday 11/09/2025	History P1 (3 hrs)	Afrikaans HL P1 (2 hrs) Afrikaans FAL P1 (2 hrs)
Friday 12/09/2025	Physical Sciences (Physics) P1 (3 hrs) Technical Sciences P1 (3 hrs)	Tourism (3 hrs)
<b>WEEK 4</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>
Monday 15/09/2025	Physical Sciences (Chemistry) P2 (3 hrs) Technical Sciences P2 (1½ hrs)	Economics P2 (2 hrs)
Tuesday 16/09/2025	History P2 (3 hrs)	Engineering Graphics and Design P2 (3 hrs)
Wednesday 17/09/2025	Business Studies P2 (2hrs)	English HL P1 (2 hrs) English FAL P1 (2 hrs)
Thursday 18/09/2025	Consumer Studies (3 hrs)	Electrical Technology (3 hrs)
Friday 19/09/25	Accounting P2 (2 hrs)	IsiXhosa HL P1 (2 hrs) IsiXhosa FAL P1 (2 hrs) Sesotho HL P1 (2 hrs)
<b>WEEK 5</b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>
Monday 22/09/25	CAT P1 (PRACTICAL) (3hrs)	
Tuesday 23/09/25	Religion Studies P2 (2hrs)	
03/10/25	<b>CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS</b>	

DATE	09:00	14:00
Monday 22 September 2025	Computer Applications Tech P1 (3 hrs) Practical	
Thursday 28 August 2025		Information Technology P1 (3 hrs) Practical
Monday 1 September 2025	Life Orientation (DBE) (2½ hrs)	

- Schools are reminded to set their own question papers for the subjects which do not appear on this timetable and find a suitable slot within the existing timetable.
- Marking guidelines will be provided a day after a subject has been written.
- Any examination irregularity must be reported via the appropriate channels.