

# Finalization of HEQSF – Aligned PQMs and Reporting Procedures

Foundation of HEMIS Workshop  
Nelson Mandela University  
11 August 2016

Hannelie Van Rensburg  
(Director: University Academic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)

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## Presentation Content

### **1. Finalization of New HEQSF Aligned PQMs for Ministerial Approval in 2016 (Category A, B and C Process)\*;**

- Background & Context of 2016 PQMs; Anomalies and Concerns;
- Processes followed;
- Update on current situation;

### **2. HEQSF-Aligned PQMs**

- Explanation of Content of the HEQSF Aligned PQMs submitted for Ministerial Approval in July 2016

### **3. New PQM Clearance Application Forms and Guidelines;**

### **4. DHET Contacts and Protocol.**

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## Finalization of New HEQSF Aligned PQMs for Ministerial Approval in 2016

### Background & Context

- DHET Mandate: responsible for approving qualifications offered by public universities;
- PQMs are DHET mechanisms monitoring and evaluation of formal programme and qualification offerings of universities, and informing other regulatory bodies of the legality of offerings for which the DHET will provide state subsidy

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### Background & Context of 2016 PQMs (Continued)

- In 2001, Ministry of Education , implementation of a transformation strategy of Higher Education, White Paper 3 (1997), and the National Plan for Higher Education (NPHE) of 2001.
- White Paper 3 (1997): comprehensive set of initiatives for the transformation of higher education through development of a single, national and coordinated higher education system, diverse in terms of the mix of institutional missions and academic programmes offered (NPHE, 2001: Outcome 9)
- Goal 3 of Outcome 9 of NPHE (2001): **Academic Programme Differentiation**
- Role that the Minister of Higher Education and Training: “The Ministry will determine the programme mix for institutions for the next five years on the basis of their current programme profile and their demonstrated capacity and potential to add additional programmes to the profile” (NPHE, 2001:49).

**Thus the origin of the Old Ministerial Approved PQMs of 2002 (High Level Academic Programme Grid for each University)**

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### Background & Context of 2016 PQMs (Continued)

- More detailed grids were required and had to include specific programmes, qualifications and other related data sourced from HEMIS.
- This occurred during merger period where merged institutions had to develop institutional operation plans containing harmonised academic structures and programme offerings aimed at (i) reducing duplication; (ii) addressing local and regional needs; and (iii) promote joint development and delivery of academic programmes.
- Completed in 2005 and approved by Minister of Education in 2006 (**Old Ministerial Approved PQMs**)

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### Background & Context of 2016 PQMs (Continued)

- National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Act of 2008;
- HEQF implemented in January 2009; CHE HEQF Implementation plan launched in 2011 (the Category A, B and C process!);
- **“a single qualifications framework for higher education that enables *articulation* of academic programmes and transfer of students between programmes and higher education institutions”**
- **“Each institution must have a clearly defined mandate within the system. The mix and level of programmes offered at any institution should not be fixed, but should be capable of development over time, depending on its capacity and identified needs in its area. (White Paper on Post-School Education and Training System, 2013: 30)”** Same principles continued since 2001 Higher education transformation plan...!
- Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) was published (Government Gazette No.36721, 2 August 2013) ...following CHE review of HEQF commencing in October 2010

**First of three sub-frameworks!!!**

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### Background & Context of 2016 PQMs (Continued)

## HEQSF Alignment Process...

Slides 8 – 16 (Hidden)

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## HEQSF Aligned PQMs

### Content and layout

- More comprehensive information pertaining to qualifications conferred and programmes offered by each institution included in the new HEQSF-Aligned PQMs.
  - Specification of campuses where qualifications are offered;
  - South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Qualification/Learning Programme (LP) Identity Numbers for qualifications;
  - Differentiation of credits for research, professional and structured masters degrees (180, 60 & 45);
  - New HEMIS qualification type and course level codes;
  - Differentiate between professional and formative academic programmes, as well as between 240-credit and 360-credit diplomas.

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## New PQM Clearance Application Forms

3 new documents for noting by Academic Planners:

(i) New 2016 Application for New Academic Qualification ;



(ii) New 2016 Application for Change to Existing Qualification;



(iii) Guidelines for Applications for New or Changes to Existing Qualifications



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## Finalization of HEQSF Aligned PQMs

- It is a continuous process – PQMs are “living” documents
- Institutions will be functioning on two formats of PQMs until Minister has approved each institution’s HEQSF Aligned PQM and all programmes on old Ministerial Approved PQMs are taught out, struck through and no longer offered (no more pipeline students)
- Minister declared last date for FTEN enrolments in non-HEQSF-Aligned programmes is 31 December 2019.

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## Contacts and Protocol

- **Ms Ntut Zulu-Siwela (Deputy-Director: University Academic Planning)**  
Email: [zulu-siwela.n@dhet.gov.za](mailto:zulu-siwela.n@dhet.gov.za)  
Tel: 012 312 5???

Always Cc:

- **Hannelie van Rensburg (Director: University Academic Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation)**  
Email: [vanrensburg.h@dhet.gov.za](mailto:vanrensburg.h@dhet.gov.za)  
Tel: 012 312 5146
- **Mr Isaac Lephala (Assistant Director: University Academic Planning)**  
Email: [lephalala.i@dhet.gov.za](mailto:lephalala.i@dhet.gov.za)  
Tel: 012 312 5002

**Always work through appropriate structures within your institution!**

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Open Discussion

Thank you

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