DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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VALPAC CHANGES AND UPDATES

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VALPAC UPDATES

- Due to the delay in the finalisation of the new software contract the universities have not had the technical assistance required for their submission. A contract has now been finalised and Richard Nempandoni has notified all institutions.

- The new cesms for Clinical Technology to be included for 2018.

- The change for Nelson Mandela University was implemented from 2016.

- An error in tables 2.12 and 2.13 has recently been corrected. Valpac was not affected but HEMIS was affected. The old row 079900 was back in the tables but the values were not being summed. This row has been removed.

VALPAC UPDATES

- **Changes that will be required.**

  – Being able to identify all sources of funding for students including if they are fee paying students.

  – An indicator to identify students who are in their first year of study for Masters and Doctoral degrees in order for DHET to undertake cohort studies for these students. May need something for Honours students and PG Dip students.

  – A new indicator in the staff data in order to be able to identify senior staff according to their rank and qualification such as VCs, Deans etc

  – Inclusion of the SAQA ID on the Qual file.

VALPAC UPDATES

- **Changes that will be required.**

  – Have had discussions with NSFAS about a way forward on collecting the NSFAS information and will notify institutions in due course. They have indicated that currently institutions still need to notify them if a student has registered, so they have indicated that universities should be able to report if a student has received NSFAS. However, we may need to wait until the fees report has been released.

VALPAC UPDATES

- **HEMIS DOCUMENTATION.**

  – The software contractors will be asked to work through all the validations and test them.

  – 00708 will need to be looked at – this is a warning but there needs to be a determination of how to handle errors that are due to the cancellation of the qualification but not the courses which results in no matching record in STUD.

  – Reporting on temporary staff members - In the old SAPSE manual 021(U) it states for the fte calculation "In this case his FTE value is derived from a calculation based on the fraction he is carrying of the work load of a typical full-time employee employed for 12 months".

VALPAC UPDATES

- **HEMIS DOCUMENTATION**.

  – It then goes on to state " the method universities <u>must</u> employ is that of making a realistic <u>estimate</u> of what fraction of the work load of a full-time lecturer the load of the part-time lecturer constitutes. This estimate <u>must not</u> be based on a calculation of <u>actual number of hours</u> spent by the part-time lecturer on university activities ".

  – The manual also shows a calculation using finance data but concludes that the calculation is misleadingly simple and should not be employed. The DHET therefore advocates the first option for determining the ftes for part-time/temporary staff and only if this is not possible then the payroll should be used.

VALPAC UPDATES

- **HEMIS DOCUMENTATION**.

  – The credit value calculation needs to be updated as the calculation should now be based on the NQF credits. There is some concern where NQF credits are all equal as the question would be, is this correct in terms of the required notional hours?

  – A thorough assessment needs to be made of the glossary and updates need to be undertaken where relevant, e.g the inclusion of the NQF levels.

  – Where required reference will be made to new policies, e.g distance education policy.

VALPAC UPDATES

- SQLVALPAC has been released and it has been acknowledged that it is a complex installation. It was for this reason that initially the DHET never wanted to change to SQL. When there is a notification sent out regarding an update please download the update and use that version for data submissions. It has come to our attention that not all institutions are doing this. Institutions do not need to re-install the application they only have to overwrite the old exe with the new exe.

- Question to institutions – who raised the issue about the compatibility with the latest version of microsoft?

- Institutions are requested to resend any information relating to the installation of SQLVALPAC

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QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU