

ATTENDING TO THE LOOMING CRISIS: FEEDBACK FROM THE CHE

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Council on Higher Education

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- HEQSF alignment process and timeframes
- Missing SAQA IDs
- Task team feedback
- Status of replacement programmes and new programmes
- Nursing programmes
- Way forward



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HEQSF ALIGNMENT PROCESS:

During the period August 2011 – August 2015

- The Accreditation Directorate of the CHE received and processed a total of 10131 applications: Category A (5100), Category B (1278), and Category C (3753).
- Deferrals and representations for CAT B were also reviewed and outcomes recommended and approved by the CHE.
- Also evaluated Doctoral qualifications, qualification titles and abbreviations.

Completion of HEQSF Alignment Process

- On 26 November 2015 - Letter issued to Institutions to announce that the HEQSF alignment project has been completed and is closed.
- The final list of approved qualifications was made available by log-on to <http://heqsf-online.che.ac.za> – organised via *Offerings per Institution*.

Further Processes on the HEQSF

- 10 June 2016 - SAQA issued a letter to VCs about qualifications without content and requested that the necessary info be send to SAQA – CAT A and CAT B programmes
- 1 July 2016 – a joint communique with SAQA was issued to institutions about SAQA ID numbers and the re-registration periods to give clarity regarding why SAQA issues new Qualifications ID numbers for qualifications registered on the NQF.

Gazette – Last Date for Non-Aligned Progs

- 6 July 2016 - Minister of Higher Education and Training announced in Gazette 40123 the last date for enrolment of first-time students into non-aligned HEQSF qualifications – 31 December 2019.

Purpose of the Qualification ID

- To ensure that when a student graduates the Qual ID specifically reflects the correct title of the qualification.
- Each approved Cat A qualification was considered a replacement programme on the NQF – Must have a new ID to reflect the new title.

LIAISON WITH SAQA

- 18 October 2016 – a letter was sent to SAQA about the registration of the HEQSF aligned Cat A and Cat B programmes.
- CHE requested SAQA to link new SAQA IDs to the Cat A and Cat B aligned qualifications and to register these qualifications on the NQF.
- SAQA could access all information via the HEQSF online system.
- 1 February 2018 – a request was sent to SAQA not to assign new SAQA ID numbers to the Cat C programmes.

DATA FOR HEQSF-ALIGNED QUALIFICATIONS FOR CAT B SUBMISSIONS

- 2 February 2018 – CHE also forward to SAQA in a pdf format, the curriculum and other data submitted on the HEQSF-online in 2013 and 2014.
- A request was made to SAQA to update the registration information on Cat B HEQSF-aligned qualifications for public institutions
- CHE also sent a document to explain to SAQA how to interpret the reports of the HEQSF aligned Cat B data.

Registration / re-registration

- 13 April 2018 – SAQA identified 9453 registered higher education qualifications which expired on 30 June 2018.
- Asked CHE to recommend qualifications that must be re-registered on the NQF and those that need to be deregistered on 30 June 2018.
- 17 May 2018 – CHE informs SAQA that it was not possible to verify each of the programmes indicated. It recommended to SAQA that all programme whose registration expires in June 2018 be extended until 31 December 2019.

ISSUE – MISSING SAQA IDs

In a meeting between the DHET, CHE and SAQA on Tuesday 2nd May 2019, SAQA presented the following statistics about the registration status of qualifications

HEQSF Category	Number of programmes in category	Number of programmes registered by SAQA	Number of programmes not registered by SAQA
CATA Programmes	4837	3431	1406
CAT B Programmes	1110	904	206
Totals	5947	4335	1612

TASK TEAM

- A CHE / DHET Team met on the 11th July 2019 and worked through the list to compare details on the CHE list against the Ministerial PQM lists for a number of universities with a view to finding some common threads.
- Ministerial PQM refers to the PQM prior to HEQSF-alignment
- Subsequent to this meeting, a list was received from SAQA and a meeting bringing CHE, DHET and SAQA was held on 18th July 2019.

Task team

- the CHE extracted a list of HEQSF-Aligned qualifications where the institutions did not capture a SAQA_ID for the corresponding non-HEQSF-aligned qualification from the HEQSF-online. The assumption made is that if the institution did not capture the SAQA_ID at the time of capturing the data then their qualification was not registered at that time. The expectation was that the CHE list would be similar to the SAQA list.

Scenarios

- The team went through the data sets and identified a number of categories and developed several scenarios with recommendations for addressing the concerns registered.

Scenario 1

- **SCENARIO 1:** There is a match between the CHE HEQSF online data and the Ministerial PQM but the programme is not registered with SAQA
 - The CHE will clean up the list and draw the full list of programmes that fall in this category.
 - The CHE will communicate this list to DHET to confirm.
 - With confirmation from DHET, the CHE will send the list to SAQA.
 - SAQA will confirm the list from both the NLRD and Registration.
 - SAQA will send the confirmed list to the CHE, copying the Vice Chancellors.
 - The NLRD will generate SAQA IDs- these Qualifications will be registered against May 29 Decision with RCP Status (New ID, New Title, Credit Level).
 - Institutions will be allowed time to develop and submit the content. The Qualifications will appear in the SAQA database with “under construction status”.

Scenario 2

- **SCENARIO 2:** all qualifications where there was no match (i.e. they were found on the Ministerial PQM but--- NLRD did not find a valid match). It includes qualifications that were under the Committee of Technikon Principals (CTP)
 - The manual clean-up and confirmation process described in 1 will be followed.
 - The “old qualification, with its old SAQA ID will be moved to the Institution.
 - NLRD will generate a new SAQA ID for the replacement qualification
 - The Institution will be required to provide content of the aligned programme (following established protocol through the CHE).

Scenario 3

- **SCENARIO 3: qualifications with no NLRD registration, No match was found on the HEQSF Online but they are on the Ministerial PQM.**
- the Institution to provide the content for both the old and the new qualification
- SAQA will use Board Decision (May 2019 for Registering Non-aligned Qualifications) to register the old qualifications.
- The Old Qualifications will be deregistered immediately
- The NLRD will replace the old qualifications with the new qualification HEQSF Title, NQF Level and Credits.
- Institutions will be required to submit both the old and the new content. The written submission by the Institution (regarding old content where they are not able to provide it) will be captured to ensure the process is legally defensible). The CHE will extract and make provide to SAQA the old SAQA forms with a view to expediting registration of the old qualifications. This information will be submitted to DHET for confirmation before submission to SAQA.
- **All Cat A Qualifications that were never registered must be submitted to the QNS.**
- Linked with these Qualifications, a training workshop will be held.

SCENARIO 4:

- **NO MATCH ON NLRD, NO MATCH ON CHE BUT Institution Captured an ID.**
- DHET to confirm if the qualification is on the Ministerial PQM.
- If found on the PQM, the process proposed in SCENARIO 2
- If not found on the PQM, DHET will check for enrolments and graduates in HEMIS.
- If achievements are recorded in HEMIS, this information will be communicated to top management to be addressed at that level.
- If no achievements in HEMIS, DHET will be requested to provide guidance on handling the affected programmes.

SCENARIO 5:

- **NO match at CHE, no SAQA ID (Internal Programmes that became qualifications).**

Actions going forward

1. SAQA can proceed with registration of matched qualifications.
2. Unmatched records must go through a manual match to the NQF to try and locate the qualification
3. Unmatched records (not yet matched to the PQM must be matched to the PQM) and then SAQA registration process for non-aligned qualification can proceed.

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NEW PROGRAMMES

- After each HEQC meeting, CHE forward SAQA a list of all accredited qualifications for registration on the NQF.
- SAQA via CHE will send requests for amendments through to providers. CHE needs to collate all the info and send it through to SAQA again



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Number of applications submitted per year and number proceedings (deferrals, representations or conditions)

Year	NEW SUBMISSIONS	PROCEEDINGS			Total proceedings (defer, repr, conditions)	Total (New + Proceedings)	Served at HEQC meetings	Accumulative percent processed (total served / total proceedings)
	Application for programme accreditation	Conditional accreditation	Deferred application	Representation				
2011	253	4	17	18	39	292	152	
2012	365	6	39	69	114	479	365	67%
2013	403	101	47	54	202	605	376	65%
2014	467	117	102	62	281	748	417	62%
2015	404	88	52	49	189	593	560	69%
2016	462	190	54	93	337	799	582	70%
2017	539	240	62	86	388	927	699	71%
2018	542	247	21	87	355	897	739	73%
2019	181	269	4	87	360	541	938	82%
Grand Total	3616	1262	398	605	2265	5881	4828	82%



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Submission vs non-submission

Row Labels	Count of institution_name
Cape Peninsula University of Technology	43
Central University of Technology	21
Durban University of Technology	109
Nelson Mandela University	24
North West University	49
Rhodes University	5
Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University	8
Sol Plaatje University	27
Tshwane University of Technology	102
University of Cape Town	4
University of Johannesburg	70
University of KwaZulu-Natal	17
University of Mpumalanga	11
University of Pretoria	4
University of South Africa	69
University of Stellenbosch	24
University of the Free State	7
University of Venda	50
University of Western Cape	4
University of Zululand	69
Vaal University of Technology	26
Walter Sisulu University	58
(blank)	
Grand Total	801

Institution	Not submitted
Cape Peninsula University of Technology	7
Central University of Technology	6
Durban University of Technology	54
Nelson Mandela University	4
North West University	27
Rhodes University	1
Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University	5
Sol Plaatje University	20
Tshwane University of Technology	20
University of Johannesburg	10
University of KwaZulu-Natal	12
University of Mpumalanga	8
University of South Africa	27
University of Stellenbosch	3
University of the Free State	1
University of Venda	44
University of Western Cape	2
University of Zululand	61
Vaal University of Technology	1
Walter Sisulu University	51
Grand Total	364



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Institutions	Grand Total				
	1 Prior 31 March	2 Prior 31 May 2018	3 After 31 May 2018	Total	4 Not submitted
Cape Peninsula University of Technology	36		2	38	6
Central University of Technology	10	1	4	15	6
Durban University of Technology	32	8	15	55	54
Nelson Mandela University	15		6	21	4
North West University	18	2	2	22	27
Rhodes University	3	1	2	6	1
Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University			3	3	5
Sol Plaatje University		1	8	9	20
Tshwane University of Technology	32	20	32	84	20
University of Cape Town	2		2	4	
University of KwaZulu-Natal	2	1	2	5	12
University of Mpumalanga	2		1	3	8
University of Pretoria	4			4	
University of South Africa	32		11	43	27
University of Stellenbosch	9		12	21	3
University of the Free State	1		5	6	1
University of Venda	4		3	7	44
University of Zululand	3	1	4	8	61
Vaal University of Technology	14	8	6	28	1
Walter Sisulu University	1		7	8	51
University of Johannesburg	39	17	5	61	9
University of Western Cape	2			2	2
Grand Total	261	60	132	453	362



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Submission status

TIMEFRAMES	Number of programmes submitted per timeframe set
1 Prior 31 March	256
2 Prior 31 May 2018	60
3 After 31 May 2018	124
4 Not submitted	362
Grand Total	802

OUTCOME	NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES WITH AN HEQC OUTCOME
Accredited	163
Accredited (with conditions)	180
Accredited,Accredited	3
Deferred	6
Not accredited	47
Grand Total	399

Current status of replacement programmes

Process stage	Number of programmes
AC meeting and outcome	14
Accreditation Application Form	6
Add background	2
Directorate Recommendation Approval - Final	1
Directorate Recommendation Approval - Intermediate	4
Directorate Recommendation Approval - Preliminary	30
Evaluators - Appoint	5
Evaluators - Manage	9
HEQC Checklisting	8
HEQC Meeting Outcome	8
New Submission	1
Process outcome	109
Grand Total	197

Further processing of applications

- Conditions are immediately evaluated and outcomes submitted – lists are submitted to SAQA
- Turnaround time decreased to about 2.5 months for submissions
- From April 2019 – 23 July 2019 – CHE received another 118 applications. All are in process
- A list of all aligned qualifications will be send to institutions for verification and will also then be communicated to SAQA

ACCREDITATION STATUS OF NEW NURSING QUALIFICATIONS TO BE OFFERED IN 2020

- SANC needs to approve all applications
- Accreditation cannot be finalized without this final approval