

For immediate release:

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Umalusi will not certify learners at unaccredited schools

Umalusi, the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education and Training, has taken a decision not to issue certificates to learners who are enrolled at independent schools that are not accredited by Umalusi. This decision is informed by the need for all independent schools to be accredited by Umalusi before they can offer qualifications that fall within Umalusi's mandate. The decision will come into effect in **January 2017** following a notice given by Umalusi to all unaccredited schools to apply for accreditation before **31 October 2016**.

The "Requirements for the registration of independent schools as examination Centres," Regulations 26A(1-4) Chapter 5, state that "in order for an independent school to be registered as an examination centre by either an accredited private assessment body or the state, such a school, besides being registered as a school, must also be accredited by Umalusi."

From 2017 onwards, Umalusi will certify **only** the learners who sit and fulfill the requirements of the National Senior Certificate at accredited independent schools or independent schools that have made considerable progress in their application for accreditation with Umalusi.

According to the CEO of Umalusi, Dr Mafu Rakometsi, "part of Umalusi's mandate is to ensure that learners attend schools that are recognised by law so that they can obtain credible qualifications from those institutions. We are doing this to protect unsuspecting learners and parents from unscrupulous people."

Lucky Ditaunyane

Senior Manager: Public Relations and Communications

Lucky.Ditaunyane@umalusi.org.za

(012) 349 1510 x 208 (Office)

083 227 6074 (Cell)