



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



NAMB Communication 2026/04

To: QCTO Management
SETA Management
QCTO Accredited Trade Test Centres

RE: Backlogs in the application for QCTO certificates for Artisans

The National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB) will be changing over to a new online system – the National Artisan Trade Testing System (NATTS) in the second half of 2026.

This has severe implications for the certification of learners that applied for trade testing and were found competent in previous years, as the Trade Test Centres and SETAs were not adhering to the Trade Test Regulations of 2014. See extract from Communication to Stakeholders on 25 February 2016.

Progressive Implementation of Regulation 7(1) and (2) and 6(b) of the Trade Test Regulations

2.4 In consideration of Circular 2/2015 and Regulation 7(2) the following interim timelines are to be implemented:

2.4.1 An accredited Trade Test Centre must submit trade test results in a format determined by NAMB to the relevant SETA on a weekly basis, within 5 working days from the conclusion of the trade test.

2.4.2 The SETA must submit on a weekly basis to the NAMB the applications for trade test certificates, within 10 working days after receiving the certification application from the Trade Test Centres

The following deadline dates are applicable for the backlog applications to reach the NAMB Certification Unit:

SETAs to submit paper-based applications for certification as follows:

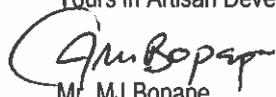
- Applications for all trade tests passed prior to 1 April 2023, must reach the NAMB by 31 March 2026
- Applications for trade tests passed from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025 must reach the NAMB by 30 September 2026.

It is therefore requested that all SETAs urgently clear the backlog applications at their offices.

Failure to comply with these deadlines will result in learners not being certificated through the manual process and that SETAs will have to transfer the applications onto the NATTS prior to the processing of the certificates.

SETAs that need assistance with the processing of their backlogs should contact Mrs Seanego Thibela on Thibela.s@dhet.gov.za

Yours in Artisan Development


Mr. MJ Bopape
Director: NAMB
Date 26-01-2026