

LANDSCAPE

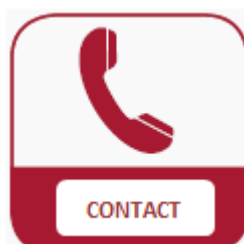
Provides an overview of the different structures involved in the skills development landscape

Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET)
National Skills Authority (NSA)
National Skills Fund (NSF)
Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs)
National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB)
Quality Council of Trades and Occupations (QCTO)
South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

NATIONAL ARTISAN MODERATION BODY (NAMB)



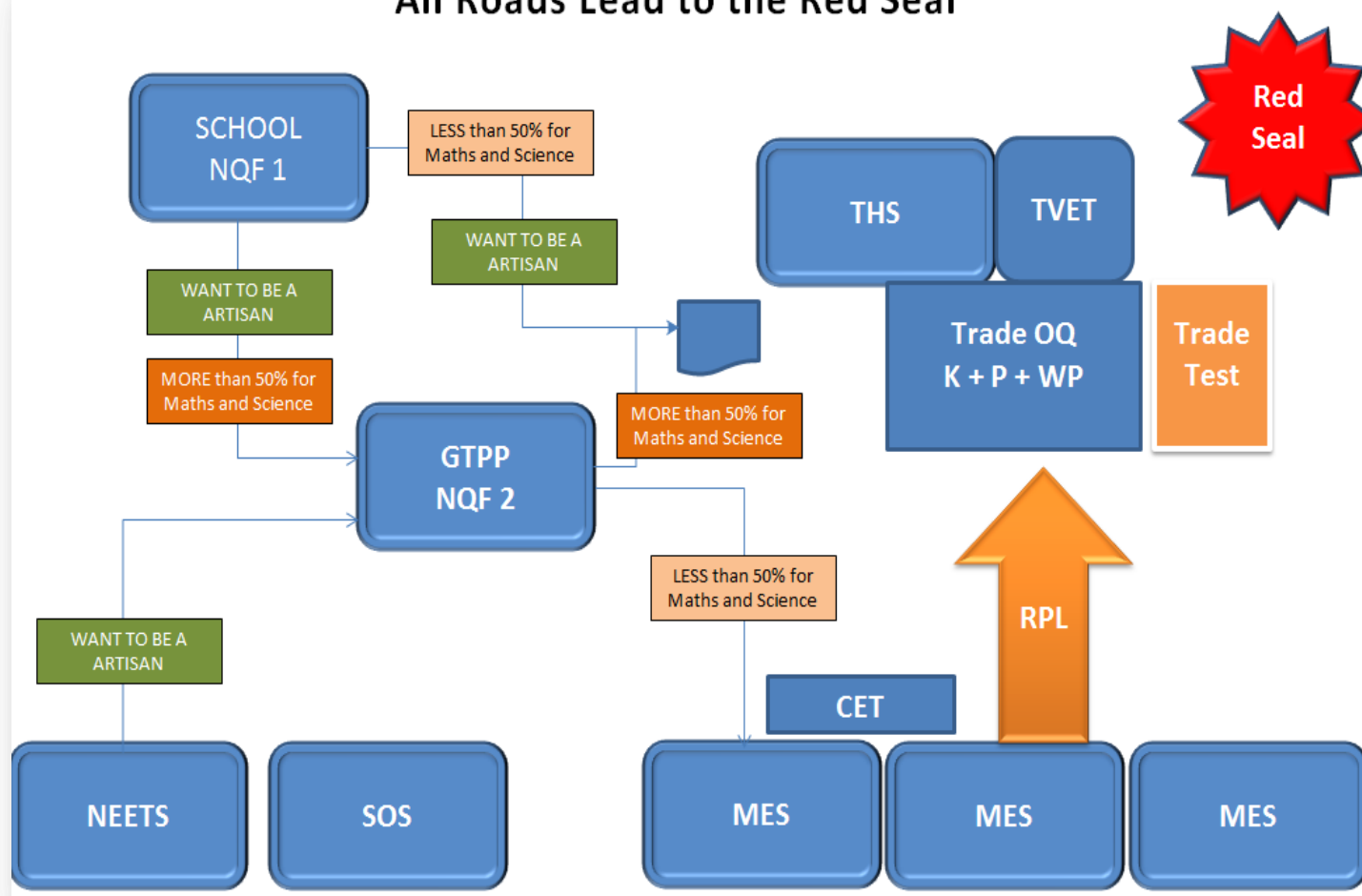
[http://www.dhet.gov.za/
SitePages/SkillsDevelopmentNew.aspx#](http://www.dhet.gov.za/SitePages/SkillsDevelopmentNew.aspx#)



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All Roads Lead to the Red Seal



The National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB) is helping South Africa to move away from designations of a non-sector-based artisan training system for listed trades, to the benefit of all artisans in South Africa. the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) launched the National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB) in order to coordinate artisan development in South Africa, and thereby strengthen the country's skills base.

NAMB was launched in terms of Section 26A of Skills Development Act 97 of 1998. According to the act, NAMB's functions are to:

- Monitor the performance of accredited artisan trade test centres;
- Moderate artisan trade tests;
- Develop, maintain and apply a national data base of instruments for assessing and moderating artisan trade tests;
- Develop and maintain a national data base of registered artisan trade assessors and moderators; Record artisan achievements;

- Attend to appeals against assessment decisions; and
- Make recommendations to the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) on the certification of artisans.

NATIONAL ARTISAN MODERATION BODY (NAMB) AND THE NEW TRADE TEST PROCESS

There were two ways to become a certificated artisan and both of these practices are still around, though the MTA was repealed and artisan development is now legislated under Chapter 6A of the SDA.

Section 13:

A Section 13 qualified artisan was formally indentured as an 'apprentice' at a single employer for the duration of the apprenticeship as outlined in the conditions of apprenticeships. Apprentices employed by companies under Section 13, were required to complete N-courses to cover the trade theory component at public or private Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College, and do their practical training at Sector Education and Training Authority (SETA) / Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) accredited skills development providers (either externally or internally with the employer). The company where they are employed provided the workplace learning in line with the training schedule of the relevant trade. Previously, certification was done by Industry Training boards, SETAs and the Department of Labour later Higher Education and Training, but since October 2013 the QCTO is issuing all Trade certificates known as the "red seal".

Section 13 candidates need to complete their trade test within the contracted period.

Section 28:

The other way is known as a Section 28 certification which involves the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). This is meant for people not contracted as apprentices but employed as skilled/semi-skilled workers with several years' experience who have experience in the entire scope of the trade and wish to write the same trade test as the apprentices. It involves providing sufficient verifiable evidence attesting to work experience. Section 28 candidates have an unlimited time period to complete their trade test.

The New Qualification (current situation):

During the past decade, it became clear that the knowledge economy requires a different, more flexibly-skilled worker who can contribute to greater profitability and productivity. It was evident that education should align with the needs of industry to ensure successful employment of workers.

In 2009 the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) was established and the Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) and Further Education and Training Colleges (FETs) became part of the legislative competence of DHET as a starting point in changing apprenticeships and learnerships in South Africa working towards creating a more flexibly skilled worker.

The NQF Act replaced the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) Act of 1995 and three Quality Councils (QCs) were established to replace the previous Education and Training Quality Assurance (ETQA) function. The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) is now responsible for quality assurance and the certification process for new trade and occupational qualifications.

The National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB) has a key function to link all quality assurance artisan learning processes with FET colleges and to:

- develop and moderate artisan trade tests,
- develop and manage the national database of registered artisan trade assessors and moderators,
- record artisan achievements and
- recommend certification of artisans to the QCTO.

On successful completion of a trade test at an accredited trade test centre, SETA's and INDLELA will submit results and supporting documentation to NAMB for recommendation of certification to the QCTO under section 26D(4) of the SDA.

All accredited trade test centres will report to the NAMB as per pre-determined requirements to enable the NAMB to monitor performance. In this sense, the NAMB will act as an "ombudsman" for artisan development and any concern regarding the quality of artisan development may be reported to NAMB.