

### LANDSCAPE

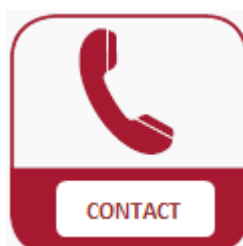
Provides an overview of the different structures involved in the skills development landscape

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)

## QUALITY COUNCIL OF TRADES & OCCUPATIONS (QCTO)



<http://www.qcto.org.za/>



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- The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) is a Quality Council established in terms of the Skills Development Act
- It's role is to oversee the design, implementation, assessment and certification of occupational qualifications on the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF).
- The QCTO is one of three Quality Councils (QCs) responsible for a part of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- Collectively, the Quality Councils and the South African Qualifications Authority (whose role is to advance the objectives of the NQF and oversee its development and implementation), all work for the good of both learners and employers.
- Another important role for the QCTO is to offer guidance to service providers who must be accredited by the QCTO to offer occupational qualifications.

**Following the format of the organizing framework for Occupations (QFO), occupational qualifications are categorised into the eight major employment groups.**

- Managers;
- Professionals;
- Technicians and Associate Professionals;
- Clerical Support Workers;
- Service and Sales Workers;
- Skilled agriculture, forestry, fisheries, craft and related trades
- Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers; and Elementary Occupations.

### **SERVICES**

- Development of Occupational Qualifications
- The mission is to develop and quality assure occupational qualifications that are responsive to the labour market needs and developmental state initiatives.
- Organisations or individuals wishing to develop such qualifications will find more information in the reports, policies and application methodologies such as -
  - Qualifications Database,
  - **Qualifications Development Facilitators,**
  - Qualifications For Public Comment,
  - Qualifications recommended for Registration,
  - Registered Qualifications,
  - Accredited Skills Development Providers,
  - OQD Communique 1 of 2015 Important dates-Qualification Evaluation Cycles for 2015 and other matters,
  - De-registration of Historically Registered (Legacy) Qualifications on the Occupational Qualifications Sub-framework (OQSF),
  - Skills Development Provider Accreditation Application Form,
  - Realignment of Historically Registered Qualifications Application Form,
  - Application Form to develop an Occupational Qualification

### **OCCUPATIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- Through its Quality Assurance function the QCTO will ensure that those people who have completed their studies for an occupational qualification, and have successfully passed the final external integrated summative assessment, meet the required standards.

- Those who meet the criteria are awarded an occupational certificate. This ensures prospective employers and customers can be confident that those holding occupational certificates are fully qualified to do the work stated on the certificate.
- The QCTO abides by the principle that an occupation is the title we give an individual who is capable of doing a number of tasks associated with a specific job title. An occupational qualification will certify that this is the case.

## **CERTIFICATION**

The QCTO is mandated to perform quality assurance functions on occupational qualifications registered on the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework of the National Qualifications Framework, which includes the certification of occupational qualifications.

### **THE QCTO CAN VERIFY TRADE CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES/DEPARTMENTS:**

- Department of Manpower / Labour
- Department of Higher Education and Training
- QCTO
- Replacement certificates issued by the QCTO
- Homelands (TBVC)
- Transkei
- Venda
- Bophuthatswana
- Venda
- Ciskei

The QCTO also issues certificates for Occupational Qualifications registered on the Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF) of the National Qualifications Framework. (QCTO is mandated to ensure that these certificates are credible both nationally and internationally).

### **The following certificates can be issued**

- Trade Certificates:
  - for trades recorded on the National Learner Records Database of the South African Qualifications Authority but without associated occupational qualifications
- Occupational Certificates:
  - for learners who have proven competence against occupational qualifications or part qualifications, but excluding occupational qualifications for listed trades.