

Police probe FET exam irregularities

By <u>Tebogo Monama</u> 4 Jan 2012

The results of six FET subjects will not be released since a police investigation is under way because of suspected serious irregularities.

Quality assurer Umalusi yesterday said the results for the subjects had been withheld because of serious irregularities. Chairperson's council Sizwe Mabizela yesterday said: "We cannot say anything about the investigation because we do not want anything to be compromised."

The subjects under investigation are electrical trade theory N2, industrial electronics N2, electrotechnology N3, engineering science N3, mathematics N3 and mechanotechnology N3.

Mabizela said this in Pretoria yesterday while announcing the approval for the release of examinations for National Certificate Vocational (NC) (V), General Education and Training Certificate for adults (Abet level 4) as well as for NATED N1-N3.

"A spike in enrolments"

The exams are administered by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). According to Mabizela the original decision to phase out the NATED programmes was reversed when the Ministry of Higher Education and Training was established.

"This change has resulted in a spike in enrolments, with 3551 candidates enrolling for 81 subjects," Mabizela said.

Of the 68 subjects standardised, raw marks were accepted for 46 subjects, with only minor moderation adjustments approved for 22 subjects.

A total of 137 895 candidates were enrolled for the NC (V) level 2 to 4. A total of 213 subjects were standardised. Raw marks were accepted for 156 subjects while moderation with minor changes to raw marks was effected for 57 subjects.

"Overall poor performance"

About 107 000 candidates enrolled for Abet level 4. Of the 23 learning areas standardised, raw marks were accepted for 13 learning areas.

"Umalusi is however concerned with overall poor performance of candidates in the GETC examinations Abet level 4," Mabizela said.

Individual candidates results will be released on the dates determined by the DHET after Umalusi has verified the accuracy of the resulting data. Umalusi will release the standardisation results for the National Curriculum Statement tomorrow.

Source: Sowetan via I-Net Bridge

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