

**TO: ALL MEDIA  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Umalusi awards accreditation certificates to successful institutions**

Umalusi hosted a successful Accreditation Forum on Tuesday, 04 March 2025, to award accreditation certificates to 79 independent schools that met Umalusi's accreditation criteria to offer the National Curriculum Statement leading to the National Senior Certificate (NSC), which is one of the qualifications registered on the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework (GFETQSF).

The ceremony was attended in a hybrid mode by approximately 560 delegates from the independent schooling sector and Umalusi officials. In her welcome message, the Acting CEO of Umalusi, Dr Eva Sujee, said, "The accreditation certificate bears testament to the calibre of education provided by the accredited schools, reassuring parents, learners, and the general public of the school's commitment to quality education."

### **Why does Umalusi accredit institutions?**

The rationale behind the accreditation of private education and training institutions and private assessment bodies is to ensure that they have the capacity to deliver and assess qualifications registered on the GFETQSF and are doing so to the expected standards and quality.

As a public entity, Umalusi is obliged to embrace the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996. In terms of section 29 (1), everyone has the right to a basic education, including adult basic education, and to further education. In relation to this section, Umalusi is obligated to ensure the quality assurance of the provision of private education to the citizens within the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-framework (GFETQSF). This obligation is fulfilled to ensure the realisation of the requirements stipulated in section 29(3), which promotes the establishment of private independent education institutions that:

- a. do not discriminate on the basis of race;
- b. are registered with the state; and
- c. maintain the standards that are not inferior to standards at comparable public education institutions.

Since 2013, the Accreditation Committee of Council (ACC) has considered 4719 reports in relation to institutions applying to Umalusi for accreditation, which led to various outcomes, such as accreditation, provisional accreditation, window period to improve, etc.). Emanating from that process, as at 31 January 2025, 986 institutions are accredited by Umalusi (909 Independent Schools, 70 Private FET Colleges, 5 Private Adult Education and Training (AET) Colleges and 2 Private Assessment Bodies).

While the specific names of the accredited private education institutions are available on the Umalusi website, the two private assessment bodies accredited by Umalusi are the Independent Examinations Board (IEB) and the South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute (SACAI).

In other words, the accreditation of independent schools, private FET and AET colleges and private assessment bodies has been occasioned by the obligation imposed on Umalusi, as the Quality Council for General and Further Education and Training, by section 29(3) of the Constitution, as well as the General and Further Education and Training Quality Assurance (GENFETQA) Act, 2001, as amended, and the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Act, 2008, as amended.

A full list of all Umalusi-accredited institutions is accessible on the website [Accredited Private Education Institutions \(umalusi-online.org.za\)](http://umalusi-online.org.za). The public is urged to verify the accreditation status of institutions to avoid falling prey to bogus institutions.

**Issued by:**

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