



# QCTO's Occupational Certificates

## AQPs & the final EISA





# Who is the QCTO?

- The Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) is a Quality Council established in 2010 in terms of the Skills Development Act (SDA).
- Its 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)





# The QCTO's vision is to “qualify a skilled and capable workforce”

**QUALIFYING** = Become officially recognised as a practitioner of a particular trade or occupation, typically by undertaking training and passing examinations; to provide proper necessary skills, knowledge, credentials, etc.; to make competent to qualify oneself for a job.

**SKILLED** = Having or showing the knowledge, ability or training to perform a certain task/activity well. The ability, coming from one's knowledge, practice, aptitude, etc. to do something well.

**CAPABLE** = Able to achieve efficiently whatever one has to do; to be competent

**WORKFORCE** = The people engaged or available for work





# The QCTO is responsible for:

- Amongst others, according to Section 26(H)(3) of the Skills Development Act, the QCTO is responsible for:
  - (a) **establishing and maintaining** occupational standards and qualifications;
  - (b) the **quality assurance** of occupational standards and qualifications and learning in and for the workplace;
  - (d) **ensuring** the quality of occupational standards and qualifications and learning in and for the workplace;

What are 'occupational standards'? *They specify what a person should know and do in order to effectively carry out the functions of a particular job.*







# How are these standards implemented?

- DQP process – qualification is developed by industry (CEPs) for the industry
- Training takes place at SDPs (Skills Development Providers) accredited by the QCTO
- The final assessment is conducted and managed by the approved AQP for a particular qualification at an accredited assessment centre
- The QCTO therefore sets standards through the model of qualifications, the provisioning as well as the final assessment
- The purpose of the EISA is to allow for qualifying learners to become officially recognised as practitioners of a particular trade or occupation with a QCTO certificate





# The final External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)

**EXTERNAL:** An assessment compiled by the AQP is used to assess all learners nationally (those who have qualified for it)

**INTEGRATED:** The EISA not only comprises of an integration of all components and modules: Knowledge, Practical and Workplace, but also of all Exit Level Outcomes

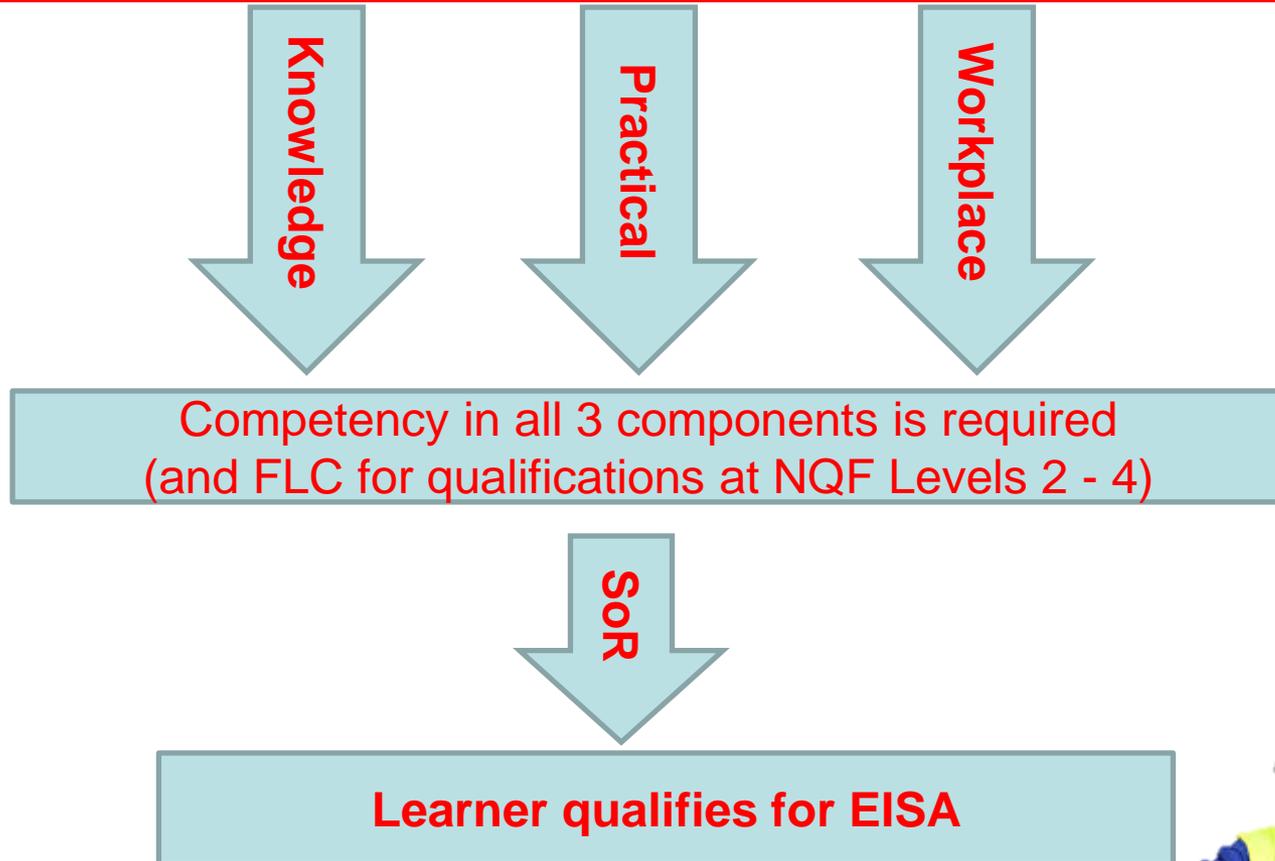
**SUMMATIVE:** The final assessment at the end (similar to 'Board exams' / the "Red Seal") to prove competence

**ASSESSMENT:** The most suitable form of assessment is decided upon to assess the learners' capability TO DO the job!!





# Entrance to the EISA





# The Assessment Quality Partner's involvement (AQP)

- Each AQP is responsible for the development, organisation and implementation of the final EISA.
- The AQP has certain roles and responsibilities with regards to the implementation of the final assessment (EISA).
- An AQP may seek (in fact, is encouraged to seek) the technical and subject expertise from the relevant parties/ bodies in industry to ensure that the standards of the final EISA will be met in order to qualify *competent learners*.
- To this end, for the implementation of the qualification, the AQP will 'project plan' all activities that will contribute to the success of the EISA, for e.g.:





# The AQP's activities:

- The activities the AQP is responsible for, are:
  - The development of the QAS Addendum (set the 'blueprint');
  - Developing a national data-bank of standardised assessment instruments appropriate to the assessment strategy;
  - Make available a mechanism and process for RPL;
  - Establish criteria and guidelines for the monitoring and evaluation of accredited assessment centres;
  - Develop and publish relevant information on their website;
  - Maintain a candidate record system;
  - Have a secure system to manage scheduled assessments;
  - Submit validated learner achievements to the QCTO for certification;
  - Report qualitatively to the QCTO





# So – what's new?

- Learners completing the QCTO occupational qualifications will be sitting for a *national, external, standardised final assessment* in which competency has to be proven, in order to receive the QCTO certificate.
- The curriculum document provides assessment criteria for the 3 components (Knowledge / Theory / Workplace) which form part of the formative assessment process, conducted by the SDP
- The final EISA is done in an integrated manner on the exit level outcomes of the qualification, and focuses on required competencies for the *job*
- AQPs prescribe the minimum requirements for the *assessment specialists* to be used for the final EISA





# By working together, we can all contribute to nation building:

All anyone asks for is a chance to work with pride.

*W. Edwards Deming*



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# THANK YOU

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