



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**TO: HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS
DISTRICT DIRECTORS
CIRCUIT MANAGERS
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
TEACHER UNIONS
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY ASSOCIATIONS**

CIRCULAR S10 of 2025

TARGETED SUBJECTS FOR PHASE V OF THE BASIC EDUCATION EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

- 1) The purpose of this Circular is to inform Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) about the subjects that will be targeted for the implementation of Phase V of the Basic Education Employment Initiative (BEEI).
- 2) The BEEI is a strategic response by the government of South Africa to enhance the quality of education, through additional support, especially in the lower quintile schools, and mitigating high youth unemployment rates.
- 3) Through BEEI, a total of 204 676 for the youth aged between 18-35 will be provided. A large portion of the job opportunities will be allocated to Curriculum Assistants and Reading Champions.
- 4) Phase V of BEEI will target the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy in Grades R-9 and the high enrolment subjects in Grades 10-12 (FET Phase). This is in line with the Sector priorities and the National Development Plan, which are

aimed at improving learning outcomes in Languages and Mathematics and increasing the number of bachelor's degree passes in the National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations.

- 5) Appointing Curriculum Assistants and Reading Champions for the foundational subjects in the lower grades and the high enrolment is a strategic intervention that can provide targeted support by assisting teachers with classroom management, facilitating small group discussions amongst learners, reinforcing key concepts, offering additional learning support to struggling learners, and helping with administrative tasks. Their presence will enable teachers to dedicate more time to effective instruction, differentiated teaching, and formative assessment.
- 6) Furthermore, Curriculum Assistants can play a critical role in implementing inclusive education practices, ensuring that learners with barriers to learning receive the attention and scaffolding they need. This support is particularly vital in overcrowded classrooms where individual learners' needs are easily overlooked.
- 7) The subjects targeted for Phase V are indicated in the table below:

Foundation Phase Grades R-3	Intermediate Phase Grades 4-6	Senior Phase Grades 7-9	FET Phase Grades 10-12
a) Literacy (Reading Champions) b) Mathematics NB: The roles of Curriculum Assistants and Reading Champions will be merged.	a) Literacy (Reading Champions) b) Mathematics NB: The roles of Curriculum Assistants and Reading Champions will be merged.	a) Languages b) Mathematics Curriculum Assistants	a) Home Languages b) English First Additional Language c) Accounting d) Business Studies e) Economics f) Geography g) History h) Life Sciences i) Mathematics j) Mathematical Literacy k) Physical Sciences Curriculum Assistants

- 8) The Subject Specialists from the Curriculum Branch in the DBE and PEDs are in the process of reviewing the training manuals for the Curriculum Assistants. For

Mathematics and Languages in the lower grades, the training manuals will focus on the effective utilisation of the DBE workbooks as classroom resources and respond to teacher professional needs as identified in the National, Regional and International Studies (South African Systemic Evaluation, Southern and Eastern Africa Consortium for Monitoring Educational Quality, Progress in International and Reading Literacy and Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study).

- 9) For the FET Phase, the contents of the training manuals will be informed by the diagnostic reports of the NSC examinations.
- 10) You are kindly requested to bring the content of this Circular to the attention of Provincial and District officials, relevant stakeholders, School Principals and teachers in public schools.
- 11) Should you have any queries in this regard, please contact Mrs MK Modiba on email: modiba.k@dbe.gov.za or 012 -357 4140.

Your support in this regard is greatly appreciated.



MR HM MWELI

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

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