

MEDIA STATEMENT

04 January 2021

THE DEPARTMENT IS READY FOR MARKING TO RESUME

The Department of Education in KwaZulu-Natal is combat ready for the 2020 National Senior Certificate Examinations marking that will resume in earnest on Friday, 08 January 2021 and ends on Wednesday, 20 January 2021.

The Department is the biggest of all the provinces and the administration of the marking process remains a huge responsibility given the magnitude of the system.

"A total of 6 252 Markers, 1 294 Senior Markers, 181 Deputy Chief Markers, 72 Chief Markers and 82 Internal Moderators have been appointed by the Department of Education in KZN.

A schedule of appointment of markers was sent to districts by 12 November 2020 after districts had confirmed that the prospective appointees are still in the system, are at the institution where they applied, are teaching the subject applied for and are not deceased, retired or on sick leave and have indicated comorbidities.

There is a total of 30 marking centres throughout the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. The Department has developed a protocol to be utilised as a guideline document at all marking centres. It is the responsibility of the Centre Manager to ensure that these protocols are adhered to in order to combat the spread of Covid-19 and protect all officials and markers.

The following aspects are included in the protocol:

- Management of marking personnel;
- Management of visitors to the marking centre;
- Guidelines to follow if a marker/marking official is infected by Covid-19;
- Safe handling of scripts;
- Guidelines to follow if the marking centre is to close;
- Management of accommodation;
- Management of catering and serving/scheduling of meals/teas;
- Composition of Covid-19 Committee; and
- Contingency planning.

The MEC for Education in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Kwazi Mshengu has congratulated all the markers and marking official on their appointment and said that their appointment is indicative of the confidence that the Department has in their abilities and their competence in carrying out this important responsibility.

"We request all the markers to treat this responsibility seriously and treat every script as if they were dealing with individual learners themselves," said MEC Mshengu who added that the Department is going to do all there is to do to ensure that all Covid-19 protocols are observed at all material times.

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN KWAZULU-NATAL