

Qualification Details

National Certificate: Mineral Processing Level 3

SAQA ID: 62769

NQF Level: 3

Minimum Credits: 130

***WHO* will benefit from this Qualification?**

- Plant Operators and section leaders and Supervisors in Diamond, Coal, Iron Ore, Platinum, Gold, Mineral Sands, Base Metals and Uranium Industry who have already completed National Certificate in Mineral Processing Level 2
- Community learners living within a mining industry area who have already completed National Certificate in Mineral Processing Level 2 and have worked in an operational environment

Recognition of Prior Learning

For those who have been in the workplace for a long time, this Qualification can be used in the recognition of prior learning process to assess and recognise workplace knowledge and skills acquired without the benefit of formal education and training.

New entrants

Entry is open for the qualification but it is preferable that learners have completed the National Certificate: Minerals Processing, NQF Level 2.

For the new entrant, this Qualification describes the learning outcomes required to become competent in the supervision of a mineral processing plant section through a structured learning programme.

***WHY* complete the qualification?**

The profit margin in mining operations is low because of low commodity prices and the strong rand. It is therefore necessary to maximise production and recovery and minimise operational costs to enable a profitable operation. This qualification will ensure that the operating personnel will have the competencies to achieve this.

Learners entering this qualification will be unqualified workstation attendants working under close supervision in Mineral Processing Plants. By obtaining this qualification these learners will be able to work without close supervision at one of several workstations. It will also enable learners to operate plant sections that are all intricate parts of the mineral processing flow line. Exceptional performers could be identified for further development to operator and supervisory levels. Learners could also enter the qualification from similar operations like other metallurgical plants or directly from school.

***WHAT* are the outcomes of the qualification?**

People credited with this qualification are able to:

- Communicate and solve problems in the workplace.
 - Range:
 - Workplace refers to the Minerals Processing environment.

- Minerals processing refers to the processing of Gold, Uranium, Base metals, Platinum, Minerals Sands, Lump Ore.
- Demonstrate an understanding of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental standards with regard to hazards and risks in the workplace.
- Conduct materials handling and transport activities within the mineral processing context.
- Control process control activities within set parameters.
- Perform minor maintenance on process equipment.
 - Range: Minor maintenance refers to maintenance performed by operations personnel not qualified as artisans.
- Separate materials using various techniques.
 - Range: Separation techniques include but not limited to filtration, gravity concentration, screening and/or cycloning.

WHERE can you complete the qualification?

- Learners can complete this qualification on the site where they work and within the workplace.
- Theory and knowledge is classroom based and can be done on your mine or a mine in the community.
- Evidence of competence is collected through assignments conducted in the workplace making up a Portfolio of evidence
- Practical learning is done at your place of work during your working hours
- On-the-job assessments are done while you are operating a plant through simulations and demonstrations

WHEN should you complete this qualification?

- For new entrants the qualification will take between 12 to 18 months
- Section leaders and supervisors who already have experience in the workplace at a level higher than operator will be able to complete the programme within 6 months