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TO:  HEADS OF PROVINCIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS  
HEADS OF PROVINCIAL CURRICULUM SECTIONS  
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UNIVERSITIES SOUTH AFRICA  
SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
UMALUSI  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION BOARD  
SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (SGB) ASSOCIATIONS  
NATIONAL TEACHER ORGANISATIONS

CIRCULAR E28 OF 2017

CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION OF THE MULTIPLE EXAMINATION OPPORTUNITY (MEO) IN GRADE 12

1. On 9 November 2015 the Department of Basic Education issued Circular E35 of 2015, which provides directives on the application and implementation of the dispensation on Progression in the Further Education and Training (FET) band.

2. In addition, the Minister approved for progressed learners to be allowed the Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO) option in the writing of the National Senior Certificate examination. This implies that progressed learners based on their performance in the preparatory examination, may be allowed to write all six subjects or less than the full six subject package, in the November examination. The remaining subjects will be written in the June examinations of the following year.
3. At a meeting of the Council of Education Ministers (CEM) held on 6 March 2017, the criteria for the application of the Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO) option, was approved. The criteria relating to the application of the Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO), were approved as follows:

(a) The Learner must:
   i. be a progressed learner;
   ii. have completed all his/her SBA requirements in all seven subjects;
   iii. have attended school regularly (not be absent for more than 20 days, without a valid reason);
   iv. have written the Preparatory examination in all subjects; and
   v. have failed a minimum of three subjects in the Preparatory Examination.

(b) The learner allowed the Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO) must write a minimum of three subjects in the November examination (excluding LO) and must write the remaining subjects in the June examination of the following year.

(c) The decision relating to the Multiple Examination Opportunity (MEO), will be made by the school principal, after having considered the above factors and on the basis of the performance of the learner in the Preparatory Examination.

4. This circular should be read in conjunction with the following policy and regulation documents:
   - *National Policy Pertaining to the Programme and Promotion Requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12;*
   - *Regulations Pertaining to the National Curriculum Statement Grades R-12;*


6. The content of this circular is applicable to candidates who are currently in Grade 12 and will also apply in subsequent years, as well.

7. You are kindly requested to bring the content of this Circular to the attention of all provincial and district officials, principals and teachers of both public and independent schools.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

MR HM MWELI
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE: 20/09/2017