

INTRODUCTORY, N4-N6 AND NATIONAL N-DIPLOMAS

PROGRAMME
National Introductory Certificate: N4: Art and Design
National Introductory Certificate: N4: Business Studies
National Introductory Certificate: N4: Clothing Production
National Introductory Certificate: N4: Educare
National Introductory Certificate: N4: Food Services

PROGRAMME
National Certificate: N4: Art and Design
National Certificate: N4: Business Management
National Certificate: N4: Clothing Production
National Certificate: N4: Educare
National Certificate: N4: Engineering Studies
National Certificate: N4: Farming Management
National Certificate: N4: Fertilizer Manufacturing
National Certificate: N4: Financial Management
National Certificate: N4: Hair Care
National Certificate: N4: Hospitality and Catering Services
National Certificate: N4: Human Resource Management
National Certificate: N4: Interior Decorating
National Certificate: N4: Legal Secretary
National Certificate: N4: Management Assistant
National Certificate: N4: Marketing Management
National Certificate: N4: Medical Secretary
National Certificate: N4: Popular Music: Composition
National Certificate: N4: Popular Music: Performance
National Certificate: N4: Popular Music: Studio Work
National Certificate: N4: Public Management
National Certificate: N4: Public Relations
National Certificate: N4: Textiles
National Certificate: N4: Tourism

Are the fees expensive and is there financial assistance?

All the programmes and courses listed above and offered by TVET Colleges are subsidised by government and in this way the fees are kept to a minimum. However, a portion of the fee is payable by students. Students who meet the criteria for financial assistance currently make up 38% of all TVET College students. These students are Department of Higher Education and Training bursary students and are assisted with the payment of fees through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS).

Where can I apply and when can I start my studies at a TVET College?

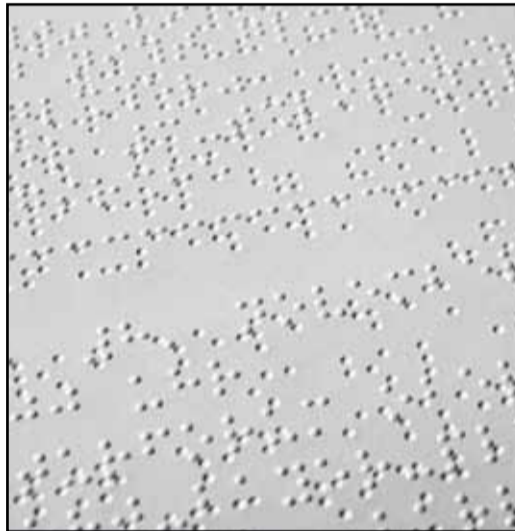
Apply at a TVET College campus convenient for you. Find them and their contact details on www.dhet.gov.za or www.tvetcolleges.co.za
 TVET Colleges open on 11 January 2016 and most courses start on 18 January.

IT'S COOL TO BE A 21ST-CENTURY ARTISAN

Palesa Rakometsi

The Decade of the Artisan is an advocacy programme whereby the Department of Higher Education and Training intends to reach out to schools, with the aim of encouraging grade 9 to 12 learners to consider taking up careers under technical studies.

The department has dedicated 10 years to this programme, and hopes that by the time it ends in 2024 it will have reached the target, or gone beyond, of producing 30 000 artisan annually. Employers are also encouraged to open up their doors for experiential learning and afford learners opportunities to become future artisans.



Braille texts have been developed to increase options for TVET students

The programme came about because of a continual need for suitably qualified artisans to sustain industries and support economic growth within South Africa. In a range of national strategies, the need for artisans has been elevated and identified as a priority area for skills development.

While the National Development Plan indicates that by 2030 the country should be producing 30 000 qualified artisans per year, this target has been brought forward by the 2014 – 2020 Medium Term Strategic Framework to 31 March 2025.

At present the country is producing on average 13 000 qualified artisans per year, with a peak of 18 110 produced in the year ending 31 March 2014. But this number went down to 14 389 in the year ending 31 March 2015. So the numbers of qualified artisans has to increase exponentially in the next 10 years leading up to 2026.

To achieve such a significant growth not only needs considerable investment and commitment by all artisan development role players with a special focus on workplaces in South Africa, but will also require sustained, committed and high profile political leadership. Such political leadership has been put into place through the personal intervention of the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande, and the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mr. Mduzuzi Manana.

A key intervention that has resulted from this leadership is the “2013 Year of the Artisan Programme” that was launched by the Minister on 4 February 2013 in Gauteng. Since then, it has been rolled out by the Deputy Minister in all the other provinces. However, as 2013 was the “launch” year of this flagship advocacy programme and had only started to raise the

profile of artisans in selected areas of the country, there was a need to continue with a long-term advocacy programme that will be known as “2014 – 2024 Decade of the Artisan”.

Since its inception, events promoting the 2014 – 2024 Decade of the Artisan Programme event have been held six times. These events were:

1. Gauteng - 3 February 2014 – Ekurhuleni East TVET College
 - Co-sponsored by Services SERTA, EWSETA and CETA
 2. Mpumalanga – 8 August 2014 Ehlanzeni TVET College
 - Sponsored by FP&M SETA
 3. Eastern Cape – 7 November 2014 – Buffalo City TVET College
 - Sponsored by merSETA
 4. Free State – 30 January 2015 – Motheo TVET College
 - Sponsored by LGSETA
 5. Kwa Zulu Natal – 15 May 2015 – Umfolozi TVET College
 - Sponsored by LGSETA
 6. Western Cape – 28 August 2015 – South Cape TVET College
 - Sponsored by CATHSSETA
- The next event is scheduled for Limpopo on 28 -29 January 2016 at the Capricorn TVET College sponsored by TETA.

At present there are four parts to the current one day event:

- Part 1: Engaging employers to ensure more workplaces are opened up for artisan learners and support their local TVET College.
- Part 2: Engaging with public schools to expose them to TVET from early as Grade 9 level through interactive “try a skill” exhibitions.
- Part 3: Engaging with local media to raise awareness of artisan development in local communities.
- Part 4: Training of life orientation educators, community development workers, ward councillors, career guidance advisers and student support officers on artisanal careers to become artisan ambassadors.

Lessons that have emerged from the six events held to date include:

- Engagement with employers at the TVET College is not working well because employers are not willing to attend an event at the College;
 - Engagement with school based learners, media and artisan ambassador training is working well;
- But there have been significant achievements as well:
1. More learners have come to know of the different careers in artisanship.
 2. They are starting to take studying at TVET Colleges as a route to their careers of choice.
 3. Private business has been exposed to what TVET Colleges offer and how they can be of assistance to the college.
 4. The training of Life Orientation educators, Community Development workers and Ward councillors as Artisan Ambassadors has assisted in planting the seed and spreading the artisan message in their respective communities.