

CRITERIA FOR THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) AWARDS FOR 2020

A. AWARDS TO SCHOOLS

CATEGORY 1: MOST IMPROVED SCHOOLS

In this category, all schools will receive a certificate.

Category 1a: Most improved public schools

Awards will be made to TEN schools with 30 or more candidates that have consistently shown the greatest improvement in their pass rate over the 2018 to 2020 period. The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2018 to 2020, where the number of learners writing in 2020 must not be less than 90% of the average number of learners writing in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Category 1b: Most improved technical high schools

Awards will be made to ONE technical high school with 30 or more candidates or ONE high school that offers the technical pathway with 30 or more candidates, that have consistently shown the greatest improvement in their pass rate over the 2018 to 2020 period. The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2018 to 2020, where the number of learners writing in 2020 must not be less than 90% of the average number of learners writing in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Category 1c: Greatest increase in the percentage of Bachelor's degree attainment pass rates

Awards will be made to TEN schools with 30 or more candidates that have shown the greatest increase in the percentage of candidates achieving access to Bachelor's degree studies over the 2018 to 2020 period. The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2018 to 2020, where the number of learners writing in 2020 must not be less than 90% of the average number of learners writing in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

CATEGORY 2: IMPROVEMENT AND EXCELLENCE IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS

In this category, all schools will receive a certificate.

Category 2a: IMPROVEMENT

This is awarded to ONE school in the province that obtained the highest score when combining the following factors: a change in the percentage of candidates in the cohort taking Mathematics and Physical Sciences, a change in the pass rate for Mathematics and Physical Sciences, and a change in the subject average for Mathematics and Physical Sciences. *(Weighting is the same for all criteria and minimum enrolment of 30 learners.)*

Improvement in Mathematics

Improvement in Physical Sciences

This is awarded to ONE school in the province that showed the greatest improvement in the average for English Home Language, Afrikaans Home Language and Xhosa Home Language in 2020 compared to their subject average in 2019. Minimum enrolment of 30 candidates.

Improvement in English Home Language

Improvement in Afrikaans Home Language

Improvement in Xhosa Home Language

Category 2b: EXCELLENCE

This is awarded to ONE school in the province that obtained the highest score when combining the following factors: the percentage of candidates in the cohort taking Mathematics and Physical Sciences, the pass rate for Mathematics and Physical Sciences, and the subject average for Mathematics and Physical Sciences. *(Weighting is the same for all criteria and minimum enrolment of 30 candidates.)*

Excellence in Mathematics

Excellence in Physical Sciences

This is awarded to ONE school in the province that obtained the highest pass rate in English Home Language, Afrikaans Home Language, Xhosa Home Language in 2020 and had the highest average in English Home Language, Afrikaans Home Language, and Xhosa Home Language. *(Weighting of 50% for each of the two criteria and minimum enrolment of 30 candidates.)*

Excellence in English Home Language

Excellence in Afrikaans Home Language

Excellence in Xhosa Home Language

CATEGORY 3: EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Awards in this category are presented to schools in the province (including independent schools) that have achieved excellence in academic results in 2020. These awards are based on a range of criteria as specified in each subcategory.

Category 3a: Technical high schools (one or more schools)

In this category, all technical high schools will receive a certificate.
A maximum of three schools will be chosen in this category.

No.	Key indicator	Calculation method	Weighting
i	Overall pass rate percentage	Number of candidates achieving a pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	20%
ii	Mathematics pass rate percentage	Number of Mathematics and Technical Mathematics candidates achieving 30% and above/Total number of Mathematics and Technical Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations x 100	20%
iii	Aggregate pass rate of technical subjects	Number of candidates who passed technical subjects/Total number of candidates who wrote technical subjects x 100	45%
iv	Throughput rate	Current Grade 12 learners registered for examinations and who passed/Grade 10 cohort (two years ago) x 100	10%
v	Bachelor's degree attainment percentage	Number of candidates achieving a Bachelor's degree pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	5%

Category 3b: Schools with an NSC enrolment of less than 30 candidates (a maximum of three schools)

In this category, all schools will receive a certificate.

A maximum of three schools will be chosen in this category.

No.	Key indicator	Calculation method	Limits	Weighting
i	Overall pass rate percentage	Number of candidates achieving a pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	An overall pass rate of at least 95% in 2020	20%
ii	Bachelor's degree attainment percentage	Number of candidates achieving a Bachelor's degree pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	Percentage of candidates with access to Bachelor's degree study with 80% and above	30%
iii	Distinction percentage	Number of candidates obtaining 80% and above for any subject/Total number of potential distinctions x 100		10%
iv	Mathematics pass rate percentage	Number of Mathematics candidates who achieved 30% and above/Total number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations x 100	Percentage of candidates with Mathematics pass rates of 60% and above	10%
v	Mathematics participation	Number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		10%
vi	Physical Science participation	Number of Physical Science candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		10%
vii	Throughput rate	Current Grade 12 learners registered for examinations and who passed/Grade 10 cohort (two years ago) x 100		10%

Category 3c: Schools with an NSC enrolment of 30 or more candidates

In this category, all schools will receive a certificate.

A maximum of 20 schools will be chosen in this category.

No.	Key indicator	Calculation method	Limits	Weighting
i	Overall pass rate percentage	Number of candidates achieving a pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	An overall pass rate of at least 95% in 2020	20%
ii	Bachelor's degree attainment percentage	Number of candidates achieving a Bachelor's degree pass rate/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100	Percentage of candidates with access to Bachelor's degree study with 80% and above	30%
iii	Distinction percentage	Number of candidates obtaining 80% and above for any subject/Total number of potential distinctions x 100		10%
iv	Mathematics pass rate percentage	Number of Mathematics candidates who achieved 30% and above/Total number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations x 100	Percentage of candidates with Mathematics pass rates of 60% and above	10%
v	Mathematics participation	Number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		10%
vi	Physical Science participation	Number of Physical Science candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		10%
vii	Throughput rate	Current Grade 12 learners registered for examinations and who passed/Grade 10 cohort (two years ago) x 100		10%

B. AWARDS TO CANDIDATES

All candidates will receive a monetary award and a certificate.

CATEGORY 1: CANDIDATE SUBJECT AWARDS

In this category, one award will be made for each subcategory to the candidate with the highest mark in the selected subject in the province, with a minimum mark of 80%. Each candidate will receive R6 000 and a certificate.

Category 1a: Excellence in Dramatic Arts

Category 1b: Excellence in Visual Arts

Category 1c: Excellence in Computer Applications Technology

Category 1d: Excellence in Information Technology

Category 1e: Excellence in Afrikaans Home Language

Category 1f: Excellence in English Home Language

Category 1g: Excellence in Xhosa Home Language

Category 1h: Excellence in South African Sign Language Home Language

Category 1i: Excellence in Mathematical Literacy

Category 1j: Excellence in Technical Mathematics

Category 1k: Excellence in Physical Sciences

Category 1l: Excellence in Accounting

Category 1m: Excellence in Mathematics

CATEGORY 2: EXCELLENCE DESPITE BARRIERS TO LEARNING

In this category, candidates will receive R10 000 and a certificate.

This will be awarded to a maximum of TWO candidates with special education needs who obtained the highest marks in their six best subjects that fulfil the requirements for the National Senior Certificate (excluding Life Orientation).

CATEGORY 3: SPECIAL MINISTERIAL AWARDS

In this category, candidates will receive R10 000 and a certificate.

CATEGORY 4: EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT ACROSS THE PROVINCE

In this category, all candidates will receive R10 000 and a certificate.

Category 4a: Excellent achievement across the province (including independent schools)

This will be awarded to the top 20 candidates according to the marks obtained in their six best subjects that fulfil the requirements for the National Senior Certificate (two Languages, Mathematics and three other subjects, excluding Life Orientation).

Category 4b: Excellent achievement within the context of study

This will be awarded to the top 20 candidates according to the marks obtained in their six best subjects that fulfil the requirements for the National Senior Certificate (two Languages, Mathematics and three other subjects, excluding Life Orientation), provided that the historical context of their schools is considered.

NOTE: The above two categories (4a and 4b) will be combined and presented according to surnames, except for the top five candidates.

The Western Cape Education Department reserves the right not to make an award in categories where there are no qualifying awardees.