



## CRITERIA FOR THE NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) AWARDS FOR 2021

### 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 2019 to 2021 period. The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2019 to 2021, where the number of candidates writing in 2021 must not be less than 90% of the average number of candidates writing in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

##### **Category 1b: Most improved technical high schools**

Awards will be made to ONE technical high school, or ONE high school that offers the Technical Pathway that have consistently shown the greatest improvement in their pass rate over the 2019 to 2021 period (minimum enrolment of 30 candidates). The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2019 to 2021, where the number of candidates writing in 2021 must not be less than 90% of the average number of candidates writing in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

##### **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 2019 to 2021 period. The criteria also include consistency in the number of Grade 12 candidates over the three-year period from 2019 to 2021, where the number of candidates writing in 2021 must not be less than 90% of the average number of candidates writing in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

## **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 candidates per subject.*)

#### **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 2021 compared to their subject average in 2020. Minimum enrolment of 30 candidates per subject.

#### **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 per subject.*)

#### **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 2021 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 per subject.*)

#### **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 2021. 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.

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

**Category 3b: Schools with an NSC enrolment of fewer 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.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Key indicator</b>	<b>Calculation method</b>	<b>Limits</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
<b>i</b>	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 2021	<b>20%</b>
<b>ii</b>	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	<b>30%</b>
<b>iii</b>	Distinction percentage	Number of candidates obtaining 80% and above for any subject/Total number of potential distinctions x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>iv</b>	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	<b>10%</b>
<b>v</b>	Mathematics participation	Number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>vi</b>	Physical Science participation	Number of Physical Science candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>vii</b>	Throughput rate	Current Grade 12 candidates registered for examinations and who passed/Grade 10 cohort (two years ago) x 100		<b>10%</b>

### 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
<b>i</b>	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 2021	<b>20%</b>
<b>ii</b>	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	<b>30%</b>
<b>iii</b>	Distinction percentage	Number of candidates obtaining 80% and above for any subject/Total number of potential distinctions x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>iv</b>	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	<b>10%</b>
<b>v</b>	Mathematics participation	Number of Mathematics candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>vi</b>	Physical Science participation	Number of Physical Science candidates who wrote examinations/Total number of candidates who wrote examinations x 100		<b>10%</b>
<b>vii</b>	Throughput rate	Current Grade 12 candidates registered for examinations and who passed/Grade 10 cohort (two years ago) x 100		<b>10%</b>

## **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 sub-category to the candidate with the highest mark in the selected subject in the province with a minimum mark of 80%. Each candidate will receive R 6 000 and a certificate.

Category 1a: Excellence in Dramatic Arts

Category 1b: Excellence in Computer Applications Technology

Category 1c: Excellence in Information Technology

Category 1d: Excellence in Afrikaans Home Language

Category 1e: Excellence in English Home Language

Category 1f: Excellence in isiXhosa Home Language

Category 1g: Excellence in SA Sign Language Home Language

Category 1h: Excellence in Agricultural Sciences

Category 1i: Excellence in Technical Mathematics

Category 1j: Excellence in Physical Sciences

Category 1k: Excellence in Accounting

Category 1l: Excellence in Mathematics

### **CATEGORY 2: Excellence despite barriers to learning**

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

This is awarded to a maximum of TWO candidates with special education needs who obtained the highest marks in their best six subjects that fulfil the requirements for the award of a 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.

#### **4a: Excellent achievement across the province (including Independent Schools)**

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

#### **4b: Excellent achievement within the context of study**

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

**NOTE:** The above categories will be combined and presented according to surnames, except for the top 5 candidates.

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