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GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

No. 62

30 January 2009



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY (SAQA)

In accordance with Regulation 24(c) of the National Standards Bodies Regulations of 28 March 1998, the Task Team for

**Animal Protection Standards**

registered by Organising Field 01 – Agriculture and Nature Conservation, publishes the following Qualification and Unit Standards for public comment.

This notice contains the titles, fields, sub-fields, NQF levels, credits, and purpose of the Qualification and Unit Standards. The full Qualification and Unit Standards can be accessed via the SAQA web-site at [www.saqqa.org.za](http://www.saqqa.org.za). Copies may also be obtained from the Directorate of Standards Setting and Development at the SAQA offices, SAQA House, 1067 Arcadia Street, Hatfield, Pretoria.

Comment on the Qualification and Unit Standards should reach SAQA at the address below and **no later than 4 March 2009**. All correspondence should be marked **Standards Setting – Task Team for Animal Protection Standards** and addressed to

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ACTING DIRECTOR: STANDARDS SETTING AND DEVELOPMENT



## SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

### QUALIFICATION:

#### *Further Education and Training Certificate: Animal Protection*

SAQA QUAL ID		QUALIFICATION TITLE	
65229		Further Education and Training Certificate: Animal Protection	
ORIGINATOR		PROVIDER	
Task Team - Animal Protection Standards			
QUALIFICATION TYPE	FIELD	SUBFIELD	
Further Ed and Training Cert	1 - Agriculture and Nature Conservation	Nature Conservation	
ABET BAND	MINIMUM CREDITS	NQF LEVEL	QUAL CLASS
Undefined	152	Level 4	Regular-Unit Stds Based

*This qualification does not replace any other qualification and is not replaced by another qualification.*

### PURPOSE AND RATIONALE OF THE QUALIFICATION

#### Purpose:

This qualification provides knowledge, skills and values needed for learners who wish to pursue a career in animal protection. Learners achieving this qualification will find employment in not-for-profit organisations (NPOs) in the field of animal welfare and in other organisations or communities where animals play a significant part.

Learners will be provided with the theoretical knowledge and the practical competencies to enable them to respond to situations where animals are or may be at risk. This qualification seeks to develop the following competencies in a learner:

- > Animal protection law enforcement.
- > Identification of the implications of the Acts, codes and associated pieces of legislation.
- > Spontaneous, flexible and responsive inspection of animals and their conditions.
- > Knowledge of the characteristics and needs of different animal species.
- > Developing a sense of responsibility and upliftment of ethical standards in line with an animal law enforcement officer's profession.

The learner achieving this qualification will be able to:

- > Communicate verbally and in writing using a number of different techniques and formats and apply basic mathematical concepts in the workplace.
- > Evaluate situations involving animals and explore appropriate strategies to be used in the case of abuse or neglect.
- > Conduct an animal cruelty investigation.
- > Support a prosecution.
- > Adopt the behaviours of a professional Animal Protection Inspector.
- > Advise on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.

#### Rationale:

Proper care and prevention of cruelty to animals is an important responsibility of the community. Mahatma Ghandi stated that the degree of civilisation attained by a society is reflected by its treatment of animals. More recently, research findings have shown that there is close relationship between violence towards people and animals. This qualification will also promote love of, and respect towards animals, which should have positive spin-offs for society in general. To promote care and concern for animals sets the tone for reducing violence in society.

Many people in rural and urban areas depend on their animals for their livelihood, and proper care of the animals results in the improvement of their socio-economic conditions.

Animal abuse occurs mostly in domestic situations, in exhibitions, entertainment, sports, farming, laboratories, breeding, when used for work, and in human interaction with wildlife. These abuses arise from ignorance, carelessness, negligence and wilful action.

It is in the interest of society as a whole to have inspectors who hold a nationally recognised qualification so that they can provide leadership by educating, advising, warning and prosecuting as the situation may demand. This qualification fulfils that need.

Inspectors in the animal welfare field are, by the nature of the work, very dedicated. This qualification provides well-deserved recognition for them.

Although there have been inspectors from historically disadvantaged groups for decades, their numbers have been very few, and there is a need to make their numbers demographically proportional.

This qualification gives credibility to animal welfare and protection organisational work as a significant career. Employers in the field will be more able to retain existing inspectors and recruit new ones, and thereby address the current shortfall of skilled workers.

Learners typically embarking on this qualification will have willingness to work with different communities, a current driving licence (Code EB) and compassion for people as well as animals.

This is the first qualification in the learning pathway for people working in the animal welfare field. Senior inspectors who are entrusted with managerial responsibilities will follow this qualification to achieve the National Certificate: Management at NQF Level 5. This embraces inter alia, the application of fundamental planning principles, organising, leading; strategic thinking; effective use of information and, being financially aware.

#### **RECOGNIZE PREVIOUS LEARNING?**

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#### **LEARNING ASSUMED IN PLACE**

> Communication and Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 3.

Recognition of Prior Learning:

This Qualification makes the Recognition of Prior Learning possible, if the learner is able to demonstrate competence in the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes implicit in this Animal Protection Qualification. Recognition of Prior Learning will be done by means of an Integrated Assessment as mentioned in the previous paragraph.

This Recognition of Prior Learning may allow:

- > For accelerated access to further learning.
- > Gaining of credits towards a unit standard.
- > For full or partial recognition of the Qualification.

All recognition of Prior Learning is subject to quality assurance by the relevant accredited Education, Training, Quality and Assurance Body and is conducted by a registered workplace assessor. Fundamental unit standards may have been acquired in a range of economic sectors and these will be recognised as appropriate.

Access to the Qualification:

There is open access to this qualification for the learners who are in possession of a code 08 (EB) driving licence.

### **QUALIFICATION RULES**

The Qualification consists of a Fundamental, a Core and an Elective Component.

To be awarded the Qualification learners are required to obtain a minimum of 152 credits as detailed below:

Fundamental Component:

The Fundamental Component consists of Unit Standards in:

- > Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 4 to the value of 16 credits.
- > Communication at NQF Level 4 in a First South African Language to the value of 20 credits.
- > Communication in a Second South African Language at NQF Level 3 to the value of 20 credits.

It is compulsory therefore for learners to do Communication in two different South African languages, one at NQF Level 4 and the other at NQF Level 3.

All Unit Standards in the Fundamental Component are compulsory.

Core Component:

The Core Component consists of compulsory Unit Standards with 88 credits.

Elective Component:

The elective Component consists of individual unit standards from which the learner must choose not fewer than 2 Unit Standards totalling a minimum of 8 credits.

### **EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES**

On achieving this qualification the learner will be able to:

1. Communicate verbally and in writing using a number of different techniques and formats and apply basic mathematical concepts in the workplace.
2. Evaluate situations involving animals and explore appropriate strategies to be used in the case of abuse or neglect.
3. Conduct an animal cruelty investigation.
4. Support a prosecution.
5. Adopt the behaviours of a professional Animal Protection Inspector.

6. Advise on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.

Critical Cross-field Outcomes:

This qualification promotes, in particular, the following Critical Cross-field Outcomes:

Identifying and solving problems in which responses display that responsible decisions using critical and creative thinking have been made when:

- > Evaluating situations involving animals and deciding on strategies to be adopted.
- > Deciding on advice to give on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.

Working effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organisation and community when:

- > Supporting a prosecution by preparing documentation and giving evidence in a court of law.
- > Giving advice on the proper care of animals.

Organising and managing oneself and one's activities responsibly and effectively when:

- > Evaluating situations involving animals and deciding which strategies to adopt.
- > Conducting an animal cruelty investigation by gathering information as evidence.
- > Preparing reports.
- > Adopting the attitudes of Animal Professional Protection Inspector.

Communicating effectively using visual, mathematical and/or language in the modes of oral and/or written persuasion when:

- > Preparing reports.
- > Preparing documentation for court case.
- > Advising on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.
- > Making presentations.

Collecting, analysing, organising and critically evaluating information to better understand and explain when:

- > Evaluating situations involving animals.
- > Gathering information as evidence.
- > Preparing reports.
- > Advising on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.

Using science and technology effectively and critically, showing responsibility towards the environment and the health of others when:

- > Giving advice on the proper care of animals commonly found in different socio-economic communities.
- > Using specialised equipment in the field.
- > Devising ways of environmental enrichment.

Demonstrating an understanding of the world as a set of related systems by recognising that problem-solving contexts do not exist in isolation when: