

## NQF Qualification Bands;

- GET: General Education and Training
- Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET)
- Compulsory Schooling up to Standard Eight
- FET: Further Education and Training
- HET: Higher Education and Training

**Qualifications making up the South African's NQF levels** fit into each of these categories accordingly. Job Seekers need to be aware of these **qualification levels** and how to apply these to their own CV. Understanding these, Job Seekers will be better equipped to identify vacancies relevant to their **skills level**. With a clear understanding of the **national qualifications framework**, Job Seekers will only apply to relevant vacancies and stand a better chance of being placed.

To follow is a comprehensive list detailing the current **NQF levels** and where they fit in with the qualification bands. Please note that these are subject to change according to legislation.

NQF Level	Description	NQF Category
NQF: One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade four to Grade Nine (Standard two to Standard Seven)</li> </ul>	GET - General Education and Training
NQF :Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade Ten (Standard Eight)</li> </ul>	FET - Further Education and Training
NQF: Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade Eleven (Standard Nine)</li> </ul>	FET - Further Education and Training
NQF: Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade Twelve (Standard Ten / Matric)</li> <li>• Trade Certificate</li> </ul>	FET - Further Education and Training
NQF: Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Certificate National Diploma</li> <li>• Occupational Certificate</li> </ul>	HET: Higher Education and Training
NQF: Six	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelors Degree (Three Years)</li> <li>• Higher Diploma</li> </ul>	HET: Higher Education and Training
NQF: Seven	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Honours Degree</li> <li>• Post Graduate Certificate</li> </ul>	HET: Higher Education and Training
NQF: Eight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctorate</li> <li>• Masters</li> </ul>	HET: Higher Education and Training

With this new understanding of **learner accreditation**, Job Seekers should apply this knowledge to each job application which they submit. Nothing is more frustrating for Recruiters when Job Seekers apply to job vacancies to which their **skill level does not correspond**. Not only does this waste recruiters limited time but ruins your Job Seeker credibility as well.

# Understand How to Applying NQF levels to Common Qualifications.

Most people go wrong when **classifying their knowledge according to NQF levels**. It can be quite confusing knowing what kind of **qualifications corresponds to the various NQF levels**.

Use the following list compiled according to **Jobs.co.za's educational levels** to help you better understand where your skill fits in.

- Junior Certificate - Grade 10 (NQF 2)
  - GET: General Education and Training
  - Highest Standard passed being standard Eight / Grade 10
- Junior Certificate - Grade 11 (NQF 3)
  - FET - Further Education and Training
  - Highest Standard passed being standard Nine / Grade 11
- Senior Certificate - Grade 12 (NQF 4)
  - FET - Further Education and Training
  - Highest Standard passed being standard Twelve / Grade 12
- Trade Certification (NQF 4)
  - FET - Further Education and Training
  - Trade School or Trade College where the qualification is the equivalent to a grade 12
  - Syllabus is very different to compulsory schooling subjects
- National Certificate (NQF 5)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Certificate attained after completing your senior certificate or trade certification.
  - Nationally recognised but may not be relevant when applying for a job outside of South Africa
  - Up to two years
- National Diploma (NQF 5)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Diploma attained after completing your senior certificate or trade certification.
  - Nationally recognised but may not be relevant when applying for a job outside of South Africa
  - Up to two years

- Higher Diploma (NQF 6)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Nationally and Internationally Recognised (Dependant on the Establishment)
  - No shorter than three years to complete
  
- Graduate - Degree (NQF 6)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Nationally and Internationally Recognised (Dependant on the Establishment)
  - No shorter than three years to complete
  
- Professional Qualification (NQF 7)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Qualification obtained with a professional body of community experts
  
- Post Graduate - Honours (NQF 7)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Only attainable after Bachelors qualification
  
- Post Graduate - Masters (NQF 8)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Only attainable after Honours qualification
  
- Post Graduate - Doctorate (NQF 8)
  - HET: Higher Education and Training
  - Only attainable after Masters qualification

There is a lot to understand when **examining the South African National Qualifications Framework (NQF)**. The most important to understand; assign the **correct NQF level to your experience**. Be sure you are completely comfortable with **NQF levels and how to apply them to your CV application**.