



COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHE)

CHE IMPLEMENTS THE LESOTHO QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (LQF)

The Council on Higher Education (CHE) has been mandated by the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) to implement the Lesotho Qualifications Framework (LQF) as part of its extended mandate. Implementation of LQF involves:

- Registration of all local qualifications on the LQF;
- Verification of both local and foreign qualifications;
- Evaluation of foreign qualifications;
- Development of a national learner records database; and
- Development of relevant policies for effective implementation of the LQF.

The Lesotho Qualifications Framework

- Has **10 levels** and is an **integrated** framework for **all** qualifications in Lesotho;
- Allows comparison of qualifications;
- Facilitates mobility of learners and professionals;
- Provides for all qualifications in Lesotho including Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees (*General Education, Higher Education and Technical and Vocational Education*);
- Covers professional qualifications (*professional development awards*);
- Includes accredited short courses/part qualifications that are credit bearing; *and*
- It provides a basis for evaluation of foreign qualifications.

Objectives of LQF are:

- To integrate national qualifications into a single framework (*Basic, TVET, Higher Education (HE), Professional Training & Part qualifications*);
- To improve articulation and learner progression;
- To uphold equity & enable Basotho to acquire qualifications irrespective of age & level of formal education – *Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)*;
- To improve articulation and learner mobility through links and pathways between academic & TVET qualifications;
- To foster quality and relevance through outcomes and standard-based education & training;
- To acknowledge and value diversity and worth of all qualifications;
- To facilitate curriculum innovation and qualifications renewal;
- To upgrade TVET qualifications to higher levels;
- To provide a basis for quality assurance of education in Lesotho;

Summary Table of LQF

Qualification Types

Degrees

(Levels 7 – 10)

Diplomas

(Levels 6 – 8)

PDA's

(Levels 6 - 10)

Certificates

Levels 1 – 8

| Level | Academic / Professional Track | | TVET Track (<i>formal, professional & industry based qualifications</i>) | | Credit Values (Minimum) | Credit Values |
|-------|--|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 10 | Doctorate | | Doctorate | | 360 | 360 |
| 9 | Masters | | Masters | | 120 | 240 |
| 8 | PGC/PGD/Honours Bachelor | | PGC/PGD/Honours Bachelor | | 120 | 120 |
| 7 | Bachelor | | Bachelor | | 360 | 360 - 480 |
| 6 | Diploma | | Diploma | | 120 | 240 |
| 5 | AS Certificate | Technical Education Certificate A | National Craft Certificate | Trade Test A | 120 | 120 - 240 |
| 4 | O Level / LGCSE Certificate | Technical Education Certificate B | Vocational Education & Training Certificate | Trade Test B | 120 | |
| 3 | | | Basic Vocational Education & Training Certificate | Trade Test C | 120 | |
| 2 | Junior Certificate | Technical Education Certificate C | Basic Operative Certificate | Trade Test Operative | 120 | |
| 1 | Primary Cert / Basic Adult Education Cert. | | Foundation Certificate | | 120 | |

Verification and Evaluation of Qualifications

Qualification holders, employers or organisations requesting verification and evaluation services should provide the following information:

- a) Formal letter requesting verification and or evaluation of a qualification;
- b) Certified copies of certificates and transcripts to be verified or evaluated;
- c) Name of awarding institution and name of country where the institution is;
- d) Full name of qualification holder;
- e) Year of admission;
- f) Mode of delivery of the programme;
- g) Minimum entry requirements;
- h) Duration of the programme;
- i) Date of completion; and
- j) A letter granting CHE permission to handle an applicant's personal information relating to qualifications.

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