ifundi
Future Ready

Occupational Certificate:

PROJECT MANAGER

NQF: 5 SAQA ID 101869 CREDIT: 240

Description

The Occupational Certificate: Project Manager is designed to provide learners with the essential skills, knowledge, and competencies required to effectively manage projects in various sectors. This comprehensive program covers all aspects of project management, from initiation and planning through to execution, monitoring, control, and closure. Graduates will be well-equipped to handle the complexities of modern project environments and ensure successful project outcomes.

Purpose:
The purpose of this qualification is to prepare a learner to operate as a Project Manager. A Project Manager applies knowledge of project management to achieve project objectives in a specific field of application. A qualified learner will be able to: Initiate a project to address specific project objectives.

A qualified learner will be able to:
- Initiate a project to address specific project objectives.
- Plan and prepare the delivery of a project.
- Execute and control the delivery of a project management plan.
- Manage the project close out process.

The purpose of this qualification is to prepare a learner to operate as a Project Manager. A Project Manager applies knowledge of project management to achieve project objectives in a specific field of application.

The Occupational Certificate: Project Manager is designed to equip individuals with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively plan, execute, and close projects. This certificate prepares graduates to manage projects across various industries, ensuring they are delivered on time, within scope, and within budget.

Rationale:
Project Managers are the people in charge of a specific project or projects within a company or a government entity and any small- or large-scale development project requires high quality project management skills. The need for a qualification that will serve as a competency framework for the development of project managers is identified by several key government strategic frameworks and policy documents. Project Managers however can work in a variety of fields, from Information and Communication Technology, Human Resources, Advertising, Marketing, Construction and more.

Improved service delivery and economic growth in South Africa are dependent on the quality of project management skills available in the country. Project management is a cross-cutting function, needed in all social and economic sectors. This qualification presents a competency framework appropriate for South African contexts and was developed and closely benchmarked against international standards.

The qualification establishes a national standard for the training of fully qualified Project Managers and is closely aligned with international best practice.

Career Fields

With this qualification, successful learners could pursue a career as a:

- Project Coordinator
- Program Manager
- Project Analyst
- Project Scheduler
- Project Administrator
- Construction Project Manager, Engineering Project Manager, Site Manager
- IT Project Manager, Software Project Manager, IT Program Manager

Programme Outline

Knowledge Modules

- Introductory Studies for Project Managers, Level 5, 4 Credits.
- Project Integration Management, Level 5, 4 Credits.
- Project Scope Management, Level 5, 8 Credits.
- Project Time Management, Level 5, 8 Credits.
- Project Cost Management, Level 5, 8 Credits.
- Project Quality Management, Level 5, 8 Credits.
- Project Human Resource Management, Level 5, 8 Credits.
- Project Communications Management, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Project Risk Management, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Project Procurement Management, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Project Stakeholder Management, Level 05, 8 Credits.

Total number of credits for Knowledge Modules: 80.

Practical Skill Modules

- Initiate a project, Level 5, 4 Credits.
- Plan and develop a project management approach and scope statement, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Plan and develop a project timeline and schedule, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Plan for and project the cost of a project, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Plan project management systems, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Monitor and control the scope of a project, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Control the project delivery schedules and costs, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Control the project quality, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Manage and control the human resources of a project, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Conduct and control project communication and stakeholder interaction, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Manage and control project risks, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Manage and control project procurement activities, Level 05, 8 Credits.
- Manage and control project close-out activities, Level 05, 8 Credits.

Total number of credits for Practical Skill Modules: 100.

Work Experience Modules

- Attend to project initiation management processes, Level 05, 10 Credits.
- Attend to project planning processes, Level 5, 20 Credits.
- Attend to project execution and control processes, Level 05, 20 Credits.
- Attend to project close out processes, Level 5, 10 Credits.

Total number of credits for Work Experience Modules: 60.

Type of programme

The programme duration is 18 Months to 2 years on a full-time basis. Tuition is face to face and is scheduled per campus. Programmes are offered during the week on a full-time and part-time basis. Part-time tuition is scheduled as per the stipulated planner.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):
RPL for access to the external integrated summative assessment:
IFUNDI CUSTOMER SOLUTIONS and approved workplaces must apply the internal assessment criteria specified in the related curriculum document to establish and confirm prior learning. Accredited providers and workplaces must confirm prior learning by issuing a statement of result or certifying a work experience record.

RPL for access to the qualification:
IFUNDI CUSTOMER SOLUTIONS and approved workplaces may recognise prior learning against the relevant access requirements.

Admission requirements

The minimum entry requirement for this qualification is:

- A National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification.
- NQF Level 4 with Mathematical Literacy and Communication or NQF Level 4 Management, IT

Examination authority

In terms of the Skills Development Act, 1998 (Act 97 of 1998), the QCTO accredits assessment centres to conduct the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA) (link to EISA information brochure PDF) for specified occupational qualifications, part-qualifications or trades recorded on the National Learners' Records Database (NLRD) but without an associated occupational qualification.

Integrated assessment

Integrated Formative Assessment: The skills development provider will use the curriculum to guide them on the stipulated internal assessment criteria and weighting. They will also apply the scope of practical skills and applied knowledge as stipulated by the internal assessment criteria. This formative assessment together with work experience leads to entrance in the integrated external summative assessment.

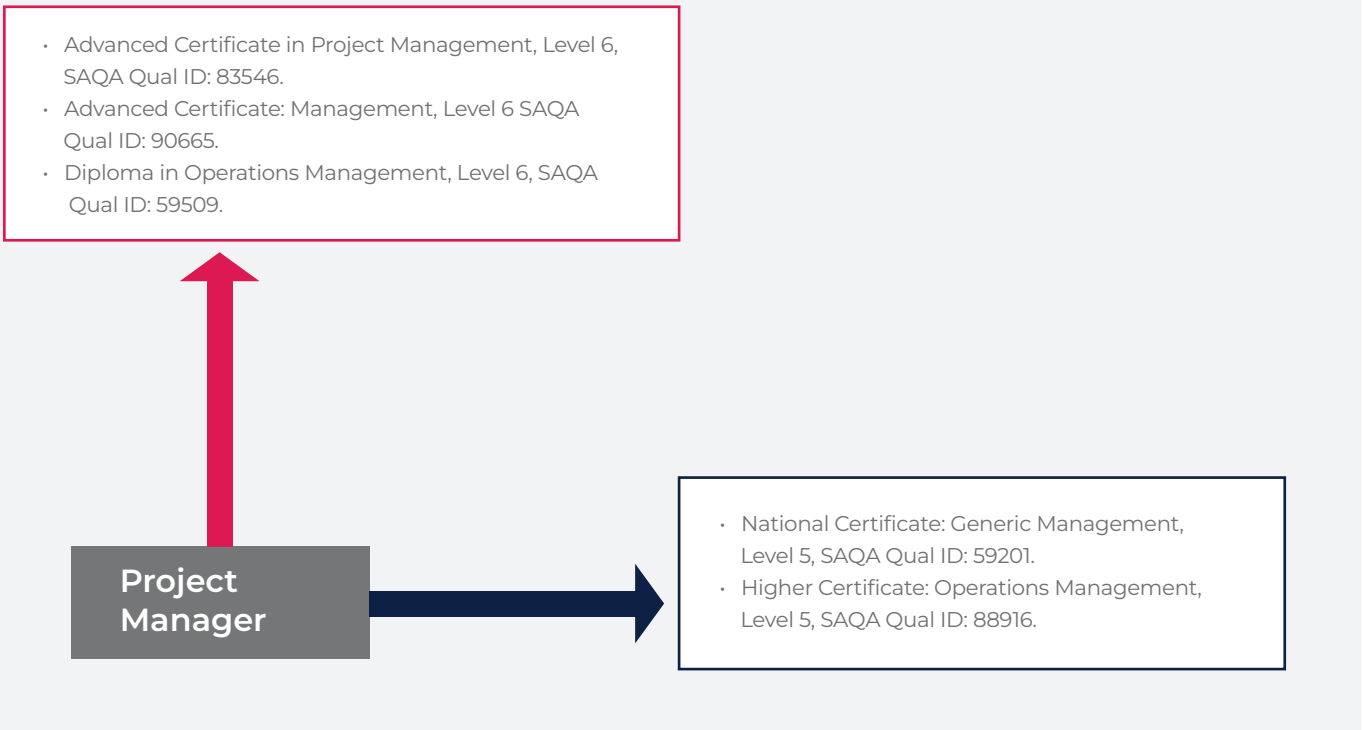
Integrated Summative Assessment: An external integrated summative assessment, conducted through the relevant QCTO Assessment Quality Partner is required for the issuing of this qualification. The external integrated summative assessment will focus on the exit level outcomes and associated assessment criteria. The assessment will be conducted through written assessment and the evaluation of practical tasks at decentralised approved assessment sites by a panel of assessors evaluated by assessor(s) registered with the AQP within a period of 1 day.

EISA is a single, national assessment which leads to competent learners being awarded Occupational Certificates. It is an integral and critical component of QCTO's quality assurance system, as it ensures that the assessment of occupational qualifications, part-qualifications and trades is standardised, consistent and credible. Qualifying for External Assessment: To qualify for an external assessment, learners must provide proof of completion of all required knowledge and practical modules by means of statements of results and a record of completed work experience.

Articulation

Horizontal Articulation:

- National Certificate: Generic Management, Level 5, SAQA Qual ID: 59201.
- Higher Certificate: Operations Management, Level 5, SAQA Qual ID: 88916.

Vertical Articulation:

- Advanced Certificate in Project Management, Level 6, SAQA Qual ID: 83546.
- Advanced Certificate: Management, Level 6 SAQA Qual ID: 90665.
- Diploma in Operations Management, Level 6, SAQA Qual ID: 59509.