University of South Africa (UNISA)
University of the Free State | Cape Town
University | University of Venda | NorthWest University | University of KwaZulu-Natal
Nelson Mandela University | University of
Limpopo | Mpumalanga University | Sol Plaatjie
Health Sciences | University of the Western Cape
University of Zululand | Vaal University of Technology
Walter Sisulu University

Public Universities of Technology

Cape Peninsula | Central | University of Johannesburg Vaal | Tshwane | Mangosuthu | Durban

Public TVET Colleges

- Buffalo City
- Capricorn
- Central Johannesburg
- Ekurhuleni East
- Ekurhuleni West
- Flavius Mareka
- Gert Sibande
- Goldfields
- King Sabatha Dalindyebo
- Majuba
- Lephalale

- Mopani
- Motheo
- Orbit
- Nkangala
- Northern Cape Rural
- Sekhukhune
- Sedibeng
- South West Gauteng
- Tshwane South West
- Vhembe
- Vuselela

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Tel: 053 723 0100



MINING QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

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CAREER

GUIDE→

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Overview

South Africa faces major economic challenges such as poverty and unemployment. Skills development might serve as the main cure for these challenges. The Mining Qualifications Authority (MQA) is responsible for facilitating skills development in the mining and minerals sector. Unemployed people, especially the youth, need development to become skilled and productive workers.

This is achievable by making each workplace within South African organisations a place where youth can train and obtain workplace experience in pursuit of a qualification in the sector. There are different forms of programmes such as learnership programmes, internship programmes, workplace experience and bursaries for learners to further their studies.

In the mining and minerals sector the skills shortage cuts across all employment categories such as management, professionals, artisans, and general workers. Through industry participation, the Mining Qualifications Authority has developed qualifications to support skills development in the industry. They also make grants available to employers who offer learnerships, internships, and Adult Education and Training.

The Mining Charter

Historically disadvantaged South Africans are predominant in the workforce of the mining and minerals sector but have been excluded from ownership of mining operations. The Mining Charter endeavours to redress this situation. The Mining Qualifications Authority supports this broad-based socio-economic empowerment charter.

The Career Guide

This career booklet is an integral part of skills development and is meant to inform people (especially the youth) about the mining and minerals sector. The guide also provides information regarding career choices, the fields of study and learning paths to follow to achieve a relevant qualification in this especially important sector.

Learners, individuals seeking employment opportunities and those already employed can use this guide as a resource that will assist in furthering their careers in the mining and minerals sector.

The Professional Route in the Mining and Minerals Sector. What are the Professional **Careers in the Mining and Minerals Sector?**

The professional career option within the mining and minerals sector has a strong focus on technical fields such as engineering. There are other very important professional fields dealing with health and safety. The engineering field requires high level technical ability together with good, critical thinking skills. A good aptitude for science and mathematics at senior certificate level is essential to pursue studies in engineering. For both the unemployed and employed applicants, bursary supports the following core mining disciplines.

The following presents a list of qualifications at public universities and universities of technology funded under the MQA Bursary Scheme:

- Metallurgical Engineering
- Analytical Chemistry
- Jewellery Design
- Manufacturing
- Electro-Mechanical Engineering
- Geology
- Industrial Engineering
- Mining Engineering
- Occupational Health & Safety

- Mechanical Engineering
- Occupational Hygiene
- Mine Surveying
- Occupational Medicine
- Electrical Engineering
- Operations Management
- Chemical Engineering Quality Management
- Environmental Health and Management

The bursary is available for the following education levels associated with the above disciplines, namely: undergraduate degree; Bachelor of Technology (BTech); Honours Degree; Master's Degree and Doctoral Degree.

The Artisan Career Route in the Mining and Minerals Sector.

What is an Artisan?

An artisan is needed to make a tool, hoist a platform, manufacture a part, and anything that requires welding. Artisans are the skilled technical workers that specialise across a variety of fields and drive the industry in terms of engineering. They are the backbone of any engineering or manufacturing based economy.

There is currently a shortage of qualified and experienced artisans across certain disciplines within the mining and minerals sector.

Why choose the artisan career option?

There are a considerable number of career opportunities for any learner who decides to pursue a trade qualification. Learners who are suited to become artisans would enjoy applying their knowledge to solve problems and achieve goals in a practical manner. Artisans enjoy working and making things with their hands.

The following presents artisan trades at public Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges funded under the MQA Bursary Scheme:

- Boilermaker
- Fitting (including Machinery)
- Motor Mechanic (Diesel)
- Instrumentation Mechanic
- Electrician
- Millwright.
- Fitter and Turner
- Rigger Ropes Man



Where Can I Study Towards a Professional or **Artisan Qualification?**

The Mining Qualifications Authority's Bursary Scheme supports and assists qualifying learners to study towards the above qualifications and artisan trades at the following public institutions:

Public Universities

University of the Witwatersrand | Stellenbosch University | University of Pretoria | University of Fort Hare