



Accredited Provider  
The Skills College for Development and Training (Pty)Ltd.

## **National Certificate: Local Economic Development**

*Qualification ID36436– NQF 4; 163Credits*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Purpose:

This Qualification has been designed as an entry-level Qualification in the field of Local Economic Development. It is the first step in a Qualifications framework that ends with a Qualification at level 6.

Qualifying learners will have the required knowledge of and insight into the nature of LED and the role that Local Government plays in it. It lays the foundation for developing applied competence in Local Economic Development practice. The Qualification will help the learner with identifying the key values and frames of reference necessary for good governance of their own Local Economic Development by local communities.

This Qualification will mean that in future LED officers will have the necessary knowledge, skills and tools to operate professionally. It will also open a career path for LED officers who will have improved career opportunities as a result of their increased knowledge of LED and their ability to implement the policies and carry out the procedures required of people in their field of work.

The National Certificate in Local Economic Development: NQF Level 4 provides the learner with the building blocks for the learning required for the National Diploma in Local Economic Development: Level 5.

### **Rationale:**

Local Economic Development is a process to secure greater local control over business enterprise, labour, capital and other resources. Local Economic Development strategy is based on the concept that economic activity can be used to improve the quality of life for all members of the community.

A Local Economic Development strategy should include economic aspects (growth in jobs, income, business activity, etc.), development (need for structural change, quality of development, etc.) and the needs of the local community (poverty reduction, satisfying basic human needs, integrated social and environmental objectives). Governance is another aspect of economic development that should be included in economic development strategies. Governance is seen as the capacity of institutions to manage and administer policy, processes and programmes that represent the broad interests of all individuals and groups involved while at the same time complying with ethical and legislative requirements.

This means that Local Economic Development cannot succeed if it is merely a once-off exercise of attracting a single development project for an area/community. Local Economic Development

means having a clear Local Economic Development strategy that includes the reality of the marketplace, helps create a positive environment for economic activity, reflects the values of its citizens and complies with ethical and regulatory requirements.

Local Economic Development for each community is unique. It means understanding what the community is good at and what it has to offer, where the community's weaknesses are, what outside threats and opportunities exist, and most importantly, what the community wants and needs. Success in Local Economic Development depends on creating markets that operate efficiently, but appropriately, within the local context.

Local government is involved in local business activities as suppliers of infrastructure, as tax collectors and regulators of land, buildings and permissions. A major challenge presently facing local authorities is the broadening of services to their communities and to provide a conducive environment for business development.

Local Economic Development (LED) is not a new concept in South Africa. Since the first democratic local government elections attention is focused on the role of local authorities as facilitators and implementers of LED. The role and functions of local government have changed considerably and local government has been given the task to drive the LED process. Local government officials are, however, not well equipped to deal with this function in terms of knowledge and understanding of what LED, means nor do they have the skills required to implement LED policy and procedures. A wide range of LED manuals and LED training programmes have been developed, which unfortunately do not adequately equip local government officials with the knowledge, insights and skills required to provide this service to local communities.

This need for knowledgeable and skilled officials at local government level to lead LED was the starting point for the development of a comprehensive Local Economic Development Qualifications Framework at NQF levels 4, 5 and 6. These Qualifications should result in the training of LED practitioners in the knowledge and skills required to be successful LED facilitators and to provide a learning pathway in LED.

The three Qualifications will ensure a comprehensive understanding of LED and its application in the South African context. Local government officials will be able to better fulfil their new role as managers of Local Economic Development.

The National Certificate in Local Economic Development NQF Level 4 provides an initial Qualification in the area of Local Economic Development. It provides knowledge of, and practical skills in, Local Economic Development as well as progress along a career path for learners who:

Have worked in the sector for any number of years but have no formal Qualifications in Local Economic Development.

Wish to enter Local Economic Development and work towards a nationally recognised Qualification.

Were previously denied access to further education and training (but who may now proceed through RPL).

## **LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING**

It is assumed that the learner accessing this Qualification is competent in:

Communication at NQF Level 3.

Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 3.

Computer Literacy at NQF Level 3, which includes word-processing, spread sheets and data capturing and verification.

## Recognition Of Prior Learning

The National Certificate in Local Economic Development : NQF Level 4 allows open access, notwithstanding the learning assumed to be in place. Provision has been made for prior learning to be recognised if a learner is able to demonstrate competence in the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes implicit in this Qualification. Application for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) should be made to the relevant accredited ETQA. This qualification maybe obtained in whole or in part through a process of RLP

### EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES

Qualifying learners are able to:

Situate the theory and practice of local economic development in a range of relevant contexts.

Explain the application to local economic development in South Africa of some basic economics and public administration and management principles as well as socio-economic theories of development.

Communicate verbally and in writing using a variety of formats with a range of stakeholders and roleplayers in local economic development.

Explain the application of the project cycle and a variety of research methodologies in the local economic development environment.

Work with a range of budgeting and financial management principles in the context of a local economic development project.

### TIME PERIOD

This Learnership can be presented over a period of 12 months

### A SELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING UNIT STANDARDS WILL BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO REACH 163 CREDITS:

#### UNIT STANDARDS:

	ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	PRE-2009 NQF LEVEL	NQF LEVEL	CREDITS
Core	<a href="#">13941</a>	Apply the budget function in a business unit	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Core	<a href="#">8555</a>	Contribute to information distribution regarding HIV/AIDS in the workplace	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110478</a>	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of a range of research methodologies to undertake local economic development research	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110481</a>	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the aspects of the project cycle	Level 4	NQF Level 04	8
Core	<a href="#">110493</a>	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of budgeting and financial management applicable to a local economic development project	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110490</a>	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the basic principles of public administration and management	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110475</a>	Demonstrate and apply a knowledge and understanding of the basic economic concepts central to local economic development	Level 4	NQF Level 04	6
Core	<a href="#">110506</a>	Demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of the basic components and fundamental skills of effective communication	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4

Core	<a href="#">110502</a>	Demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of the roles, function and responsibilities of the main stakeholders and role players in local economic development	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110503</a>	Describe and explain socio-economic development theories in the South African context	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110501</a>	Identify and explain the application of a range of concepts and tools for local economic development	Level 4	NQF Level 04	8
Core	<a href="#">110497</a>	Identify and explain the purpose of integrated development planning (IDP)	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110504</a>	Identify and explain the roles and functions as well as the inter-linkages between different departments in a municipality	Level 4	NQF Level 04	10
Core	<a href="#">10388</a>	Interpret basic financial statements	Level 4	NQF Level 04	3
Core	<a href="#">13948</a>	Negotiate an agreement or deal in an authentic work situation	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Core	<a href="#">110479</a>	Outline the environment of local economic development in South Africa	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Core	<a href="#">110472</a>	Outline the environment of local government	Level 4	NQF Level 04	6
Core	<a href="#">110484</a>	Participate in local economic development related meetings and facilitate the necessary flow of local economic development information	Level 4	NQF Level 04	6
Core	<a href="#">8648</a>	Demonstrate an understanding of professional values and ethics	Level 5	Level TBA: Pre-2009 was L5	4
Fundamental	<a href="#">8968</a>	Accommodate audience and context needs in oral communication	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">8971</a>	Analyse and respond to a variety of literary texts	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">8969</a>	Interpret and use information from texts	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">8970</a>	Write texts for a range of communicative contexts	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">12154</a>	Apply comprehension skills to engage oral texts in a business environment	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">12155</a>	Apply comprehension skills to engage written texts in a business environment	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">9015</a>	Apply knowledge of statistics and probability to critically interrogate and effectively communicate findings on life related problems	Level 4	NQF Level 04	6
Fundamental	<a href="#">12417</a>	Measure, estimate & calculate physical quantities & explore, critique & prove geometrical relationships in 2 and 3 dimensional space in the life and workplace of adult with increasing responsibilities	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Fundamental	<a href="#">7468</a>	Use mathematics to investigate and monitor the financial aspects of personal, business, national and international issues	Level 4	NQF Level 04	6
Fundamental	<a href="#">12153</a>	Use the writing process to compose texts required in the business environment	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Fundamental	<a href="#">8976</a>	Write for a wide range of contexts	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Elective	<a href="#">10170</a>	Demonstrate understanding of employment relations in an organisation	Level 3	NQF Level 03	3
Elective	<a href="#">110473</a>	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of a range of records kept in a local economic development environment and what constitutes evidence in own work context	Level 4	NQF Level 04	8

Elective	<a href="#">110009</a>	Manage administration records	Level 4	NQF Level 04	4
Elective	<a href="#">10983</a>	Participate in the implementation and utilisation of equity related processes	Level 4	NQF Level 04	5
Elective	<a href="#">337063</a>	Demonstrate knowledge and insight into the principles of monitoring and evaluation in assessing organisation and/or programme performance in a specific context	Level 5	Level TBA: Pre-2009 was L5	5
Elective	<a href="#">8664</a>	Examine social features as pertaining to the workplace	Level 5	Level TBA: Pre-2009 was L5	4