

Dear FPM SETA Stakeholders,

Understanding occupational dynamics and labour market requirements are vital to meeting the goals of the National Development Plan, the New Growth Path and the Industrial Policy Action Plan. The Department of Higher Education and Training has an important role to play in both aligning skills planning to economic planning, identifying the key occupations to ensure that skills is not a constraint to the implementation of these policy initiatives and improving the responsiveness of the Post-School Education and Training system to the skills needs of the economy.

As part of the five-year Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) research programme, the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) has commissioned research to inform the publication of the list of Occupations in High Demand (OIHD). As you might be aware, the 2020 list will be the fourth iteration, with the first being published in 2014. The 2020 list of OIHD is overarching and takes into account the occupations that have been identified in the two other lists (namely, the List of Priority Occupations and the Critical Skills List) that are being developed for the first time by the Department, as part of the LMI research programme.

The approach taken to developing the list of OIHD has been evolving and every care has been taken to ensure that the methodology employed to develop the 2020 list is in line with evidence-based best practice. Additionally, our evaluation of the 2018 list of Occupations in High Demand suggest greater stakeholder engagements in order to ensure common understanding and to improve the value and utilization of the list.

To that effect, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation published the draft report for the 2020 National List of Occupations in High Demand, for public comments. The Department encourages all SETAs to review the gazette and submit written motivation and evidence for the

inclusion and exclusion of the occupations in the 2020 National List of Occupations in High Demand, within **21 days** of the date of publication of this gazette.

Please follow the link below to access the gazette, Gazette no **43621_17-8_HighEduTrain** published on 17/08/2020:

<http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Pages/Published-Separate-Gazettes.aspx>

Please submit all comments or enquiries by **Monday, 07 September 2020** to Ms M Ramasodi, Tel. 012 312 5345, email Ramasodi.M@dhet.gov.za.

Kind regards,

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