



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

Tel: +27 12 004 8389 · Mobile: +27 65 077 6310

Email: apply@aaticd.co.za · Website: www.aaticd.co.za

COURSE BROCHURE

Pre-2009 NQF Level Understanding

Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology / Engineering and Related Design

Unit Standard 253494 · NQF Level 3 · 15 Credits · 12 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides a foundational understanding of the pre-2009 National Qualifications Framework (NQF) level system in South Africa. Participants will learn how to interpret and apply the old level descriptors to qualifications and unit standards, enabling them to map and compare pre-2009 qualifications to the current NQF framework.

Category	Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology
Subfield	Engineering and Related Design
Unit Standard	253494
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 3 · 15 Credits
Duration	12 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Explain the historical context and structure of the pre-2009 NQF level system.
- Differentiate between pre-2009 and current NQF level descriptors.
- Apply the pre-2009 level descriptors to classify qualifications and unit standards.
- Analyze the relationship between pre-2009 NQF levels and the current NQF framework.
- Evaluate the implications of pre-2009 levels for credit transfer and recognition of prior learning.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is designed for HR practitioners, training managers, assessors, moderators, and anyone involved in skills development, qualification evaluation, or credit accumulation who needs to understand legacy NQF levels.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to NQF and the South African Qualifications Framework

- Overview of the South African education and training system.
- Origins of the NQF and the Skills Development Act.
- SAQA's role and the objectives of the NQF.
- The three quality councils and their responsibilities.
- Introduction to NQF levels: from Level 1 to Level 8.
- Pre-2009 NQF levels vs. post-2009 NQF levels.
- Understanding unit standards and qualifications.
- The importance of credits and notional hours.

Day 2: Pre-2009 NQF Level Descriptors and Categories

- Detailed examination of pre-2009 level descriptors (Levels 1–8).
- Categories: General Education and Training (GET), Further Education and Training (FET), Higher Education and Training (HET).
- Mapping of old school grades to NQF levels.
- Technical and vocational qualifications in the old system.
- University degrees and diplomas under the old framework.
- Examples: N1–N6 certificates, national diplomas, degrees.
- The role of credits in the old system.
- Practical exercise: Classifying sample qualifications.

Day 3: Transition from Pre-2009 to Current NQF

- The NQF Amendment Act and its implications.
- New level descriptors: from 8 to 10 levels.
- Inclusion of occupational qualifications.
- Sub-frameworks: General, Further Education and Training, Higher Education.
- Transitional arrangements for existing qualifications.
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) during transition.
- Impact on learners and institutions.
- Case studies of qualifications that changed levels.

Day 4: Understanding Unit Standards and Credits in the Pre-2009 System

- Structure of a unit standard: title, purpose, learning outcomes, assessment criteria.
- Credits: meaning and calculation based on notional hours.
- Types of unit standards: fundamental, core, elective.
- Building a qualification from unit standards.
- Pre-2009 credit systems vs. current.
- Examples of unit standards from different fields.
- Exercise: Analyzing a sample unit standard.
- Common pitfalls in interpreting credits.

Day 5: Pre-2009 Qualification Types and Their Level Assignments

- GETC (General Education and Training Certificate) at Level 1.
- FETC (Further Education and Training Certificate) at Levels 2–4.
- National Certificates (N1–N6) and their levels.
- National Diplomas (N4–N6) and their levels.
- Bachelor's degrees (Level 7), Honours (Level 8), Master's (Level 8), Doctorates (Level 8).

- Professional qualifications and their mapping.
- Old higher certificates and diplomas.
- Exercise: Mapping a list of qualifications to pre-2009 levels.

Day 6: Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in the Pre-2009 Context

- Definition and importance of RPL.
- RPL policies under the old NQF.
- Steps in the RPL process: identification, evidence collection, assessment, credit award.
- Sources of evidence for pre-2009 learning.
- Challenges: legacy qualifications, incomplete records, equivalence.
- Role of assessors and moderators in RPL.
- Case studies of RPL for pre-2009 qualifications.
- Group activity: Simulating an RPL assessment.

Day 7: Assessment Practices in the Pre-2009 NQF

- Principles of assessment: validity, reliability, fairness, flexibility.
- Assessment methods: portfolios, observations, tests, assignments.
- Integrated assessment vs. separate assessment.
- Role of the assessor and moderator in the old system.
- Moderation processes and quality assurance.
- Recording and reporting assessment results.
- Exercise: Writing assessment criteria for a given unit standard.
- Common assessment errors and how to avoid them.

Day 8: Quality Assurance in the Pre-2009 NQF

- Overview of quality assurance bodies: SAQA, ETQAs, SETAs.
- Accreditation of providers and programmes.
- Criteria for accreditation under the old system.
- Quality assurance of assessment and moderation.
- Internal and external moderation.
- Audits and reviews.
- Impact of quality assurance on learner outcomes.
- Case study: Accreditation process for a training provider.

Day 9: Comparing Pre-2009 and Current NQF: Detailed Analysis

- Side-by-side comparison of level descriptors.
- Changes in credit values and notional hours.
- Shift from 8 to 10 levels: new levels 9 and 10.
- Sector-specific impacts: engineering, nursing, education.
- Examples of qualifications that changed levels (e.g., National Diploma: NQF6 to NQF6? or NQF5?).
- Benefits: clearer progression, international comparability.
- Drawbacks: transition costs, confusion.
- Group discussion: Is the new system an improvement?

Day 10: Practical Applications: Mapping Qualifications and Credits

- Step-by-step mapping process.
- Using SAQA's database and resources.
- Converting old credits to new credits (if applicable).

- Determining level equivalence.
- Practical exercise: Map a sample qualification.
- Group activity: Mapping multiple qualifications.
- Verification of mapping using official guidelines.
- Common mapping errors and how to avoid them.

Day 11: Challenges and Issues in Understanding Pre-2009 NQF Levels

- Misconceptions: e.g., N6 equals a degree.
- Legacy qualifications no longer offered.
- Incomplete or lost records.
- Differences between old and new level descriptors.
- Issues with international recognition.
- Strategies for resolving level disputes.
- Role of SAQA in providing guidance.
- Case studies of problematic qualifications.

Day 12: Integration and Final Assessment

- Recap of key concepts from Days 1–11.
- Comprehensive case study: analyzing a set of qualifications.
- Group presentation: presenting findings.
- Discussion of real-world scenarios.
- Final assessment: written test or practical task.
- Course evaluation and feedback.
- Resources for further learning.
- Certification information.

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **15 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 3**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 41,000.00	R 41,000.00
1	In-House	R 53,300.00	R 53,300.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 61,500.00	R 61,500.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
31 Jul 2026	17 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
03 Aug 2026	18 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Johannesburg, South Africa
04 Aug 2026	19 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
05 Aug 2026	20 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
06 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
07 Aug 2026	24 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
07 Aug 2026	24 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Lagos, Nigeria
10 Aug 2026	25 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 253494) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call **+27 12 004 8389** or WhatsApp **+27 65 077 6310** and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza, 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa
Tel: +27 12 004 8389 · WhatsApp: +27 65 077 6310 · apply@aaticd.co.za · www.aaticd.co.za