STANDARDISATION OF NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS RESULTS

What is standardisation?

A process used to eliminate the effect of factors other than the learners' knowledge, abilities and aptitude on their performance.
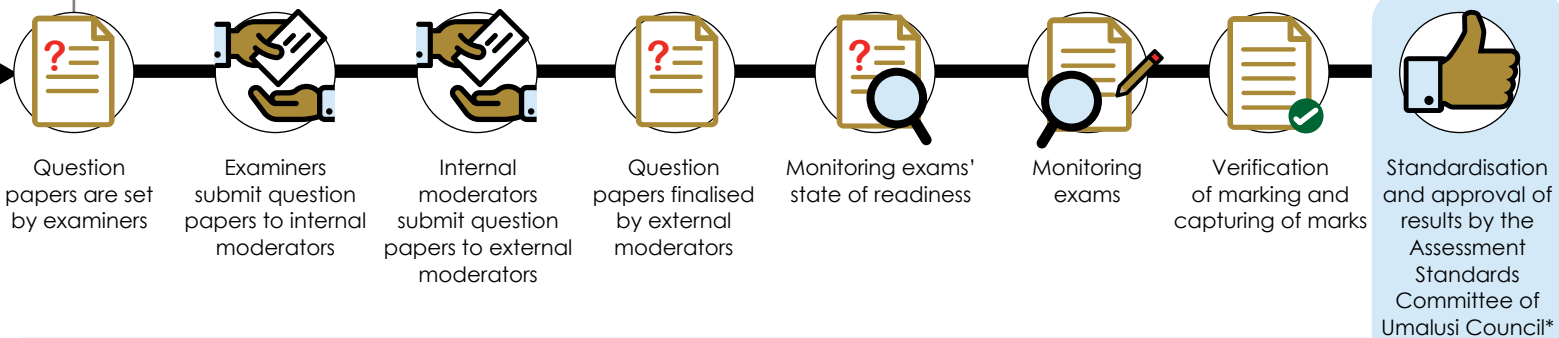
Why standardise results?

- To ensure that learners are not advantaged or disadvantaged by factors other than their knowledge of the subject, abilities and aptitude.

- To achieve comparability and consistency of the results from one year to the next.

Which assessment bodies' qualification results are standardised?

Department of Higher Education and Training
- National Certificate (Vocational)
- General Education and Training Certificate
- N1-N3

Department of Basic Education
- National Senior Certificate
- Senior Certificate (amended)

Independent Examinations Board
- National Senior Certificate
- General Education and Training Certificate

South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute
- National Senior Certificate

Benchmark Assessment Agency
- General Education and Training Certificate

Raw marks are ideal

STANDARDISATION IS A PROCESS

18 MONTHS PROCESS

- Question papers are set by examiners
- Examiners submit question papers to internal moderators
- Internal moderators submit question papers to external moderators
- Question papers finalised by external moderators
- Monitoring exams' state of readiness
- Monitoring exams
- Verification of marking and capturing of marks
- Standardisation and approval of results by the Assessment Standards Committee of Umalusi Council*

1. Review of learner performance against historical performance of candidates in each subject
2. Historical average constructed using past 5 years' data
3. Pairs analysis provides further comparisons of raw marks
4. Standardisation of exam results and site-based assessment

*The Assessment Standards Committee of Umalusi Council consists of independent academics with diverse expertise in assessment, statistics, mathematics and education

STANDARDISATION PRINCIPLES

- No adjustment should exceed 10% of the historical average in either direction (upward or downward)
- If the distribution of the raw marks is below or above the historical average, the marks may be adjusted either way subject to limitations
- In the case of an individual candidate, the adjustment effected should not exceed half of the raw mark obtained by the candidate
- After considering qualitative and quantitative reports, Umalusi formulates positions on each subject: 'accept raw marks', 'upward adjustment' or 'downward adjustment'

higher education & training — Department: Higher Education and Training, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

basic education — Department: Basic Education, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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