

Republic of South Africa

Background

Academic Calendar	January-December
What is year nine called?	Year 9, grade 9
Where is year nine typically located?	Final year of primary school
Native Language(s)	English, Afrikaans
Graduation Timeline	
9 + 3 = 12	12 years total: nine years primary and three years secondary

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. National Senior Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education and IEB

2. Senior Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education and IEB

3. Senior Certificate with Matriculation Exemption

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education

4. Secondary School Senior Certificate of the Department of Public Education, Western Cape

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education

5. Gauteng Senior School Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education

6. Gauteng University Entrance Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Ministry of Education

7. *Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) College Entrance Certificate*

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Secondary School

NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. Common entrance exam

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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2. *Junior secondary/middle school leaving certificate*

Expected Timeline of Completion	Nine years (one year or two semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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3. *Lower primary/Teacher's certificate* [Department of Education and Training]

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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4. *National Certificate*

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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5. *National Technical Certificate*

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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CREDITING POLICIES

» All core courses are valued at 1 credit unit per year, 0.5 credit units per semester.

GRADING SCALES

<i>Numeric Grade</i>	<i>U.S. Grade Equivalent</i>	<i>Quality Points</i>
80-100	A	4
70-79	B	3
60-69	B	3
50-59	C	2
40-49	D	1
33-39	F	0
20-32	F	0
0-19	F	0

Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	A	4
B	B	3
C	B	3
D	C	2
E	D	1
F, FF	F	0
G, GG	F	0
H	F	0

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» The following are less commonly known course titles **approved** for use in an academic certification:

English/Native Language	Math	Science	Social Science	Additional Courses
		Life Science	Business Studies (for years 10-12)	
		Physical Science		

» The following course titles have been reviewed and **not approved** for use in an academic certification:

- ° Economics and Management Science.
- ° Life Orientation.
- ° Math Literacy.

» If a promotion mark is given during the final term, consider that grade the final yearly grade. If no promotion mark is clearly indicated, but there is a column of grades that represents the final term and final average, consider that column of grades as the final year grade. Avoid using the class average, as this is not an individual student-specific grade, but the average grade earned by the class.

» [Click here](#) for the welcome email students receive with additional information on documents to submit for this country.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- » [Course Title Usage guide.](#)
- » [Determination of Credit resource.](#)
- » [International initial-eligibility flyer.](#)
- » [Student account task information.](#)
- » [NCAA Guide of International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility.](#)
- » [Country-specific webpages.](#)
- » [Multi-country references.](#)

