

Communiqué 10 of 2024

To: Public and Private Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of South Africa and other interested stakeholders and roleplayers.

Subject: Public comment on the new *QAF Manual for New Institutions entering Higher Education*.

1. In the implementation of the Quality Assurance Framework ([QAF](#)) as described in the [implementation Protocols for the Quality Assurance Framework](#), a new external quality assurance process is to be introduced by the CHE.

One of the requirements from the Department of Higher Education and Training for higher education institutions is that the programmes that they are planning to offer are accredited by the CHE. Until now, new institutions have submitted programme accreditation applications in the same way as established institutions. From 2025, however, new institutions entering higher education, will not be able to immediately submit programmes for accreditation as has previously been the case. New institutions planning to enter higher education will have to participate in a capacity development and support process before they submit programmes for accreditation. In this process, the new institution will have to show that it is ready to operate as a higher education institution in advance of submitting programme accreditation applications. The process which such new institutions will undergo is described in the *QAF Manual for New Institutions entering Higher Education*.

2. The *QAF Manual for New Institutions entering Higher Education* is hereby released for public comment.
3. Institutions and other interested stakeholders are invited to submit their comments by 14 October 2024 on the attached template to qaf@che.ac.za.

Yours sincerely



Dr Whitfield Green
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 2 September 2024

The Council on Higher Education is the Quality Council for Higher Education in South Africa