



IMPORTANT UPDATE ON THE COMPLETION DATE FOR REAL ESTATE QUALIFICATIONS

On 11 June 2026, the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Mr Bhuti Manamela, announced transitional arrangements necessitating the full implementation of occupational qualifications and the phased discontinuation of various legacy (pre-2009) qualifications.

The Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority (PPRA) welcomes this announcement, as it does not adversely affect the real estate sector. On the contrary, it provides both current and prospective property practitioners with an opportunity to enrol for, complete and submit proof of completion of the relevant qualifications, together with statements of results, to the PPRA. This will enable them to proceed with the Professional Designation Examination (PDE) within the prescribed regulatory timelines. It should be noted that the existing prescribed regulatory timelines for the completion of qualifications and the PDE remain unchanged.

The announcement, however, has implications for certain real estate qualifications required for practice in the property sector, as outlined below:

- **Legacy National Certificate in Real Estate – NQF Level 5 (Qualification ID 20188):**
The cut-off date for enrolment in this qualification remains 30 June 2026. Property practitioners who intend to enrol for this legacy qualification are therefore urged to do so urgently with an accredited Skills Development Provider. Accreditation status may be verified on the Services SETA (www.serviceseta.org.za) or QCTO (www.qcto.org.za) websites. Failure to enrol by the stipulated deadline will require affected practitioners to transition to the new occupational qualification framework.
- **Legacy Further Education and Training Certificate: Real Estate – NQF Level 4 (Qualification ID 59097):** The enrolment period for this legacy qualification has been extended by a further 24 months, **from 30 June 2026 to 30 June 2028**. This extension is welcomed and is a positive development for the property sector. However, it does not amend the prescribed regulatory requirement for candidate and non-principal property practitioners to complete an NQF Level 4 qualification. Instead, it provides

practitioners with the option to complete either this legacy qualification or the Occupational Certificate: Real Estate Agent – NQF Level 4 (Qualification ID 118714).

The PPRA encourages all affected stakeholders to act promptly to ensure compliance with the stipulated requirements.

The table below provides a detailed breakdown of these requirements.

SAQ A QUAL ID	QUALIFICATION TITLE	Target Audience	Ministerial Extension granted (Yes or No)	Last date for enrolment to complete the qualification	Last Date for achievement/comple tion of the qualification according to SAQA	PPRA requirement for completion of the qualification (aligned with Regulation 33 requirements)	PPRA requirement for completion of the PDE (aligned with Regulation 33 requirements)
59097	Further Education and Training Certificate: Real Estate (NQF Level 4)	Aspirant property practitioners and registered candidate And Full status non-principal property practitioners.	Yes, 24 Months extension granted for enrolments from 15 June 2026 to 15 June 2028.	2028-06-30	2029-06-30	For new entrants/ newly registered candidate property practitioners: Within 12 months of being issued an FFC as candidate property practitioner.	For new entrants/ newly registered candidate property practitioners: Within 3 months of completing the NQF 4 qualification.

						For current registered candidate and full status non-principal property practitioner s: the NQF 4 qualification must be acquired before the expiry of the current FFC and where the FFC has already expired or the candidate or non-principal	For current registered candidate and full status non-principal property practitioners: PDE 4 must be completed before the expiry of the current FFC and where the FFC has already expired or the candidate or non-principal property practitioner has de-registered, PDE 4 must be completed before making
11871 4	Occupational Certificate: Real Estate Agent (NQF Level 04)		No, no change on cut-off date for enrolments.	2026-12-31	2029-12-31		

						property practitioner has de-registered, the NQF 4 qualification must be completed before making an application for a renewal or re-registration and issuance of an FFC.	an application for a renewal or re-registration and issuance of an FFC (they must have already acquired the NQF 4 qualification to be eligible to complete PDE 4).
20188	National Certificate: Real Estate (NQF Level 5)	Aspirant principal property practitioners	No, no change to cut-off date for enrolments	2026-06-30	2029-06-30	• For Aspirant principal	For Aspirant principal property practitioners

12169 1	Higher Occupational Certificate: Principal Real Estate Agent (NQF Level 05)	And Registered principal property practitioners.	No, no change to cut-off date for enrolments	2030-01-30	2033-01-30	property practitioner s who are already at a full status non-principal property practitioner status: Must have acquired the NQF 4 qualification to proceed with the NQF 5 qualification and must acquire the NQF 5 qualification before	who are already at a full status non-principal property practitioner status: PDE 5 must be completed before making an application to be registered as principal property practitioner (they must have already acquired the NQF 4 & NQF 5 qualifications and also completed PDE 4 to proceed to
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						making an application to be registered as principal property practitioner. • For current registered principal	PDE 5). For current registered principal property practitioners: PDE 5 must be completed before the expiry of the current FFC and where the FFC has already expired or the principal property practitioner has de-registered, PDE 5 must be completed before making
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						property practitioner s: the NQF 5 qualification must be completed before the expiry of the current FFC and where the FFC has already expired or the property practitioner has de-registered, the qualification/s must be completed before making an	an application for a renewal or re-registration and issuance of an FFC (they must have already acquired the NQF 5 qualification to proceed to PDE 5).
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						application for a renewal or re- registration and issuance of an FFC.	
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The PPRA encourages all property practitioners to continue engaging actively with their accredited Skills Development Providers and workplaces to ensure that they complete their qualifications and assessments within the prescribed timelines.

Aspirant and registered property practitioners who qualify for the grant of educational exemption (**'equivalency exemptions'**) are encouraged to submit their exemption applications to exemptions@theppra.org.za.

Upon completion of qualifications, property practitioners are reminded to submit certified copies of the qualification together with the statement of results to upgrades@theppra.org.za

All candidate property practitioners are reminded to complete the required 6 months workplace learning or practical training and submit certified letters of completion of workplace learning or practical training to the PPRA using practicaltraining@theppra.org.za.

The PPRA wishes all property practitioners success in their professionalisation journey and remains committed to supporting the development of a qualified, competent and professional property sector.

Issued by:

Education, Professionalisation and CPD Department

Property Practitioners Regulatory Authority

18 June 2026