



education

Department:
Education
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

DIRECTORATE: Governance and Management

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Usuku:

**To: Deputy Directors-General
Chief Directors
Head Office Directors
District Directors
CESs: Circuit Management
Circuit Managers
Principals of Public Schools
School Governing Bodies**

KZN CIRCULAR NO. 49 OF 2020

SUBJECT: MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OF LEARNERS WITH COMORBIDITIES

1. Introduction

The advent of the Covid-19 pandemic has placed a huge demand on the schooling system that has since precipitated a need for the Education Sector to develop a system to manage the attendance of learners with comorbidities at public schools. The purpose of this circular is to guide schools on:

- how learners with comorbidities will be identified and
- how to apply for approval for exemption from school attendance in terms of section 4 of the South African Schools Act as well as in terms of the Disaster Management Act on Covid-19.



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- how the exempted learners will continue with their education

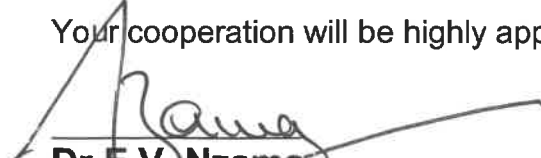
2. Identification of learners with comorbidities

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of a parent of a learner with comorbidities to notify the Principal about the pre-existence of underlying medical condition/s of his or her child.
- 2.2 A learner who presents comorbidities may display some of the following pre-existing underlying medical conditions: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (lung disease), type 2 diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases
- 2.3 The principal will issue out a relevant form to the parent who intends to apply for exemption from school attendance due to the learner having pre-existing underlying medical condition/s (refer to attached forms)
- 2.4 Once the form has been completed, it must be returned to school with evidence from a medical practitioner indicating the existence of comorbidities.
- 2.5 The application form will then be forwarded by the Principal to the Head of Department for consideration through the line function.
- 2.6 The Head of Department will communicate the outcome of the application for exemption from school attendance to the school Principal and a register shall be kept at school for all the exempted learners.

3. Continued education of a learner who has been exempted from school attendance

- 3.1 As soon as approval has been received from the Head of Department, the school must make arrangements with the parents for the continued education of the learner and agree on the protocol to be followed.
- 3.2 It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that the learner receives the necessary learning material and that the learner completes all the school work as expected.
- 3.3 The parent must ensure that all submission to school are up to date

Your cooperation will be highly appreciated.


Dr E.V. Nzama
HOD: Education

18/06/2020
Date