

## Distance Learning

### What is Distance Learning (DL)?

TLC's Distance Learning programme integrates correspondence and online education. A wide variety of different interactive learning activities are used to ensure that students are actively involved and participate in the learning process (e.g. e-mails, SMS, WhatsApp, live chats, etc.)



### Why Distance Learning?

DL has the following advantages over contact sessions in a classroom:

- flexibility it allows so that students can still work and devote time to their families.
- affordability as students don't have to travel to and from the training venue.
- convenience of studying at your own pace, in your own time and at a convenient place.

### Is DL right for you?

DL requires plenty of self-study, self-motivation and self-discipline. Although it offers flexibility, there are still certain deadlines and assignment due dates. For online learning, it is essential that you have reliable access to a computer and the internet so that you can log-in to an online student portal. You will need to download study material and resources and participate in virtual classes or video conferencing (e.g. zoom).



## Entrance Requirements

### Occupational Certificate in ECD Level 4 (SAQA ID: 97542)

- Proficiency in English (Language of Instruction); and
- Applicants need to have a qualification at Level 3 on the National Qualifications Framework, the equivalent of Grade 11 to gain entry to this qualification. Skills Development Providers may require learners to undergo a placement assessment before acceptance.

### HC: ECD (NQF 5) SAQA 23117

- Proficiency in English (Language of Instruction); and
- FETC: ECD (Level 4) qualification.

## DL Process and Procedures

Depending on the option you have chosen when you enrolled for the course, you will receive your study material via post or courier, or electronically (via e-mail), or downloaded from the student portal.

Once you have received your study material, you can work through it at your own pace. The study material is divided into manageable sections so that you never feel as though you must cope with too much work.



## Contents of DL Material

Your study material will include:

- Welcome Introductory Letter
- Blended Learning User Manual
- Learner Study Guides
- Learner Assessment workbooks
- Recommended and/or additional resources and information.

## Assignments and Assessment

Your assignments are designed to assess your knowledge, understanding and practical skills. They consist of a variety of questions (e.g. short questions, fill in missing words, etc) which you will be required to complete and submit so that your mentor can assess and monitor your progress. Your mentor will grade your assignments and give you constructive meaningful feedback. Should your assignment be found Not Yet Competent, you will have the opportunity to re-submit your assignment with the necessary corrections for a remark. You will write summative exams at the end of each module. These marks, together with your portfolio of evidence and the principal's written performance report, will count towards your final assessment at the end of the training course.

### NB\* External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)

When learners have been assessed by the Skills Development Provider and found competent against the Internal Assessment Criteria for the Knowledge and Practical Skills Modules and have gathered the necessary evidence that they have successfully completed the Work Experience Modules, they undergo an external integrated summative assessment which is administered under examination conditions. If they are successful, they are awarded the Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner.

### Teaching Practice

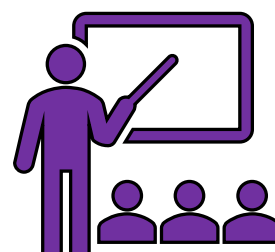
Some of your practical assignments will require you to spend time in an ECD centre. We call this "*teaching practice*" and is a vital component of your course. Teaching practice gives you the opportunity to observe teaching in a real classroom setting. You will be able to 'put into practice' what you have learnt e.g. lesson planning, making creative resources, etc. To carry out

your teaching practice, you need to find a registered ECD centre near you.

The principal will submit a written report on your teaching practice and performance.

### Mentor Support

You will be assigned a mentor who will be available to assist you with any problems or queries that you might have in relation to your studies. Your mentor's contact details will be provided in a personal welcome letter together with your study material. You may contact your mentor via telephone, e-mail, WhatsApp or SMS.



### For Additional Information

Please Contact: TLC Head Office (011) 496 1262 / [tlcoffice@telkomsa.net](mailto:tlcoffice@telkomsa.net)