



ECD Practitioners

People who deliver Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes need to plan and facilitate activities that meet children’s health, relationship and developmental needs. They also need to work with parents and report on children’s ongoing development.

Some 98% of the ECD workforce is made up of Black African females across all job titles who are either unqualified or underqualified. The CotlandsIGNITETM team knows from 8 years’ experience in the field, that a qualified skilled practitioner has the knowledge to help children develop a breadth of skills through play that equips them for the 4th Industrial revolution. ECD practitioners can work in a variety of settings: ECD centres, toy libraries, playgroup or home visiting programmes. The sector will need 350 000 ECD facilitators, practitioners and assistants to provide sufficient access for children by 2030.

Scope of the problem



1.1 million children in South Africa do not have access to any form of early learning



Skills shortage of qualified **ECD Level 4 practitioners** to provide **quality** play-based early learning will become a **barrier to scale**

Why it matters



The first five years of a child’s life is a **window of opportunity** to develop their brain through **quality play-based early learning activities**



The investment that we make now in early childhood development and early school learning will **yield great economic benefits** in the next two decades – and beyond

To address the lack of qualifications in the existing workforce the training landscape needs to make training easily accessible.

Cotlands has developed a blended approach to improve access and allow flexibility to upskill practitioners while working.



ECD L4 PRACTITIONER QUALIFICATION

Name of Qualification

Occupational certificate SAQA Qual. ID 97542
ECD L4 practitioner Accreditation Number:
07-QCTO/SDP270421-1507

Approach and mode of delivery

- Hybrid model – online and in-person workshops
- Duration: 12 months
- Preparing an ECD practitioner to:
 - Maintain and promote the well-being, health, nutrition, safety and protection of children
 - Plan and prepare holistic activities
 - Facilitate learning
 - Observe, assess, record and report on children's progress
 - Work in a centre-based or non-centre-based setting.

Admission requirements:

- NQF level 3 with Maths and English
- Competent statement of results for the CotlandsIgnite pre-qualification course consisting of 43 out of the 131 credits

Duration: 12 months part-time

Cost

The total cost per learner is R30 563 (excluding VAT)

This includes:

- Recruitment and enrolment
- Pre-qualification course of 4 modules (In-person workshops) (43 credits)
 - 1) *Health & Safety*
 - 2) *Planning & preparation*
 - 3) *Facilitating learning*
 - 4) *Observation and reporting*

AND

EITHER

- RPL for qualification against the QCTO Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood practitioner SAQA ID 97542, which includes: Tablet and data, Mentoring support, virtual sessions, practical activities and workplace evidence, assessments and marking, exam preparation and exam costs.

Course outline

RPL for Qualification SAQA ID 97542:

Practical and workplace modules:

- *Health and Safety*
- *Planning & preparation*
- *Facilitating learning*
- *Observation and reporting*

OR

- Facilitated School readiness modules which includes Tablet and data, facilitation of material (hybrid model), Marking of course material, Certificates of completion.

Course outline

School readiness modules:

- *Managing the classroom*
- *Facilitating learning*
- *Supporting learning*
- *Working with parents*

Target audience:

In-service un/under qualified ECD facilitators, practitioners and assistants, day mothers, child-minders, au pairs, childcare workers, ECD principals, ECD owners, supervisors, HOD's

For further information, contact:

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