



NEWSFLASH | NUUSFLITS

34/2020

21/05/2020

REOPENING OF TVET SECTOR

The announcement by the Minister on 30 April 2020 regarding the return to work and colleges by staff and students is based on a risk adjusted strategy for the entire PSET sector.

- That the first cohort of students can only return under stage 3 of the COVID-19 pandemic and 1 June 2020 is the tentative date.
- Return of students in the CET colleges will be largely aligned to the DBE plans because they follow almost similar programmes and use schools' facilities.
- Return to work should be guided by:
 - DPSA Circular No 07 of 2020: Guidelines for the Containment/Management of the Corona Virus (COVID 19) in the Public Service.
 - DPSA Circular 18 of 2020: Public Service Return to Work Guideline after Easing of the National Lockdown.
 - Final OHS COVID 19 Directive.
 - The Department of Employment and Labour's Return to Work Regulations.
- In some instances, the 'return to work' may include remote modalities of such work, as determined by line managers/supervisors.
- 33% of Regional Offices staff will return on 1 June 2020 depending on compliance with relevant regulations.
- The Minister's commitment that the return to work will take into cognisance:
 - Firstly, whatever we do in the PSET sector, our responsibility is to lower the infection curve.
 - Secondly, we must save the 2020 academic year, but not at the expense of lives.
- Thirdly, our efforts to save the academic year must avoid worsening the infection curve.

Scenario 1: College Staff

Component	Description	Physical return date	Remarks
College senior management, some middle management and some support staff	Principals, Deputies, Campus managers, Staff offering essential services.	1 June 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of staff over 60 years old and those with comorbidities in line with DPSA guidelines. 2. Management to ensure the college is ready in line with PSET COVID19 guidelines. 3. If a college is ready, staff can arrive earlier than the planned date. 4. Return of lectures is also linked to the training in terms of COVID19 guidelines and preparations: time-tables and on-line learning. 5. Phased in of lectures is linked to programme (i.e. 10 working days prior the students) in adherence to 33%. 6. The return of the employees is subject to the readiness of the workplace in line with COVID19 guidelines.

Scenario 1: Lecturing staff and students return

Trimester	Lecturing staff	Students	Examination starts
N6 & N3	8 June 2020	10 June 2020	23 June 2020 to 13 July 2020
N5 & N1		15 June 2020	
N4 & N2		22 June 2020	
Semester 1			
N6	15 June 2020	25 June 2020	31 August 2020 to 30 September 2020
N5		29 June 2020	
N4		1 July 2020	
NCV and PLP			
Level 4	1 July 2020	13 July 2020	18 November 2020 to 11 December 2020
Level 3		20 July 2020	
Level 2		27 July 2020	
PLP		20 July 2020	

Scenario 2: College staff

Component	Description	Physical return date	Remarks
College senior management, some middle management and some support staff	Principals, Deputies, Campus managers, Staff offering essential services.	29 June 2020	1. Identification of staff over 60 years old and those with comorbidities in line with DPSA guidelines. 2. Management to ensure the college is ready in line with PSET COVID19 guidelines. 3. If a college is ready, staff can arrive earlier than the planned date. 4. Return of lectures is also linked to the training in terms of COVID19 guidelines and preparations: time-tables and on-line learning. 5. The return of the employees is subject to the readiness of the workplace in line with COVID19 guidelines.
Other College Middle Management + Other staff	All education management staff (PL2), CLC's Managers, support staff excluding lectures.	2 July 2020	
Lecturing Staff	Lectures	6 June 2020	

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