



**Foundational Learning
Competence:
Assessment
Quality Partner
2012**



The Promotion of Quality Assessment Practices

What curricula are used for Foundational Learning Competence?

Three documents describe the learning required:

- Foundational Learning Competence Part Qualification
 - In public comment until 4 August
- Foundational Learning Competence Communication in English: Curriculum Framework
- Foundational Learning Competence Mathematical Literacy: Curriculum Framework
- Provide detailed specifications of knowledge, content, applied skills, range statements and assessment requirements.

Content of FLC

Communication	Mathematical Literacy
Writing	Number
Speaking and Listening	Finance
Visual Literacy	Data and chance
Language Structure and Usage	Measurement
Study Skills	Space and Shape
Workplace Terminology	Patterns and Relationships

Item bank development

- Item bank development
 - Training developers
 - Development and moderation of items
 - Trialling of items
 - Review of items after trialling
 - Included into the bank with relevant statistics
- Test development
 - Specification table developed and piloted
 - Stored items with relevant statistics retrieved as required

What is the external assessment for Foundational Learning Competence?

The final assessment in each learning area consists of:

- 60 questions
- multiple-choice format
- 2,5 hours in length
- Across 3 levels: elementary, intermediate, advanced

Specifications Table: Mathematical Literacy

- 6 Elements

– Number	10	Finance	12
– Data and Chance	14	Measurement	8
– Space and Shape	8		
– Patterns and Relationships			8

- Three Levels

– Elementary	12 - 15
– Intermediate	30 - 36
– Advanced	12 - 15

Specification Table: Communications

- Three sections
 - A: Extended writing comprehension 25
 - B: Short extracts – language 20
 - C: Visual Literacy 15
- Three Levels
 - Elementary 12 - 15
 - Intermediate 30 - 36
 - Advanced 12 - 15

Is a multiple choice format appropriate for assessment of FLC Communications?

- Multiple choice testing is:
- efficient
- effective in assessing a wide range of knowledge, skills, attitudes and abilities
- Good question development , proper moderation produce probing questions: conceptual understanding, analysis and evaluation
- Skills required in writing
- Afternoon session

Is there any assessment opportunity to assess writing skills?

- The IEB recognises the importance of extended writing in various forms
- It has undertaken the development of an assessment that focusses on writing, based on FLC curriculum
- Focus: report writing, summarising, evaluating and substantiation of a particular position
- Assessment details should be available in the next few months
- Not compulsory but available for those who want it

Learning assumed to be in place

A learner who is competent at ABET Level 3 in the learning area should be able to manage the FLC learning programme.

Do all learners have to do the Foundational Learning Competence assessment?

- NSC learners i.e. since 2008, who passed both English and Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
- The employer or training centre may require that learners complete the FLC assessment even if they have completed Grade 12
- People with a Grade 12 certificate prior to 2008 that does not include Mathematics will be required to at least do the FLC assessment for Mathematical Literacy
- Note: potentially negative impact on learning if a learner does not have a good understanding in FLC requirements

What is a Placement assessment?

A placement assessment

- designed to assess learner understanding and level of competence in the learning area across a range of competence levels
- Purpose: to determine the level of the learning programme into which a learner should be placed to continue learning effectively
- Safeguard intended to ensure that the demands of the learning programme match the learner's level of competence in the learning area.

Who will provide the Foundational Learning Competence programmes?

The IEB will:

- Record a list of providers who offer the FLC learning programme
- database will be available on the IEB website (www.ieb.co.za under the Adult section)
- Those wishing to engage the services of a FLC provider should consult the database.

Who will provide the Foundational Learning Competence programmes? Cont.

- Recording, not accreditation
- Process in folders: developmental
- Expertise in the teaching and management of provisioning in the learning areas
- Costs: R 500
- QCTO costs

Where will the FLC external assessment be conducted?

- at IEB recognised assessment centres;
- Initially assessment centres will be available in major cities;
- gradually will be expanded to include out-lying areas;
- The IEB will place a list of assessment centres on its website (www.ieb.co.za under the Adult section)
- When registering learners, the appropriate assessment centre will be selected

What are the criteria for an organisation to be recognised as an IEB assessment centre for Foundational Learning Competence?

Key criteria:

- Accessibility
- Health and safety
- Security
- Appropriate resources e.g. desks, chairs
- Public transport availability

What is the difference between a recorded skills development provider of Foundational Learning Competence and a recognised IEB assessment centre for Foundational Learning Competence?

- Recorded FLC provider: provides the FLC learning programme in one or both of the learning areas e.g. learning material, facilitation for learners who wish to write the FLC external examination
- IEB recognised assessment centre: a venue at which the examination takes place.
- An organisation may be both a provider and an IEB recognised Assessment Centre.

Where can we find out more about the FLC?

- From the IEB website (www.ieb.co.za under the Adult section)
- From the IEB offices by calling 011-4839700 and speaking to one of the following:
 - Themba Ntsizwane (ntsizwanet@ieb.co.za)
 - Gigs Masala (masalab@ieb.co.za)
 - Vicky Masasanya (masasanyav@ieb.co.za)
- QCTO: Rebecca Matsheni

What has been done so far

- Curriculum and part qualification documents have been produced and have been placed on the website
- Public comment period until 4 August
- Frequently Asked Questions and answers
- QCTO A4 brochure
- Z-fold brochure
- 1 x A4 4-page newsletter
- Provider registration - forms

After today

- Frequently Asked Questions to the website
- Today's information presentations to the website
- Downloadable brochures will be developed on an on-going basis
- Assessments are available

Way Forward

- Advocacy: who needs what?
 - General information
 - Targeted information for:
 - Qualification developers information
 - Provider information
 - Assessment centre information
 - Learner information
 - QA organisations
 - Curriculum workshops
 - Information sessions: IEB, key stakeholders

Thank you!