



BCONSULT

Further Education Training Certificate
PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

NQF Level 3 | SAQA ID 58785 | 120 Points | 12 Months

Production Technology – NQF Level 3

SAQA ID: 58785 | Credits: 120 | Duration: 12-month | QCTO Learnership

1. Course Overview

The National Certificate: Production Technology is designed to equip learners with practical and theoretical knowledge essential for supporting manufacturing, engineering, and technology operations. This qualification develops the competencies required to identify production parameters, implement basic production strategies, and contribute effectively to efficient, safe, and quality-driven production environments.

As the second qualification in a structured learning pathway for Production Technology, this programme provides foundational expertise for individuals pursuing careers in manufacturing and related fields, while also preparing learners for supervisory and technical roles in production planning, control, and maintenance.

2. Learning Outcomes

On completion of this programme, learners will be able to:

- Perform production maintenance activities and identify and report operational irregularities.
- Apply fundamental concepts, theories, and techniques of production systems.
- Implement production planning, scheduling, and control methods.
- Apply quality control and quality assurance practices to enhance production efficiency.
- Communicate effectively within a production team and contribute to collaborative workplace processes.

3. A Qualified Learner Will Be Able To:

- Conduct preventive and corrective maintenance to ensure continuous production flow.
- Utilise key production methodologies such as Just-in-Time (JIT), Lean Manufacturing, Total Quality Management (TQM), and process optimisation.
- Interpret and execute production plans aligned with organisational goals and resource capabilities.
- Apply quality standards, identify non-conformances, and participate in continuous improvement processes.
- Demonstrate effective workplace communication, teamwork, and problem-solving within manufacturing environments.

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Entry Requirements

Learners are assumed to have achieved the following prior to enrolment:

- Communication at NQF Level 2.
- Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 2.
- Basic understanding of production technology principles, terminology, and systems at NQF Level 2.
- Competence in applying quality standards and contributing to efficient production processes at NQF Level 2.

Access to the Qualification: Open access. However, the nature of the production environment may present challenges to learners with certain physical disabilities depending on the context.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):

Learners may achieve this qualification wholly or in part through RPL. Applications may be made to accredited providers or ETQAs for recognition against the relevant unit standards or exit-level outcomes.

4. International Comparability

Extensive benchmarking indicates that this qualification is unique in its comprehensive integration of production systems, planning, maintenance, and quality management at this level. While aspects of the qualification align with global best practices found in countries such as Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom, South Africa leads in offering a holistic, entry-level qualification specific to *Production Technology*.

Comparable international qualifications include:

- Australia: *Certificate in Manufacturing Studies* (Level 3/4) – Focused on materials and process control.
- New Zealand: *National Certificate in Manufacturing and Engineering* (Level 3) – Focused on machinery operations.
- United Kingdom: *Certificate in Production Line Control* (Level 4) – Focused on production processes and scheduling.

The South African qualification stands out for its integrated emphasis on production efficiency, quality assurance, workplace safety, and team communication.

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5. Occupational Trainer – NQF Level 3 Certification

This qualification is registered at **NQF Level 3** and is intended as a foundational component for learners progressing toward higher-level qualifications such as the **Further Education and Training Certificate: Production Technology (NQF Level 4)**.

It serves as a critical step in the occupational pathway for **Production Technologists** under the **Occupational Qualifications Sub-Framework (OQSF)**.

6. Potential Career Opportunities

Graduates of this qualification can pursue roles such as:

- **Production Operator**
- **Production Maintenance Assistant**
- **Quality Control Assistant**
- **Production Scheduler**
- **Manufacturing Support Technician**
- **Junior Process Controller**

The qualification also provides a strong foundation for progression into supervisory or specialist positions within manufacturing, engineering, and technology sectors.

7. Learning Options

This qualification may be achieved through the following learning pathways:

- **Full-time Study:** Delivered by accredited training institutions with integrated theoretical and practical components.
- **Workplace-Based Learning:** Blended learning combining on-the-job experience with structured classroom instruction.
- **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):** For experienced practitioners seeking formal recognition of existing competencies.
- **Part-time or Modular Learning:** Suitable for employed learners pursuing professional upskilling within production environments.

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