



Dear All Engineering Students

Currently, the School of Engineering offers two types of undergraduate programmes, namely:

- (1) 12 National Diploma qualifications (NQF level 6)
- (2) 13 Baccalaureus Technologiae (BTech) degrees (NQF level 7)

Due to the new HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS SUB-FRAMEWORK (HEQSF) from 2020 onwards, Unisa will offer 16 new undergraduate qualifications and ten postgraduate engineering qualifications aligned HEQSF.

The new engineering qualifications will include the following:

Undergraduate qualifications			Postgraduate qualifications		
Name	Minimum duration (years)	NQF level	Name	Minimum duration (years)	NQF level
Eight 360-credit Diplomas in Engineering	3	6	Eight Bachelor of Engineering Technology Honours	1	8
Eight Advanced Diplomas in Engineering	1	7	One generic* master's degree (Master of Engineering)	3+	9
<i>The "generic" master's and doctorate degrees may be in any engineering field defined by the BET Hons qualification.</i>			One generic* doctorate (Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering)	3+	10

Once the legal registration process of the new qualifications with the relevant authorities has been completed, the School of Engineering will start recruiting students for the new qualifications.

The "teach-out" process

1. 2019 was the last year that new students could enrol for the current undergraduate qualifications, i.e. National Diploma and Bachelor Of Technology (BTech). **In 2020, no new students will be allowed to register for these "old" qualifications.**

2. Engineering students already registered for these qualifications are required to finish their studies according to a teach-out plan in line with Unisa rules. This plan stipulates the following:
- a) Students have to complete National Diploma qualifications within five years. This means that they must complete the National Diploma no later than **2023** when the offering ends.
 - The students who do not manage to obtain the National Diploma in this timeframe will be transferred to an equivalent NQF level qualification after 2023. Unisa's credit exemption rules will apply to such transfers.
 - From 2020 to 2023, only the students already in the system, **that is, those students that enrolled in 2019 or earlier**, will be allowed to register modules and finish their qualification.
 - b) The student has to complete the BTech qualifications within three years. This means they must complete the qualifications no later than **2021** when the offering ends.
 - The students who do not manage to obtain their BTech degree in this timeframe will be transferred to an equivalent NQF level qualification after 2021. Unisa's credit exemption rules will apply to such transfers.
 - From 2020 to 2021, only the students already in the system, **that is those students that enrolled in 2019 or earlier**, will be allowed to enrol and finish their qualification.
3. The introduction of the new HEQSF qualifications will enable engineering students to further their studies from Diploma up to doctoral levels, nationally or internationally, as Unisa promotes lifelong learning.

Should you seek any further clarity, please contact the School of Engineering at Tel 011 471 2299/9228/9063 and Email: cset@unisa.ac.za

Regards



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