



Media Statement

New teachers required to provide valid police clearance certificate when registering with SACE

15 January 2019, Centurion. The South African Council for Educators, a statutory body responsible for regulating the teaching profession, took a decision in March 2018 that all persons applying for registration with SACE need to produce a valid Police Clearance Certificate which is not older than six months.

The rationale behind this very progressive decision is that, Council wants to assure the public that registered teachers are beyond reproach. Council and its stakeholders believe in the protection of the integrity and standing of the profession.

The decision has been effective as from the 1st January 2019

Council in implementing this decision has established a fit-to-teach committee which will adjudicate and advise it on all applicants who have had a conviction in terms of the Clearance Certificate to determine the fitness of such individuals being admitted to the profession.

Only cases of a serious nature, which may include amongst other sexual cases, murder, robbery will be treated seriously and may have an implication of denying such individuals admission to the profession. The above list is not conclusive however each case will be looked at individually.

Individuals who will be affected by this decision are those that will be registering with Council for the first time on the SACE System.

Council appreciates the positive responses and support from the profession, in particular teacher unions, for giving this decision a thumbs up.

Issued by the South African Council for Educators (SACE)

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