

DBE to abide by court decision to publish matric results

Following the decision to stop the practice of publishing National Senior Certificate results on media platforms, the Department of Basic Education says it has received representations from a vast array of organisations and individuals as well as an urgent court application on the matter.



Image: [SANews.gov.za](https://www.sanews.gov.za) on Facebook

In a statement on Sunday, the department said it was guided by the need to comply with all the legal obligations but in the final analysis, the Constitution commands the DBE to act in the best interest of the learner.

“In a quest to strike this delicate balance of complying with PoPIA and act in the best interest of the learner, the Department has been engaged with a number of role players including the Information Regulator and the South African National Editors Forum (Sanef),” the department said.

The department said that in view of the latest developments with regards to the release of the 2021 Matric Results and the impending litigation, the Department has decided that it will abide by the decision of the Court.

The Department has communicated its position to stakeholders it has engaged including Sanef and other parties.



PoPIA and the legal position of publishing matric results

Nadine Mather 12 Jan 2022



“Meanwhile the Department urges candidates to register on the DBE website to view their results when they become available. Candidates will have to go through a two-step verification process before receiving confirmation of their registration. A 13-digit ID number and the examination number will be required for registration,” the department said.

The DBE website is zero-rated, which means learners can access it whether they have data or not.

The department said that more than 10,000 people had successfully registered by noon on Sunday.

Matric results are expected to be released on 21 January.

Update 18 January 2022: The Pretoria High Court has ruled that the DBE is “to publish the National Senior Certificate results on public platforms (media platforms) as was the practice in previous years, concurrently with making available the results to the schools that had been attended by the learners”. This follows the urgent application by matric pupil, Anlé Spies with the support of AfriForum and Maroela Media, requesting the court to overturn the decision not to publicly publish the NSC results.

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