



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is CEEPSA?

CEEPSA is the acronym for the Council of Equine and Equestrian Professionals of South Africa NPC.

Why was CEEPSA founded?

The "horse" (i.e. equine and equestrian) industry in South Africa comprises over 330 000 horses and is represented across income brackets, from the lowest to highest earners. Approximately 100 000 people are income earners in this industry.

Historically, the equine and equestrian industry in South Africa has been insular and fractured in delivery to the consumer. We identified a need to provide for a holistic, united and non-exclusionary forum for all persons engaged in a professional capacity as a service, or product supplier in the equine and equestrian industry in South Africa and; to bind these practitioners to the prime consideration of the welfare of the horse before profit in the pursuit of excellence in their delivery of service or product.

A large motivational factor to the formation of CEEPSA is to provide a unifying forum for all, in an industry which is governed by the singular cohesive factor, the horse.

Why should I join CEEPSA?

When you join CEEPSA, you are demonstrating to clients, employers, Government and the public at large that you are serious about your commitment to the equine and equestrian field. You are, for instance, not merely a riding school owner, instructor, equestrian tourism guide or competitive rider but a professional knowledgeable about your field that deserves community recognition.

When you join CEEPSA, become part of a community. Each professional needs supporting group services because certain activities are undertaken more effectively and efficiently than if undertaken alone. CEEPSA seeks to provide you with these services that you cannot find elsewhere.

At a more philosophical level, CEEPSA believes that South Africa should have an equine and equestrian industry with professional integrity. CEEPSA is happy to champion this cause on behalf of its members.

What are the benefits of CEEPSA membership?

Being a member of a professional body shows that you take your career seriously. It reassures employers and clients that you are committed to your professional development and are part of a community of like-minded individuals and organisations.

Like accountants, doctors and other professionals, equine and equestrian industry professionals need to keep their skills and knowledge up to date. CEEPSA members must earn a minimum number of Continuing Professional Development (“**CPD**”) points each year.

CEEPSA membership affords you the opportunity to be registered against one of two professional designations with the South African Qualifications Authority (“**SAQA**”) on their National Learners Records Database.

Membership of CEEPSA makes you part of an organisation that sets national standards for the equine and equestrian industry through its professional standards, based on international best practise, it provides a network and platform to explore international and national opportunities and acts as a conduit for raising awareness and voicing opinions on key industry issues to individuals and Government.

What is CEEPSA’s legal status?

CEEPSA is a non-profit company with members, duly incorporated in terms of the Companies Act (Act no. 71 of 2008) under registration number: 2013/218031/08.

Under what Government mandate does CEEPSA operate?

CEEPSA has been recognised by SAQA as a non-statutory professional body with registered professional designations on the National Qualifications Framework (“**NQF**”) in terms of the National Qualifications Framework Act (Act no. 67 of 2008) (“**NQF Act**”).

What is the National Qualifications Framework (NQF)?

The NQF is a comprehensive system approved by the Minister of Higher Education and Training for the classification, registration, publication and articulation of quality assured national qualifications. The NQF was established under the South African Qualifications Framework Act (Act no. 58 of 1995) and continues to exist under Chapter 4 of the NQF Act which came into effect on 1 June 2009.

Where can I find the published notice of CEEPSA’s professional body recognition and professional designation registration?

The notice conferring CEEPSA's recognition as a professional body was published under Government Notice No. 1001 of 23 October 2015 in Government Gazette No. 39317. A copy of this Gazette can be made available on written request to admin@ceepsa.org.

What is a “professional body”?

A professional body is defined in Section 1 of the NQF Act as any body of expert practitioners in an occupational field, and includes an occupational body.

What is CEEPSA's professional body identification number issued by SAQA?

CEEPSA's professional body identification number is no. 985.

What is a “professional designation”?

A professional designation is defined in Section 1 of the NQF Act as a title or status conferred by a professional body in recognition of a person's expertise and/or right to practice in an occupational field.

Our membership is recognised by SAQA so that your expertise in the equine and/or equestrian industry can be fully recognised by your peers, clients and the public at large.

What are CEEPSA's registered professional designations with SAQA?

CEEPSA has two professional designations registered on the NQF, namely that of:

- (i) *Equine Practitioner* under designation number [647](#); and
- (ii) *Equestrian Practitioner* under designation number [648](#).

Please follow the above links to the relevant SAQA Professional Bodies and Professional Designations page where you can get more information as to these two designations.

What is an “Equine Practitioner”?

An equine practitioner follows a career working with horses (including donkeys and mules), but not necessarily riding them. The occupations catered to for these practitioners are in the fields of care, management, education, welfare and auxiliary and complimentary services for equines.

What is an “Equestrian Practitioner”?

An equestrian practitioner is engaged in a career pertaining to the riding of horses and associated skills and, from which they earn all, or part of their livelihood.

What is the definition of a “qualification”?

A qualification is defined in Section 1 of the NQF Act as a registered national qualification or part-qualification on the NQF. A qualification constitutes the formal recognition of the achievement of the required number and range of NQF credits resulting from work-based learning and consisting of registered unit standards.

A unit standard is the description on the NQF of the expected outcomes to be achieved by a person in order to attain a qualification or part-qualification.

What is an “occupational qualification” and is it the same as a “qualification”?

Occupational qualifications exist in terms of the Skills Development Act (Act no. 97 of 1998) (“**Skills Development Act**”) and are defined in section 1 of the Skills Development Act as qualifications associated with a trade, occupation or profession resulting in learning in and for the workplace.

These are a special category of registered national qualifications as contemplated in the NQF Act, and fall within the object and purpose of the Skills Development Act.

In order to obtain an occupational qualification recognised on the NQF in the equine and equestrian industry, you would have to successfully complete a trade or occupational learning programme with a registered skills development provider.

What is “Recognition of Prior Learning”?

The Recognition of Prior Learning (“**RPL**”) is a process through which formal, non-formal and informal learning are measured, mediated for recognition across different contexts and certified against the requirements for credit, access, inclusion or advancement in the formal education and training system or workplace.

The aim is to make it possible to obtain formal recognition for knowledge gained throughout life, such as in workplaces and own reading or experiences. The RPL process also entails providing support to a candidate to ensure that knowledge is discovered and displayed in terms of a relevant qualification registered on the NQF.

CEEPSA offers RPL to its members through the assessment of a member’s portfolio of evidence and through evidence based assessments. These assessments are conducted through the Equestrian Qualifications Authority of Southern Africa NPC (registration number: 2013/065969/08) (“**EQASA**”).

What is the difference between CEEPSA, EQASA and the SAEF?

As indicated in this document, CEEPSA is a registered professional body that represents the interests of the entire equine (non-riding) and equestrian (riding) industry on matters of education and service delivery. In addition, CEEPSA is recognised through a service level agreement with the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (“**QCTO**”) as the Qualifications Development Partner for Equestrian Coach/Instructor/Trainer/Teacher/Riding Master qualifications at NQF Levels 5, 6 and 7.

EQASA is an independent external summative assessment body. It is listed with SAQA as a provider of RPL and is recognised as an Assessment Quality Partner through a service level agreement with the QCTO to externally assess Equestrian Coach/Instructor/Trainer/Teacher/Riding Master qualifications at NQF levels 5, 6 and

7. EQASA is a member of CEEPSA and a member of the International Group for Equestrian Qualifications.

The South African Equestrian Federation ("**SAEF**") is a national administrative body and governs equestrian sport competitions in South Africa. It is a member of the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee ("**SASCOC**") and the FEI.

How many CEEPSA recognised occupational pathways are there in the equine and equestrian industry?

CEEPSA recognises the following occupational pathways including, but not limited to, the following industry specific sectors:

a) Equine and Equestrian Education and Training Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Riding Schools;
- GET, FVET and HET Training providers;
- Instructors;
- Trainers;
- Teachers;
- Coaches;
- Skills development providers;
- Programme co-ordinators and presenters;
- Publishers;
- Facilitators of Learning;
- Assessors, Moderators and Verifiers of:
 - General Education & Training - Department of Education – National Curriculum: Equine Studies
 - Further Vocational Education & Training – Skills Development Programmes and National Qualifications: NQF 1 NQF 58493 – Equine & Equestrian Practices (GET); NQF 2 NQF 71491 – Equine Studies (Nat Cert); NQF 3 NQF 67589 – Equine Practices (Nat Cert); NQF 4 NQF 71469 Equine Practices (FET)
 - Higher Education: National Diploma – Equine Science; Bachelor's Degree in Technology – Equine Science

b) Equine Health & Wellbeing Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Veterinarians;
- Farriers;
- Bare foot trimmers;
- Equine Dental Technicians;
- Equine Welfare Officers;
- Equine Physiotherapists;
- Acupuncturists;

- Chiropractors;
- Body Workers;
- Complimentary Therapists

c) Equine Care and Management Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Professional Groom;
- Head Groom;
- Stable Yard Manager

d) Equine Breeding Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Geneticist;
- Breeder;
- Stud Yard Groom;
- Stud Yard Head Groom;
- Stud Yard Manager;
- Dealers;
- Auctioneers

e) Equine Equipment Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Loriner;
- Saddle Fitter;
- Saddler;
- Tack and equipment retailer

f) Equine Assisted Therapy for Humans Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Team Builders;
- Occupational Therapists;
- Psychologists

g) Equine Transport Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Horse Box manufacturer;
- Transport agents;
- Transport operators/carriers; Import/export brokers

h) Equine Agronomy Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Equine Nutritionist;
- Researchers;
- Feed merchants;
- raw material producers

i) Equine Insurance Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Brokers;
- Underwriters

j) Equestrian Tourism Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Assistant Guide;
- Equestrian Tourism Guide;
- Equestrian Lead Guide

k) Equestrian Security and Law Enforcement (Mounted services) Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Armed Forces;
- Mounted Police (SAPS, METRO);
- Mounted private security officer

l) Equestrian Competitive Sport Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Venue facilitator/groundsman;
- Judge;
- Technical delegate;
- Course designer;
- Arena surface specialists;
- Stewards;
- Professional riders;
- Commentators;
- Show officials.

m) Equestrian Flat Racing Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Race Horse Trainer;

- Jockey;
- Work Rider;
- Spelling Farm Manager;
- Handler;
- Starter;
- Riding Master;
- Race Day Officials (specimen collector; clerk of scales; identifier; Stipendiary stewards)
- Studbook keeper;
- Racing Control Executive; Reg & Licensing Supervisor).

n) Arts and Entertainment Sector

The following sub-sectors are recognised:

- Equine performing artists;
- Event manager;
- Equine Interest Publishers;
- Equine Journalists;
- Equine Photographer/Videographer;
- Equine Fine Artist

We are accessible to answer any questions put to us in writing and addressed to us at admin@ceepsa.org.