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**SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY**  
**REGISTERED QUALIFICATION THAT HAS PASSED THE END DATE:**

**Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Cover Fitter**

SAQA QUAL ID		QUALIFICATION TITLE		
103187		Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Cover Fitter		
ORIGINATOR				
Development Quality Partner - FPMSETA (MAN)				
PRIMARY OR DELEGATED QUALITY ASSURANCE FUNCTIONARY			NQF SUB-FRAMEWORK	
-			OQSF - Occupational Qualifications Sub-framework	
QUALIFICATION TYPE	FIELD	SUBFIELD		
Occupational Certificate	Field 06 - Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology	Manufacturing and Assembly		
ABET BAND	MINIMUM CREDITS	PRE-2009 NQF LEVEL	NQF LEVEL	QUAL CLASS
Undefined	52	Not Applicable	NQF Level 02	Regular-ELOAC
REGISTRATION STATUS		SAQA DECISION NUMBER	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE
Passed the End Date - Status was "Reregistered"		EXCO 0425/24	2018-09-12	2025-12-30
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT		
2026-12-30		2029-12-30		

*In all of the tables in this document, both the pre-2009 NQF Level and the NQF Level is shown. In the text (purpose statements, qualification rules, etc), any references to NQF Levels are to the pre-2009 levels unless specifically stated otherwise.*

This qualification does not replace any other qualification and is not replaced by any other qualification.

**PURPOSE AND RATIONALE OF THE QUALIFICATION**

**Purpose:**

An Upholstery Cover Fitter fits and attaches prepared covers and loose material panels onto prepared upholstery frames using staples, tacks and/or glue.

**Rationale:**

This qualification will equip learners with the necessary skills and competence to operate as Upholstery Cover Fitters to cover wide range objects with fabric, leather, rexine or other upholstery material. After successful completion of this qualification, the learner will be a skilled and capable of fitting upholstery covers to furniture using both traditional and modern techniques, materials and fabrics to produce aesthetically pleasing and fit for purpose consumer products.

Learners will find employment as cover fitters and upholstery repairers. These skills will also open opportunities for self-employment. Target groups identified include school leavers with a NQF Level 1 qualification or persons who has been working in the furniture industry without formal qualifications and has the desire to formalise their skills and knowledge.

Employers will benefit from appointing qualified workers in terms of increased productivity and ability to be competitive in the international market and seek markets abroad supplying quality upholstered furniture and furnishings.

## **LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING**

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):

RPL for access to the external integrated summative assessment:

Accredited providers and approved workplaces must apply the internal assessment criteria specified in the related curriculum document to establish and confirm prior learning. Accredited providers and workplaces must confirm prior learning by issuing a statement of result or certifying a work experience record.

RPL for access to the qualification:

Accredited providers and approved workplaces may recognise prior learning against the relevant access requirements.

Entry Requirements:

- NQF Level 1 qualification with Mathematics.

## **RECOGNISE PREVIOUS LEARNING?**

Y

## **QUALIFICATION RULES**

This qualification is made up of the following compulsory Knowledge Practical Skills and Work Experience Modules:

Knowledge Modules:

- 683401-000-00-00-KM-01, Basic Principles for Manufacturing of Upholstered Furniture, Level 2, 4 Credits.
- 683401-000-00-00-KM-03, Upholstered Furniture Basic Cover Fitting, Level 2, 8 Credits.

Total number of credits for Knowledge Modules: 12.

Practical Skill Modules:

- 683401-000-00-00-PM-02, Cover Prepared Upholstered Frames with Fabric and Other Materials, Level 2, 20 Credits.

Total number of credits for Practical Skill Modules: 20.

Work Experience Modules:

- 683401-000-00-00-WM-02, Upholstery Furniture Frame Cover Fitting Processes, Level 2, 24 Credits.

Total number of credits for Work Experience Modules: 24.

## **EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES**

1. Fit and attach prepared covers and loose material panels onto prepared upholstery frames using staples, tacks and/or glue.

## **ASSOCIATED ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

Associated Assessment Criteria for Exit Level Outcome 1:

- Prepared upholstery frames are inspected to verify conformance with specifications.
- Prepared covers are inspected, and faults and defects identified, including type of covers supplied, quantity of covers, fabric type, sizes and seam allowances, fabric flaws, sewing faults and pile direction.
- Raw materials, consumables and ancillary materials required for covering upholstery furniture are identified, selected and inspected.
- Covers are fit and secured to prepared upholstery frames using visible and concealed finishing techniques and using relief cuts to relieve tension on the fabric and to achieve the specified finish.
- Covers are stretched and strained over the frame and firmly secured using the magnetic tack hammer and tacks, pins, staple gun, and staples, needles, and thread.
- Covered frames are inspected ensuring fabric tension is suitable and smooth, patterns match, pile runs in the correct direction, and there is no distortion of the seats.

Integrated Assessment:

Integrated Formative Assessment:

The skills development provider will use the curriculum to guide them on the stipulated internal assessment criteria and weighting. They will also apply the scope of practical skills and applied knowledge as stipulated by the internal assessment criteria. This formative assessment leads to entrance into the integrated external summative assessment.

Integrated Summative Assessment:

An external integrated summative assessment, conducted through the relevant Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) Assessment Quality Partner is required for the issuing of this qualification. The external integrated summative assessment will focus on the Exit Level Outcomes and Associated Assessment Criteria.

## **INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY**

This qualification was compared with components of two qualifications, namely the:

- National Certificate in Furniture (Restoration and Recovery Upholstery) from New Zealand.
- Diploma in Upholstery from the United Kingdom.

New Zealand:

The National Certificate in Furniture (Restoration and Recovery Upholstery) is at level 4 and the credit value is 158. It refers to the restoration and refurbishment of a variety of furniture that can be modern or old, and to the manufacture of: one-off upholstered items to order. It differs from manufacturing upholstery in that it mainly involves single unit jobs with unique specifications. It often requires the restoration of furniture to a client customised requirements. The restoration and recovery upholsterer needs to be multi-skilled and knowledgeable in a wide variety of furniture types. The unit standards cover aspects such as:

- Prepare and operate a sewing machine for upholstery for basic sewing operations.
- Fill cushions in craft upholstery.
- Set and operate an overlocking sewing machine for upholstery 3.
- Set and operate a hand-held vertical foam cutting machine for craft upholstery.
- Fit intermediate upholstery coverings to furniture.
- Carry out deep buttoning on upholstery coverings.
- Carry out deep buttoning on upholstery covers.
- Prepare and operate an upholstery sewing machine for advanced sewing.
- Prepare and operate an upholstery sewing machine for leather sewing.

United Kingdom:

The National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Diploma in Upholstery is at Level 3. The minimum credit value for this qualification is 55 and it follows on the Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Upholstery. The qualification equips learners with skills and capabilities of creating ergonomic and comfortable furniture using both traditional and modern techniques, materials and fabrics and to produce aesthetically pleasing and fit for purpose consumer products. Units include aspects such as:

- Fit and finish top covers.
- Upholster standard items of modern furniture.
- Upholster standard items of traditional furniture.

Conclusion:

This qualification compares well with the components of the compared qualifications in terms of content and complexity.

## **ARTICULATION OPTIONS**

Horizontal Articulation:

This qualification articulates horizontally with the following qualification currently being developed:

- Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Frame Preparer, Level 2.

Vertical Articulation:

This qualification articulates vertically with the following qualification currently being developed:

- Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Cover Fitter and Template Maker; Level 3.

## **MODERATION OPTIONS**

N/A

## **CRITERIA FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ASSESSORS**

N/A

## **NOTES**

Qualifying for External Assessment

In order to qualify for an external assessment, learners must provide proof of completion of all required modules by means of statements of results and work experience.

Additional Legal or Physical Entry Requirements:

None.

Criteria for the Accreditation of Providers

Accreditation of providers will be done against the criteria as reflected in the relevant curriculum on the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) website.

The curriculum title and code is: Upholstery Cover Fitter: 683401-000-00-02.

Trades encompassed:

This qualification encompasses the following trades as recorded on the NLRD:

- This is not a trade qualification.

Assessment Quality Partner (AQP):

National Artisan Moderating Body (NAMB).

Parent Qualification:

- 683401-000-00-00, Furniture Upholsterer, Level 4, 549 Credits.

Derived qualifications related to the occupational certificate: upholstery cover fitter qualification

- 683401-000-00-01, Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Frame Preparer, Level 2, 56 Credits.
- 683401-000-00-03, Occupational Certificate: Upholstery Cover Fitter and Template Maker, Level 3, 72 Credits.

**LEARNING PROGRAMMES RECORDED AGAINST THIS QUALIFICATION:**

**NONE**

**PROVIDERS CURRENTLY ACCREDITED TO OFFER THIS QUALIFICATION:**

*This information shows the current accreditations (i.e. those not past their accreditation end dates), and is the most complete record available to SAQA as of today. Some Primary or Delegated Quality Assurance Functionaries have a lag in their recording systems for provider accreditation, in turn leading to a lag in notifying SAQA of all the providers that they have accredited to offer qualifications and unit standards, as well as any extensions to accreditation end dates. The relevant Primary or Delegated Quality Assurance Functionary should be notified if a record appears to be missing from here.*

**NONE**

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