

# HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974

## REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF NUTRITIONISTS

Published under Government Notice 726 in *Government Gazette* 31213 of 4 July 2008.

The Minister of Health has, in terms of [section 61](#)(1) read with [section 24](#) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule.

- [1.](#)
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### SCHEDULE

1. In this Schedule any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning and, unless the context otherwise indicates -

“**board**” means the Professional Board for Dietetics established in terms of [section 15](#)(1) of the Act;

“**independent practice**” means the practicing of the profession of nutrition by a nutritionist for his or her own account, either in *solus* practice, or as a partner in a partnership, or as an associate in an association with other practitioners registered under the Act, or as director of a company exempted from the provisions of the Act in terms of [section 54A](#) of the Act;

“**nutritionist**” means a person registered as such in terms of the Act;

“**public service**” means a service rendered by the State at the national, provincial and local level of government, and includes organizations which function under the auspices or are largely subsidized by the State or recognized by the board for the purpose of these regulations:

“**section**” means a section of the Act;

“**the Act**” means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974).

2. **Registration as a nutritionist**

The registrar may register as a nutritionist any person who holds any one of the following qualifications, which shall include experiential training obtained under supervision of an appropriately qualified and registered practitioner in an approved training facility:

**EXAMINING AUTHORITY AND QUALIFICATION**

**ABBREVIATION FOR REGISTRATION**

**University of KwaZulu-Natal** - Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition plus one year diploma in Community Nutrition

BSc (Human Nutrition) Plus Dipl (Community Nutrition) KwaZulu-Natal

**University of Venda** - Bachelor of Science in Nutrition

BSc (Nutrition) Venda

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in these regulations, any person who worked as a nutritionist for a minimum period of five years prior to date of promulgation of these regulations may apply to the board for registration as a nutritionist, and the board may at its discretion exempt such person from the requirements of regulation 2.
4. The registrar may register as a nutritionist any person who has been exempted from the provisions of these regulations in terms of regulation 3.

**5. Registration categories for the registration of nutritionists**

- (1) The registrar may register an applicant as a nutritionist in any one of the following registration categories:
  - (a) Public service; or
  - (b) independent practice
- (2) The registrar may register a person as a nutritionist in the category public service if such a person -
  - (a) holds any of the qualifications referred to in regulation 2; or
  - (b) has been exempted from the provisions of these regulations in terms of regulation 3; or
  - (c) performs community service in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act.
- (3) The registrar may register a person as a nutritionist in the category independent practice if such a person -
  - (a) holds any of the qualifications referred to in regulation 2;
  - (b) completed community service in terms of [section 24A](#) of the Act; and
  - (c) passed the board examination for entry into independent practice.

**6. Repeal**

The regulations published as Government Notice No. R. 769 of 13 June 2003 are hereby repealed upon promulgation of these regulations.

**(Signed)**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH**  
**Date: 12-06-2008**