

FOR PSA MEMBERS: EASTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

20-10-2020

## Changes to accreditation towards acquiring Nursing Diploma at Eastern Cape Lilitha College of Nursing

Members would recall that each year the Department of Health issues a circular inviting employees to apply for study leave. According to the policy the study leave would be granted for maximum period of a year. If the period of study leave exceeds 1 year, it would then depend on the discretion by head of the department.

Members would further recall that Lilitha Nursing College previously offered 4-year nursing Diploma, and this is no longer the case as South African Nursing Council has phased out the 4-year Diploma. Since the 4 year Diploma has been phased out, Lilitha will now offer 3 year Diploma and the Eastern Cape Lilitha principal is currently working on getting accreditation for 3 year Diploma expected to commence in 2021.

The circular inviting employees to apply for study leave is expected to come out in November 2020 and members are encouraged to apply once it is out. In a skills development meeting the employer made it clear that the priority will be given to Enrolled Nurses and Staff Nurses for a 3-year Diploma. Study leave will also be granted to qualifying candidates even if they intend applying to private colleges, but they must have an acceptance letter when applying. Most of the colleges are yet to be accredited since this change in the curriculum.

The employer undertook to look at the clause dealing with the 1-year study leave which means that clause might be reviewed. Qualifying members are encouraged to apply once the circular is out. Members are also encouraged to contact Mr Samkelo Mzuku on [samkelo.mzuku@psa.co.za](mailto:samkelo.mzuku@psa.co.za) for information and clarity.

The PSA is monitoring progress in this regard and will keep the members abreast of the developments.

GENERAL MANAGER