



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **EDUCATION LABOUR RELATIONS COUNCIL (ELRC)**

29-10-2025

Feedback: Special ELRC Bargaining Meeting - 28 October 2025

Funding for upgrading of Grade-R qualifications

The employer reported that it was initially established that 7 294 Grade-R Practitioners were appointed in public schools without NQF level 6, with 6 957 possessing NQF 4 or 5, whilst 337 did not have NQF level 4. The initial engagement with provincial departments revealed that 2 121 showed interest towards studying the Diploma in Grade-R Teaching. Subsequently, funding was secured from the ETDP-SETA for the said employees. However, the final number showed reduction from 2 121 to 2 117. Although UNISA had earlier advised that applications were closed, the window will be open from 1 November to 1 December 2025 for the identified cohort of Grade-R Practitioners only. UNISA further advised that it no longer enrolls students for a Diploma in Grade R, thus the Practitioners must apply for the Bachelor of Education in Foundation Phase Teaching (B Ed FP) using Qualification Code 90102. Those not meeting admission requirements will be subjected to assessment with the possibility of being admitted for the one-year Higher Certificate Qualification as a bridging course towards B Ed.

Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website or contact PSA Provincial Offices for assistance.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER