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SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

REGISTERED UNIT STANDARD:

Interpret South African legislation and policy affecting municipal financial management

SAQA US ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE		
116361	Interpret South African legislation and policy affecting municipal financial management		
SGB NAME		REGISTERING PROVIDER	
SGB Public Administration and Management			
FIELD		SUBFIELD	
Field 03 - Business, Commerce and Management Studies		Public Administration	
ABET BAND	UNIT STANDARD TYPE	NQF LEVEL	CREDITS
Undefined	Regular	Level 6	8
REGISTRATION STATUS	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE	SAQA DECISION NUMBER
Registered	2004-10-13	2007-10-13	SAQA 0256/04

PURPOSE OF THE UNIT STANDARD

This Unit Standard is intended for political executives, municipal managers and strategic executive managers in South African local government. This Unit Standard contributes to the development of policy analysis and review skills amongst political executives, strategic executive managers and other role-players contributing to the development of relevant legislation and policy affecting municipal financial management.

Qualifying Learners are able to:

- Interpret financial information and provide financial advice to help achieve the strategic goal of a municipality.
- Assist municipal organisations in understanding the many challenges they face while trying to achieve their strategic goal, thereby maximising their capacity for service delivery.

LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

It is assumed that the Learners are competent in:

- Communication at Level 4.
- Mathematical Literacy at Level 4.
- Economics at Level 4.

UNIT STANDARD RANGE

- The typical scope of this Unit Standard includes conducting policy analysis and review of legislation affecting financial management in local government.
- Sound financial management includes knowledge of expenditure management practices at local government such as preparation of capital and operating budgets, different types of

expenditures.

- The scope includes the regulations and legislation pertaining to municipal finance.
- The context includes international accepted public sector accounting standards.

UNIT STANDARD OUTCOME HEADER

N/A

Specific Outcomes and Assessment Criteria:

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1

Apply the techniques of sound financial management in local government.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

Different types of expenditure are defined and distinguished at a local government level.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

Various role-players are recognised who are typically involved in deciding the overall levels of expenditure at local level.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

Mechanisms and processes are defined and evaluated for deciding the overall levels of expenditure at local government level.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

Challenges are recognised in terms of achieving sound financial management for local government.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2

Identify and describe the key elements in the structure of public policy making in the South Africa and the connections and power relations between them.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

Various models of constitutional forms are discussed to identify the nature of the South African Constitution and the roles played by different stakeholder in public policy making.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

The role of courts in contractual law matters as they relate to public policy issues is explained.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

The structure and workings of government outside central government are described.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

The structure and the working of different organs of central government are described with reference to parliament, cabinet and national departments functions.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3

Interpret the elements of initiatives taken through various pieces of legislation to promote sound financial management in local government.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

The notion of developmental local government is explained in the South Africa context.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

The link between outputs, outcomes and measurable objectives are explained in the context of municipal financial management.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

The principles of efficiency, economy and effectiveness are defined in the context of municipal financial management.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

The role of good-quality and timely information is defined in terms of sound financial management.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 5

The role of a performance-based financial management system is outlined in maximising capacity of municipality.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 6

Capacity requirements for municipalities are defined to comply with legislation around financial management.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4

Demonstrate, through analysis, an understanding of the environment in which policy-making takes place with particular emphasis on factors that significantly impinge on policy making.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

The possible impact of selected general macroeconomic principles on public policy making and review is explained.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

The impact of selected socio-economic factors and concepts is demonstrated in the analysis of certain policy choices.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 5

Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of good governance and ethical behaviour within a municipal setting.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

The notions of political and managerial accountability and separation of responsibilities are defined within the municipal context.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

The notions of accountability, transparency and integrity are discussed within the municipal context.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

The principle of participatory governance is defined within the municipal context.

UNIT STANDARD ACCREDITATION AND MODERATION OPTIONS

- An individual wishing to be assessed (including through RPL) against this Unit Standard may apply to an assessment agency, assessor or provider institution accredited by the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.
- Anyone assessing a Learner against this Unit Standard must be registered as an assessor with the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.
- Any institution offering learning that will enable achievement of this Unit Standard or assessing this Unit Standard must be accredited as a provider with the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.
- Moderation of assessment will be conducted by the relevant ETQA at its discretion.

UNIT STANDARD ESSENTIAL EMBEDDED KNOWLEDGE

- Different types of expenditure and the mechanisms for deciding overall levels of public expenditure.
- Major initiatives that require municipal officials to exercise sound financial management.
- Theoretical models of policy making in public and private sectors.
- The process of policy making in South Africa.
- The principles of governance and ethical behaviour within the public sector.

UNIT STANDARD DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOME

N/A

UNIT STANDARD LINKAGES

N/A

Critical Cross-field Outcomes (CCFO):

UNIT STANDARD CCFO IDENTIFYING

Identify and solve problems using critical and creative thinking processes, e.g. by trying to find the best possible policy analysis options.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO WORKING

Work effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organization or community, e.g. through communicating with others regarding policy analysis issues and fostering team

commitment amongst all stakeholders involved in the process.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO ORGANISING

Organise and manage oneself and one`s activities responsibly and effectively, e.g. through the demonstration of ethical and moral principles in all policy analysis processes.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO COLLECTING

Collect, analyse, organise and critically evaluate information, e.g. through researching all possible policy options and presenting conclusions.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO COMMUNICATING

Communicate effectively using visual, mathematical and / or language skills in the modes of oral and/or written persuasion, e.g. through advising and motivating others with regard to policy analysis options.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO SCIENCE

Use Science and technology effectively and critically, showing responsibility to the environment and health of others, e.g. use appropriate computer software for data capturing and document storage purposes.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO DEMONSTRATING

Demonstrate an understanding of the world as a set of interrelated systems by recognising that problem-solving contexts do not exist in isolation, e.g. in keeping in mind that implementation of policy effects the well being of not only the municipality but the country as a whole.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO CONTRIBUTING

Participating as responsible citizens in the life of local, national and global communities, e.g. acting as custodian of ethical behaviour and maintaining a high Level of commitment to providing effective policy analysis.

UNIT STANDARD ASSESSOR CRITERIA

N/A

UNIT STANDARD NOTES

N/A

QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD:

	ID	QUALIFICATION TITLE	LEVEL	STATUS	END DATE
Elective	48965	Certificate: Municipal Financial Management	Level 6	Registered	2007-10-13

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