

# Government Gazette Staatskoerant

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

*Regulation Gazette*

**No. 8408**

*Regulasiekoerant*

**Vol. 488**

Pretoria, 24 February  
Februarie 2006

**No. 28543**

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# GOVERNMENT NOTICE

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

No. R. 176

24 February 2006

### HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO. 56 OF 1974)

#### REGULATIONS RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

The Minister of Health intends, in terms of section 61(1) read with sections 24 of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974) and in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, to make the regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for the attention of the Director: Human Resource Development), within two months of the date of publication of this notice.

#### SCHEDULE

##### 1. Definitions

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 Medical Technology established in terms of section 15(1) of the Act;

“**examination**” means an examination conducted by an institution approved by the board or examiners appointed by the board;

“**laboratory assistant**” means a person registered as such in terms of section 17 of the Act;

“**supervised practice**” means the practicing of a health profession by a registered health practitioner under the supervision of another health practitioner approved by the board; and

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

**2. Registration as a laboratory assistant**

- (1) Any person who has obtained the following qualification may apply to the registrar to be registered as a laboratory assistant:

***Examining authority and qualification******Abbreviation for registration*****Society for Medical Laboratory Technologist****of South Africa- Certificate in Laboratory Assistance****Cert in Lab Assistance SMLTSA**

- (2) The board may require any applicant who holds a qualification not referred to in sub-regulation (1) to submit to it authoritative information on the education and training required for such a qualification and, if the standard of such education and training is considered satisfactory, the board may recognize such qualification.
- (3) If the applicant's qualification referred to in sub-regulation (2) is recognized, such applicant shall undergo an examination in laboratory assistance conducted in terms of section 15B (1) (b) of the Act and, if the applicant passes such examination, the registrar may then register him or her as laboratory assistant.
- (4) In the case of an application for registration that is based on previous experience, length of laboratory service and the recognition of prior learning gained prior to date of publication of these regulations, an applicant shall furnish the board with authoritative information on the experience gained and a certificate of service by the person under whose supervision the experience was gained and, if the standard of such experience is considered satisfactory by the board, such experience may be recognized.
- (5) If the applicant's experience referred to in sub-regulation (3) is recognized, such applicant shall undergo an examination in laboratory assistance conducted by the board in terms of section 15B (1) (b) of the Act, and if the applicant passes such examinations, the registrar may then register him or her as laboratory assistant.
- (6) A person registered as a laboratory assistant in terms of these regulations is restricted to practise his or her profession under the supervision of a registered Health Practitioner approved by the board.



**DR. M. E. TSHABALALA-MSIMANG, MP**  
**MINISTER OF HEALTH**

Date: 8 February 2006

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