



PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS
REGULATORY AUTHORITY

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS WHO FAILED TO COMPLY WITH PRACTICE NOTE ETD01/2020 ON EDUCATION REGULATIONS AND AN UPDATED SCHEDULE OF PDE DATES FOR 2023-2024

1. Background:

In June 2022, the Board of the PPRA granted an extension in respect of the compliance with the Education Regulations by issuing Practice Note ETD01/2022 thereby giving property practitioners (intern estate agents, full status non-principals and principals) who had failed to comply with Education Regulations of 2008 until 31 January 2023 to comply with the said Regulations. In terms of Practice Note ETD01/2022, the property practitioners concerned would have been blocked from operating and receiving Fidelity Fund Certificates (FFCs) had they not attained the necessary education qualifications and written Professional Designation Examination (PDE).

The PPRA received several requests from property practitioners and their representative bodies to consider extending the compliance deadline in light of the fact that there are delays in the issuing of qualification certificates from Services SETA which would make it impossible for some property practitioners to comply with the **31 January 2023** deadline.

Having considered all the relevant factors, including the interests of property practitioners who are affected by the cut-off date as well as the need to ensure compliance with the Regulations, the Board of the PPRA extended the deadline to comply with Education Regulations to **30 June 2023** and further inviting those affected and eligible to undergo the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) programme through RPL Centres approved by Services SETA to ensure that by **30 June 2023** they will have complied with this requirement. This invitation for RPL was emphasised on the 18 November 2022 by way of the PPRA website and social media platforms. This invitation still remains in place as the deadline of 30 June 2023 will not be extended.

2. What is RPL:

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a process through which prior non-formal learning and informal learning are measured, mediated for recognition across different contexts, and certified against the requirements for credit, access, inclusion or advancement in the formal education and training system, or workplace. You can access the National policy for the implementation of RPL here: <https://www.saqa.org.za/documents/policies-and-criteria>.

3. Who is PPRA partnering with on the RPL initiative:

The PPRA views and takes education and training compliance very seriously and therefore the PPRA is in partnership discussions with the Services SETA to assist affected and eligible property practitioners who have not yet acquired the prescribed qualifications and face the possibility of being barred from practicing after the 30 June 2023 deadline to complete the focused various programmes which are planned for completion by no later than 30 May 2023 (to be confirmed with SSETA). The details of the PPRA-Services SETA partnership and how the programmes may be accessed by the affected and eligible property practitioners will follow soon.

4. Logbook and PoE:

The PPRA is aware that there are some Candidate Property Practitioners who have been in the PPRA systems for over 24 months and have not yet submitted their signed-off intern logbooks and associated portfolios of evidence (PoEs). The PPRA would like to request the mentors and principals of the affected Candidate Property Practitioners to provide the necessary support and facilitate the sign-off and submission of the required logbooks and PoE's by no later than 31 March 2023. All compliant logbooks will be assessed and feedback provided to the relevant Candidate Property Practitioners by no later than 30 April 2023.

5. Additional PDE Date for April 2023:

The PPRA is aware that some of the Property Practitioners have not yet complied with the Education regulations (qualification, logbook and PDE requirements). To assist those who have already acquired the qualifications but have not written PDE 4/5 within the required two years of acquiring the qualification, an additional PDE date is set as follows:

PDE exam date PDE exam opens	PDE exam opens on the PPRA portal	PDE exam closing date (this closing date applies to both portal/manual applications and payments must be done on or before the closing date)	Possible dates for the release of PDE results and important note on the appeal and script review procedure
20 April 2023	24 March 2023	07 April 2023	<p>Professional Designation Examination ('PDE') registration or enrolment:</p> <p>PDE registration/ enrolment is done strictly via the PPRA Portal.</p> <p>No registration /enrolment forms (including those used in the past) will be issued to prospective PDE candidates for the purposes of enrolment or registration for the examination.</p> <p>No PDE registration/ enrolment submitted by a</p>

			<p>prospective PDE candidate will be regarded.</p> <p>Payment for PDE registration /enrolment must be made using the correct Reference number and by the closing date.</p> <p>No need to email payment proof to PPRA as this will reflect on the PPRA Bank statement.</p> <p>Property Practitioners must note that the PPRA links PDE payments to the PDE registration/ enrolment made on the portal to generate an Exam Seat Number and allocate it on the Property Practitioner's profile on the portal. This therefore means that the PPRA will not send out seat numbers, but Property Practitioners must check for these by logging-in onto their profile on the portal.</p> <p>Property practitioners may check their seat numbers at least two weeks prior to the actual exam date.</p> <p>PDE Results:</p>
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6. Failure to comply by 30 June 2023:

In terms of Section 50 (b)(ii) of the Property Practitioners Act, the Authority may not issue a Fidelity Fund Certificate to any person who does not comply with the prescribed standard of training. In addition, section 50 (b)(iii) further provides that the Authority may not issue a Fidelity Fund certificate to any person who does not have the practical experience determined by the Authority.

Section 52 (1) provides that the Authority may, whether on its own initiative or pursuant to an instruction issued by a court of law or an adjudicator contemplated in section 30 of the Property Practitioners Act, withdraw a Fidelity Fund Certificate issued. Furthermore, Section 52(1)(b) and (c) authorises the Authority to withdraw the FFC issued to any firm or person who becomes disqualified under s50(b)(ii) or 50(b)(iii) mentioned above. (Non-compliance with standards of training and experience).

Section 52(2) further directs that a person who is in possession or in control of any Fidelity Fund Certificate which has been withdrawn must refrain from using or displaying that Fidelity Fund Certificate. Section 52(10) provides that a person who uses or displays the Fidelity Fund Certificate that has been withdrawn is guilty of an offence.

Section 52(5) further provides that a person who is in possession or control of a Fidelity Fund certificate which has been withdrawn must immediately return that certificate to the

Authority, or if that Fidelity Fund certificate cannot be returned, submit a declaration made under oath or affirmed as to the reasons and circumstances preventing the property practitioner from doing so.

In terms of Section 52(6) a person whose Fidelity Fund Certificate has been withdrawn may not directly or indirectly participate in the management of any business carried out by a property practitioner in his, her or its capacity as such, or participate in the carrying out of such business, or be employed, directly or indirectly, in any capacity in such business, except with the written consent of the Authority and subject to the conditions that the Authority may determine.

Section 52(7) further provides that a property practitioner may not directly or indirectly in any capacity whatsoever employ a person whose Fidelity Fund Certificate has been withdrawn or allow or permit such person directly or indirectly to participate in any capacity in the management or the carrying on of his, her or its business as a property practitioner, except with the consent in writing of the Authority, and subject to the conditions that the Authority may impose.

However, section 52(9) provides that a person, partnership or trust whose Fidelity Fund certificate has been withdrawn may re-apply for a Fidelity Fund Certificate when it, he or she again qualifies for such a certificate.

The PPRA therefore once again wishes to impress upon on all non-compliant property practitioners to take up the RPL opportunity and use their time to ensure compliance before the 30 June 2023 deadline in order to avoid any negative consequences associated with non-compliance.

ISSUED BY THE PROPERTY PRACTITIONERS REGULATORY AUTHORITY