

How to:

start a Second Chance
Matric programme at
your high school



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a guide from *Bulungula College*,
a rural Eastern Cape high school



1

Sensitise your school to run a Second Chance Matric Programme

- First things first, it is essential to **create a programme that is understood and accepted** by the school's teachers, staff and learners.
- Those who do not pass Matric will likely feel unhappy and disheartened with their results. Often, learners will lose confidence in themselves, impacting their overall self-esteem. We must **support these learners with empathy and a positive attitude**.
- We must **motivate them** to keep trying— getting back on the horse is not easy!
- They are not "failures" or "dumb; this negative rhetoric can worsen the learners' already fragile state of mind. The school must **actively combat negative stereotypes** about the programme and its learners.

Tip: introduce the programme to the school **before learners write their final Matric exams, so they are aware of the option.**

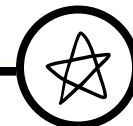


2

Assist learners to apply for the supplementary exams

- **Identify** how many learners have not passed and who qualify to rewrite (this will be indicated on the learner's Statement of Results).
 - Apply ASAP, 1-2 weeks after results have been released.
- Go to the closest Department of Basic Education (DBE) office and **pick up applications** for all of the learners who qualify to rewrite.
- Assist learners in **filling out the application**.
 - It is a very detailed application, requiring student ID, proof of residence, school centre number, exam number, and which classes the learner qualifies to rewrite in. The application can be confusing, and if you make an error, it will impact the learner's ability to rewrite.
- **Submit the completed applications** back to the nearest DBE.

Tip: After one month of the programme starting, confirm that all learners have been properly registered for all of the subjects they will rewrite.

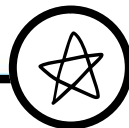




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Start your Second Chance Matric programme!

- **Allocate someone to facilitate** the programme.
 - The role of the facilitator is to create and manage the schedule, compile resources, motivate the learners, and act as the liaison between the programme and the school.
- **Establish a dedicated space** for the programme to run.
- Identify which subjects the learners will be rewriting, and **compile subject content resources**, including textbooks, course material from teachers, online videos and past exams.
- **Cluster learners** based on the subjects they will be rewriting— this will encourage peer-to-peer learning.
- Run the programme **20–30 hours/per week**.
- Provide learners with **adequate learning material** (notebooks and stationary) and **nutritious school meals**.



Tip: focus the first day on confidence-building sessions with the learners.



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Exam rewrite time

- Pick up the released exam dates from the DBE.
- Create an exam schedule for the learners and organise transport for the exam writing days.
- Transport learners to the exam centre (double-check the venue, as it may not be at the DBE).
 - Organise lunch for learners on this day.
- Wait a few months for exam results to be released, and then pick up the results from the DBE.
- Congratulate learners who passed (🎉) and encourage those who didn't to stay in the timetable and register for the next rewrite.

Tip: Offer this as a full-year programme. There are two rewrite dates in a year. If a learner doesn't pass the second time, they can rewrite again.

