The National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Act requires the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) to recognise professional bodies and register their professional designations on the NQF. This only happens if the professional body meets the SAQA Policy and Criteria for recognising professional bodies and registering professional designations.

Benefits of being a SAQA recognised professional body:

- Recognition as trusted professional bodies through an Act of Parliament
- Part of a national database of professional bodies that uphold high standards of competence and ethics
- Registration of professional designations on the most comprehensive national database of learner achievements
- Exposure to best practice through access to fora that improve professional bodies functions

SAQA recognises a professional body if it:

- Complies with, and adheres to, good corporate governance practices
- Protects the public interest in relation to services provided by its members
- Promotes professional development of its members to meet their relevant designation requirements
- Has a code of conduct for its members to adhere to
- Does not apply unfair exclusionary practices in terms of membership admission

These are the professional bodies recognised by SAQA:

- Actuarial Society of South Africa
- Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa
- Association for Office Professionals of South Africa
- Association for Skills Development in South Africa
- Association for Supportive Counsellors and Holistic Practitioners
- Association of Accounting Technicians (South Africa)
- Association of B-BBEE Professionals
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
- Association of Chartered Accountants of South Africa
- Association of Christian Religious Practitioners
- Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists
- Association of Southern African Travel Agents
- Batseta Council of Retirement Funds for South Africa
- Chartered Institute for Professional Practitioners and Trainers
- Chartered Institute of Government Finance Audit and Risk Officers
- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
- Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply
- Chartered Secretaries Southern Africa
- Coaches and Mentors of South Africa
- Corporate Counsel Association of South Africa
- Council for Equine and Equestrian Professionals of South Africa
- Direct Marketing Association of South Africa
- Disaster Management Institute of Southern Africa
- Employee Assistance Professionals Association of South Africa
- Engineering Council of South Africa
- Estate Agency Affairs Board
- Federation of African Professional Staffing Organisations
- Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa
- Forum of Immigration Practitioners of South Africa
- Health Professions Council of South Africa
- Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors
- Institute for Local Government Management of South Africa
- Institute for Timber Construction South Africa
- Institute for Work at Height
- Institute of Accounting and Commerce
- Institute of Bankers in South Africa
- Institute of Business Advisers Southern Africa
- Institute of Certified and Chartered Statisticians of South Africa
- Institute of Certified Bookkeepers and Accountants
- Institute of Chartered IT Professionals
- Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners
- Institute of Credit Management of South Africa
- Institute of Directors in Southern Africa
- Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa
- Institute of Internal Auditors South Africa
- Institute of Loss Adjusters of Southern Africa
- Institute of Management Consultants and Master Coaches of South Africa
- Institute of Mine Surveyors of South Africa
- Institute of People Management
- Institute of Professional South African Mariners
- Institute of Risk Management South Africa
- Institute of Safety Management
- Insurance Institute of South Africa
- Law Society of South Africa
- Library and Information Association of South Africa
- Marketing Association of South Africa
- Numismatists Association of Southern Africa
- Plumbing Industry Registration Board
- Professional Hunters’ Association of South Africa
- Project Management South Africa
- Public Relations Institute of Southern Africa
- Register of Exercise Professional South Africa
- SAIYN Professional Body for NDT
- South African Association of Health and Skincare Professionals
- South African Board for People Practices
- South African Chefs Association
- South African Chemical Institute
- South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions
- South African Council for Project and Construction Management Professionals
- South African Council for Social Service Professions
- South African Council for the Architectural Profession
- South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession
- South African Dental Technicians Council
- South African Facilities Management Association
- South African Geomatics Profession Council
- South African Institute of Chartered Accountants
- South African Institute of Financial Markets
- South African Institute of Occupational Safety and Health
- South African Institute of Physics
- South African Institute of Professional Accountants
- South African Institute of Tax Practitioners
- South African Institute of the Interior Design Professions
- South African Nursing Council
- South African Payroll Association
- South African Professional Firearm Trainers Council
- South African Professional Institute for Kinderkinetics
- South African Restructuring and Insolvency Practitioners Association
- South African Reward Association
- South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee
- South African Veterinary Council
- Southern African Asset Management Association
- Southern African Communications Industries Association
- Southern African Emergency Services Institute
- Southern African Institute for Business Accountants
- Southern African Institute for Occupational Hygiene
- Southern African Institute of Government Auditors
- Southern African Marketing Research Association
- The South African Council for Administrators
- The South African Pharmacy Council
- Turnaround Management Association of Southern Africa
- Vehicle Damage Quantification Governance Body of South Africa
- Water Institute of Southern Africa

Telephone: 012 431 5000
Helpdesk: 086 010 3188
Website: www.sqaq.org.za
Email: saqainfo@sqaq.org.za
Facebook: SAQA
Twitter: @SAQAlive
LinkedIn: South African Qualifications Authority