

SUMMER ISSUE
DECEMBER 2025



ESTPULSE



ARTISAN DEVELOPMENT

CALLING ALL GRADUATES FROM UXI CAMPUSES



(Red Seal, Certificate or Diploma) – fulltime or partial qualifications – from 35 years ago until today.

Did you qualify at:

- IETI (Cape Town, Gqerberha, Roodepoort)
- Africa Skills (George-Ntaka, GeorgeTech, Centurion, Pofadder, VereenigingTech)
- Durnacol Skills Hub
- MCD Meyerton
- MCD Rustenburg
- P & T Technology / Training
- Empilweni Education, Randburg
- François Ferreira Academy, George
- Industries Institute for Business (IIB)



We're thrilled to announce the soon to be launched 'UXies Alumni Network' [still to be formally named by members], a platform for all graduates from any of the campuses of UXI Artisan Development group.

CONNECT, SHARE and GROW!

Join us in building the future and stay updated on exciting opportunities, news, and events. To become a part of this amazing community of UXi Artisan Development graduates, simply send us your details:

- Full Name
- Year and Month Qualified
- Campus & Trade/Qualification
- Email Address
- Contact Number
- Current Occupation
- Current Town



Email to jan@uxi-ad.co.za by 30 December 2025 and stand a chance to win prizes and enjoy exclusive benefits!

LET'S BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER!

UXI Artisan Development Graduates, it's time to connect!

Our Values

Accountability



Trust



Innovation



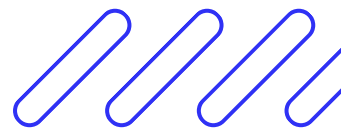
Passion



Excellence



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EDITOR'S NOTE

FINDING OUR RHYTHM, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

As 2025 draws to a close, we pause to reflect on a remarkable year – a year defined by expansion, growth, and well-earned recognition across all our campuses. It has been a year where dedication met opportunity, and where passion for skills development once again proved its power to transform lives.

Through every challenge and triumph, the UXi Artisan Development family – from management and staff to apprentices, learners, and students – has continued to build South Africa's future with hands-on excellence and heart. This Summer 2025 edition of UXi Pulse is both a mirror and a milestone: a celebration of what grace, grit, and teamwork have achieved, and a glimpse into what's taking shape for 2026.

Inside these pages, you'll find stories that inspire – from current learner testimonials to campus success stories, from Africa Skills' 20 years of life-changing training to trade test milestones, new programmes, and alumni achievements. Each feature reflects the rhythm that drives us: learning, growing, and leading through purpose.



Jan Greyling

As we look ahead, 2026 promises to be another defining chapter. With new academic horizons, strengthened partnerships, and our continued focus on work-integrated learning, UXi Artisan Development stands ready to shape futures, empower talent, and celebrate Africa Skills' two dynamic decades of impact.

So, sit back, unwind, and enjoy UXi Pulse Summer 2025 – a tribute to the hands, hearts, and hope that keep building South Africa's skilled future.

**THE EDITOR,
UXI PULSE**



Excellence

DOUBLE HONOUR FOR UXi ARTISAN DEVELOPMENT

It was a proud and unforgettable evening for UXi Artisan Development at the 2025 George Business Chamber Awards on Friday, 17 October, as two of the year's honours were bestowed upon our executive leaders, Elsie Harmse and Phillip Harmse.

Elsie, CEO of UXi Artisan Development and co-founder of Africa Skills, received the prestigious George Business Chamber Business Leader of the Year 2025 Award – a recognition of her unwavering commitment to transforming vocational education in South Africa from the foundation base of Africa Skills in George and the future of private skills training development on the continent at well-established institutions, but also with some very new acquisitions within the group.

Elsie's leadership and hand-selected team of close to 500 have not only shaped the UXi Artisan Development group into a national benchmark for hands-on excellence but has also empowered thousands of young Artisans to build meaningful, sustainable futures.

At the same gala dinner, the chamber honoured Phillip Harmse with the Innovator of the Year 2025 Award. As Chief Executive New Business Development Phillip has been acknowledged for his forward-thinking vision and his role in driving new approaches to skills education sales and marketing, focused on QCTO accredited Workplace integrated Learning. His innovation continues to redefine how skills development connects with real industry demand and the enhancement of private industry qualifications across South Africa.

This double achievement reflects more than personal success – it's a celebration of the entire UXi Artisan Development family, whose collective passion, purpose, and partnership continue to drive transformation, one qualification at a time.

Congratulations to Elsie and Phillip – and to every UXi AD team member who keeps the rhythm of excellence alive.



UXi Artisan Development team members in George celebrating with Elsie Harmse – GBC Business Leader of the Year 2025 – and Phillip Harmse – GBC Innovator of the Year 2025, who are joined in the middle below by Nikki du Toit, GBC Entrepreneur of the Year 2025. **Image: George Business Chamber**



Phillip Harmse – GBC Innovator of the Year 2025 – and Elsie Harmse – GBC Business Leader of the Year 2025, are grateful recipients of George Business Chamber awards. **Image: UXi AD Media**



Phillip Harmse receives the GBC Innovator of the Year 2025 award from Cllr Brown Johnson, Executive Deputy Mayor of George. **Image: George Business Chamber**



FROM ELSIE'S DESK

Next year, we will celebrate 20 years of Africa Skills – two decades of learning, growing, and transforming lives. When I look back to where we started, I'm filled with deep gratitude and pride. What began as a small training initiative has become a national force in skills development, with 13 campuses across South Africa, thousands of graduates, and a reputation for excellence that continues to grow.

Our journey has never just been about training – it has been about people. Every learner who walked through our doors brought a dream, and our purpose has always been to turn that dream into opportunity. Over the years, we have trained artisans, entrepreneurs, and professionals who are now contributing to South Africa's economy and shaping their communities.

Seeing our graduates employed, starting their own businesses, or becoming mentors to others is the ultimate reward.

Reaching 20 years is not just a milestone; it's a moment to reflect on what has defined us – our values. We believe in accountability, integrity, and a "first-time-right" culture. We believe in quality education that aligns with industry needs. And above all, we believe in empowerment through skills.

The landscape of education and training has changed tremendously over two decades. Technology, workplace integration, and global competitiveness now define the future of learning. Africa Skills has embraced this evolution – investing in online learning platforms, data-driven systems, and partnerships that make our training smarter, faster, and more impactful.

But the heart of Africa Skills remains the same: to be a home where people find purpose through learning. Every facilitator, administrator, and campus manager contributes to this mission daily. As we look ahead to 2030, our vision is clear – to become the benchmark for private training in South Africa and reach R1 billion in revenue. But even more importantly, we want every learner who steps into Africa Skills to say, "My life changed here."

To everyone who has been part of this 20-year journey – thank you. Your dedication, trust, and belief in what Africa Skills stands for have made this milestone possible. The next 20 years will be even more exciting as we continue building the future, one skill at a time.

**NOW LET'S EMBRACE
AND OPTIMISE THE
FUTURE OF OUR YOUTH.**

THANK YOU

As school doors close and one chapter ends, thousands of young South Africans stand at the crossroads of possibility. It's a time of excitement, hope – and for many – uncertainty. For parents, it's a mix of pride and concern: What comes next for my child?

The answer may be simpler and more powerful than you think: Skills.

Why Skills Are the Future

In today's fast-changing world, acquiring a practical, income-generating skill is not just an option – it's a necessity. Gone are the days when a university degree alone guaranteed success. While academic qualifications remain valuable, employers today are looking for something more: hands-on ability, creativity, and confidence.

At UXi Artisan Development, we believe that skills open doors – to employment, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Whether in tech, arts, trades, agriculture, health care, digital marketing, mechanics, business, or baking, skills are what set individuals apart in the modern economy. They open doors to self-employment, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

A skilled individual is never truly unemployed—they carry their opportunities in their hands.

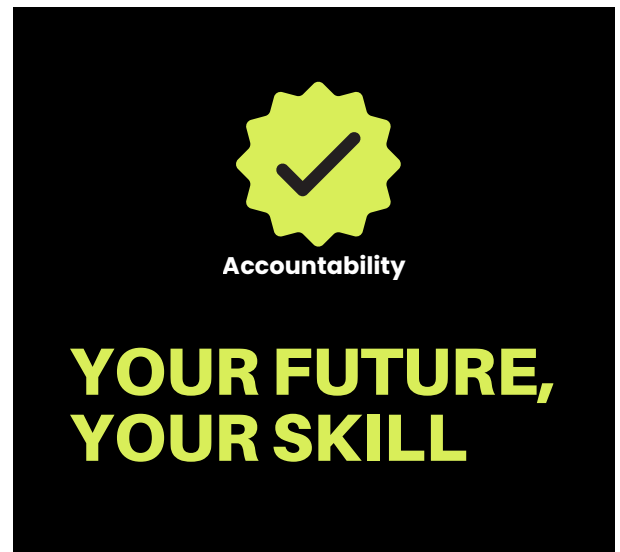
Build Yourself – Practically and Purposefully

You've achieved an important milestone. Now it's time to build yourself – not just academically, but practically. When you learn a skill, you don't just follow; you lead. You create, you build, and you shape your own future.

Today, success is defined not just by the qualifications you hold, but by the skills you possess and how effectively you apply them.

Parents: Support Skills Development

Every parent dream of a child who becomes successful and fulfilled. In that dream, we often picture doctors, engineers, or lawyers but in our noble intentions, we must not overlook the power of vocational and technical skills.



By Karon Barnard, HOD:
Projects, UXi Artisan Development



Karon Barnard, Project Manager at UXi Artisan Development George, is a skilled curriculum developer, facilitator, and youth motivator.
Image: UXi AD Media

Encourage your child to explore and develop a skill alongside their academic journey. A young person who can earn an income through a skill – even while still studying – is better equipped for life than one who simply waits for a job to appear.

Support their curiosity. Inspire them to experiment, to create, to innovate. Whether it's through a short course, learnership, apprenticeship, or internship, every skill is a stepping stone to opportunity.

The Gig World of Work

We live in an era of freelancing, remote work, and self-employment. Companies seek doers – people who can think, fix, make, and solve. In tough times, those with skills don't just survive – they thrive.

Your future is not in anyone else's hands but your own. And your most powerful tool? Your skill.

Take Your Career Future into Your Hands

School Leavers: Don't wait for opportunity create it.

Parents: Don't just hope for your child's success – help build it.

**YOUR FUTURE.
YOUR SKILL.
CHOOSE WISELY.
START NOW.**

Contact UXi Artisan Development

📍 133 Mitchell Street, Bo-Dorp, George,
Western Cape

☎ 044 884 0791 | ✉ study@uxi-ad.co.za

Visit: www.uxi-ad.co.za to select your course, your campus, and your application for February 2026, May 2026, September 2026, or any future intake.





LEAP OF FAITH, REWARDING CAREER

Meet Nosipho Felicia Shilabye @ Africa Skills EBDA, Brakpan

Red Seal Trade: Electrical Red Seal Artisan
Qualified: September 2025

"Leaving my job to pursue an electrical engineering apprenticeship programme was daunting. However, Africa Skills EBDA (Ergo Business Development Academy) in Brakpan made it worthwhile. The hands-on training, expert instructions, and industry-related curriculum helped me gain skills and confidence. Africa Skills EBDA'S dedication to my success as an apprentice is evident in every aspect.

The programme structure and mentorship helped me stay focused and motivated to successfully qualify for my Red Seal Electrical in September 2025. I even won an award for an exceptional attitude. I am grateful for the investment I made in my education and would highly recommend Africa Skills EBDA to anyone looking to upskill or to launch and advance their career."

THROUGH TEAMWORK AND APPLYING WHAT I LEARNED I MANAGED

Meet Senzo Brian Mkwana @ Africa Skills EBDA, Brakpan

Red Seal Trade: Electrical Apprentice

"My motivation for joining the apprenticeship training was to combine classroom learning with real-world experience. I wanted to become a competent and qualified Electrician. All my expectations were fully met.

An absolute highlight was successfully wiring and commissioning a motor control circuit during a practical assessment. It was challenging but through teamwork and applying what I learned, I managed to complete it correctly.

If you wish to become an Artisan, be dedicated and passionate. The training can be challenging at times. Stay motivated, make the most of the resources and support from facilitators. You will gain the skills and confidence needed to succeed in the trade."



WHAT OUR LEARNERS SAY





ENOUGH TO THRIVE AFTER MY TRADE TEST

Say Hi to Iminathi Matibe @ Africa Skills
GeorgeTech

Red Seal Trade: 2nd year Electrical

"I chose this campus for its wide variety of training spaces as well as the facilitators of the courses. They have a lot of knowledge and teach not just enough to pass the Trade Test but also to thrive in my field. I still have another year of training. So far most of my expectations have been met. When our campus was still in Rand Str, I was trusted to help – under supervision – set up the downlights and wiring plug boxes. I also helped with the wiring of the distribution boards. This gave me early insight into what's happening outside of campus training and a huge advantage when I got sent out to real workplaces. It gave me a feeling of satisfaction seeing my work, now still fully functional.

My training helps me apply my knowledge effectively on site or at the workshop. I enjoy helping fellow learners by passing my skills on while improving my own through repetition and practice to work quickly and correctly with no doubt. New apprentices should always be sure that it is what they really enjoy and have an interest in. A lot of time and money goes into getting well-trained and qualified. It demands your maximum concentration without falling behind. Participate as much as possible to get more practise and knowledge to increase the speed and neatness of your work."

DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK QUESTIONS

Meet Jayden Bamping @ Africa Skills
GeorgeTech

Red Seal Trade: 2nd Year Electrical

"During my training I am developing skills which build me as a future Artisan. I have been hosted at a company where I learned more about the trade I have chosen. I can now wire a plug, an isolator and a room on my own; neatly and in time. I was taught how to work safely, raising my confidence. Never be afraid to ask questions and always be consistent in what you are doing. During training always use your free time as study time to learn and gain more information and understanding. Trust in your facilitator and ask questions, excel while furthering your studies at Africa Skills and pass your Trade Test.

I was introduced to Africa Skills when they came to our school at Eden Technical High in George. The least I can say is that it did go above my expectations as I did not realise that I would also get outside training too. While wiring some panels, based on fault finding using a digital multimeter, we tested the panel, and it worked! We then operated it and again it worked wonders! That had a definite positive impact on my training journey."





THE JOURNEY ISN'T EASY, BUT YOU LEARN SO MUCH

Testimonial: Jarod Terblanche @ Africa Skills GeorgeTech

Red Seal Trade: Boilermaker Apprentice

"It's always been my dream to work with my hands – one of my biggest strengths. Over time I've developed a real passion for what I do. Up to this point, I can honestly say that I've learned a lot more than ever expected in a short time. It was like stepping into a whole new world – an exciting moment I'll never forget. When I started getting my own tasks to complete and when I learned how to operate big machinery, it made me feel more confident and helped me trust myself more. While still making mistakes sometimes, I now learn from them. Some tasks are harder than they look, so I still ask for help when I need it, especially when building or manufacturing. I enjoy being able to work and learn at the same time.

Whether you're learning to be an Electrician or a Welder, you must stay eager to learn and gain more experience. Putting in time and effort really pays off in the long run as hard work always brings good results. I can now see how as a boilermaker apprentice you reap what you sow. Always stay focused on what you want to achieve and ask questions. The journey isn't easy, but you learn so much and meet many new people. So far, I've really enjoyed my time at Africa Skills. We're all here for the same reason, to build a better future for ourselves. Always be eager to learn and willing to go the extra mile and when needed, do a little bit of self-reflection on why you are here and why you started. It may be easier said than done but never give up on yourself in making something of your future."



PRACTICAL EXPERTISE AND CONFIDENCE

I am Gareth Batten @ Africa Skills GeorgeTech

Red Seal Trade: Newly qualified Electrical Artisan

Qualified: October 2025

"I chose Africa Skills GeorgeTech for its hands-on approach and industry connections. The campus exceeded expectations with expert facilitators, modern facilities, and practical workshops – preparing me for real-world challenges.

Successfully completing a live electrical installation project under facilitator Trevor's guidance was a real highlight. It solidified my understanding of electrical systems and earned me recognition for safety and precision.

The way in which we are learned, and gap training have equipped me with practical expertise and confidence. I had been prepared to take my trade test and pursue a career as a skilled Red Seal Electrician after I did my QCTO and industry accredited (NAMB) Trade Test successfully towards the end of October 2025.

My message is to take the leap. Africa Skills offers accredited, practical training with strong job placement support. Leverage their industry connections, expert facilitators, and modern facilities to launch your artisan career."

HISTORIC LEGACY POWERS THE FUTURE

By Kudakwashe Tavengwa, Campus Manager:

Africa Skills EBDA, Brakpan

The Future is Skilled

At EBDA, powered by Africa Skills and proudly part of UXi Artisan Development, we stand on a strong foundation of historic training success—one that continues to shape our future vision.

For decades, EBDA, located on 7th Road in Brakpan, has been a hub of technical excellence, industry collaboration, and career empowerment. Today, that legacy drives our mission to equip a new generation of learners with the hands-on skills South Africa needs most.

From technical artisan training and business studies to SHEQ qualifications and short skills courses, EBDA has built a reputation for turning learning into livelihoods by building careers that work.

Kudakwashe Tavengwa, Campus Manager at Africa Skills EBDA (Ergo Business Development Academy), a proudly UXi Artisan Development trades' artisan training and development institute in Brakpan on the East Rand.

Image: Supplied



Practical workshops at Africa Skills EBDA are QCTO accredited for industry demanded scarce skills artisanship. **Image: Africa Skills**



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Trust

Our track record speaks for itself:

- High graduate absorption rates of 89% into employment.
- Strong private-sector partnerships that create workplace opportunities.
- Endorsement by key national bodies—including the DHET, QCTO, SETAs, NAMB, and public FETs.

Each graduate represents more than a qualification—they represent a future built by skill, effort, and belief.

Powered by Partnership: UXi + AS + EBDA

Our partnership with UXi Artisan Development has amplified our impact. Together, we are raising the bar for hands-on, accredited, and future-fit training across industries.

Through this collaboration, EBDA has expanded access to:

- Cutting-edge curriculum innovation and trainer excellence
- Industry-aligned programmes that match real workplace demand.
- A national network of campuses that connect learning with opportunity.

This shared vision strengthens our role as a national benchmark for excellence and innovation in vocational education—ensuring our graduates are not just qualified, but workplace-ready and globally relevant.

Training That Transforms Lives

At Africa Skills EBDA, we believe that training is not just about technical competence—it's about transforming lives.

Our learner-centered approach gives every learner:

- Confidence to work and lead.
- Critical thinking for innovation and adaptability.
- Real-world exposure through practical experience and mentorship.

For Gen Z learners, EBDA is a launchpad to independence and purpose. For parents, it's the assurance that their child is preparing for a secure, employable, and respected career.

We don't just teach trades - we build futures that last. Your Future Starts at Africa Skills EBDA

Our journey from historic success to future ambition continues with the same purpose: to empower communities, strengthen industries, and prepare the next generation for meaningful impact—locally and globally. Because at our campus, the future is not only learned—it's built.

Campus Details

📍 Africa Skills EBDA (Ergo Business Development Academy) 7th Rd, off 17th Road, Brakpan, Gauteng

☎ 011 742 1045 / 1051 | 084 857 5560

✉ info@ebda.co.za

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12

ELEVATING YOUTH, ONE CAREER AT A TIME

At Nu-Line Elevators, we proudly partner with IETI CapeTech as a host employer, giving future artisans career-ready, real-world experience.

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Durban backed by a 24-hour emergency
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OUR VALUES:

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REAL TRADES.



REAL EXPERIENCE.

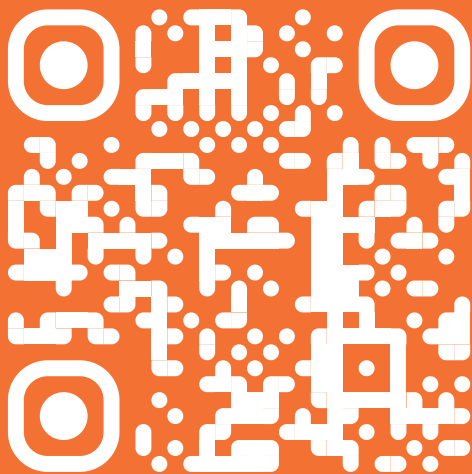


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February 2026**



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SKILLS HUB



A CAREER FUTURE IN SOLAR ENERGY

Powering Growth, Opportunity, and Skills in South Africa

By Jessica van de Merwe, CEO: Solar Energy Africa



Trust



Professional mentorship and educational supervision from Solar Energy Africa as host employer to the female apprentices from Africa Skills in George contributes towards the delivery of well-rounded Red Seal future Artisans.
Image: Solar Energy Africa



Africa Skills female learners currently working on the Gwayang Solar Plant in George along with host employer Solar Energy Africa, Jessica van de Merwe (MD) and Enfin Leadership Team.
Image: Solar Energy Africa

The global renewable energy boom has made solar power one of the most promising career paths of the decade. According to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), solar PV now employs over 7.1 million people worldwide—nearly half of all renewable energy jobs. As South Africa accelerates its transition to clean energy, the local demand for solar skills has never been higher.

At Solar Energy Africa (SEA), building the future of renewable energy isn't only about megawatts—it's about people. Through a proud partnership with Africa Skills, SEA serves as a host employer for the Female Learner Apprenticeship Programme, helping young women gain hands-on experience in real-world solar projects.

Empowerment is the Drive

This initiative is more than a training programme—it's a pathway to empowerment. Learners rotate through project design, installation, and maintenance, developing practical and leadership skills under the mentorship of experienced engineers and site managers.

For Solar Energy Africa, the apprenticeship model strengthens the company's talent pipeline, ensures a steady flow of qualified technicians, and supports gender inclusion in a traditionally male-dominated industry. It's also a direct investment in South Africa's renewable future—equipping young professionals with skills aligned to national energy and employment goals.

Statistics show that approximately 78% of the solar PV workforce is male, while only 22% is female—a gap that programmes like Africa Skills' Female Learner Apprenticeship aim to close by empowering more women to enter and thrive in renewable energy careers.

Host Employment

Being a host employer creates mutual benefits:

- Learners gain industry experience and employability.
- Businesses benefit from fresh talent, innovation, and community credibility.
- Local communities benefit from job creation and skill upliftment, contributing to economic resilience.

By integrating education with industry needs, SEA demonstrates how collaboration between private enterprise and skills institutions can drive transformation—one learner, one solar system, and one community at a time.

The Future is Bright

Solar energy careers offer stability, innovation, and purpose. As South Africa expands its renewable capacity, initiatives like the Africa Skills apprenticeship model are proving that the future of solar is not just sustainable—it's inclusive.

LEARNERS - HEARTBEAT OF THE FUTURE

Schools, campus tours, career-expos & open days



LEARN SKILLS THAT MOVE YOU FORWARD.

Strong Roots. Strong Skills. Strong Futures.

At P&T Training, we're not training
Learners, we're launching skilled professionals.



REAL TRADES.



REAL EXPERIENCE.

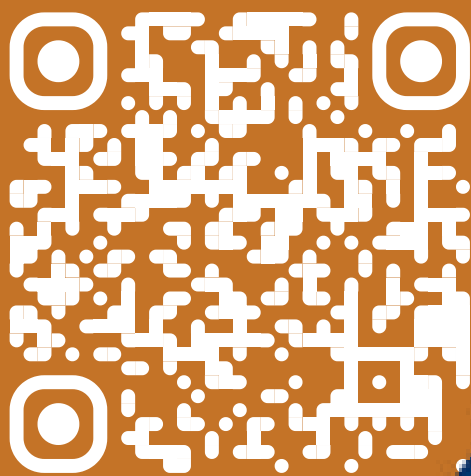


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www.pandttechnology.co.za



P&T
TRAINING





Passion

CAMPUS LIFE: WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE

A brand-new chapter begins!

Across all UXi Artisan Development campuses nationwide, Block 3 2025 learners arrived with energy, dreams, and determination. From their first steps on campus, the excitement was electric. Here's to fresh beginnings, new friendships, and skilled futures in motion. Welcome to the UXi family - where your future is built by your own hands!

The doors of opportunity swung open on 8 September 2025 as UXi campuses welcomed our newest group of passionate learners! Smiles, curiosity, and pride filled every workshop and classroom. To each new student - we're so glad you're here. Your journey to becoming career-ready starts today. Your future is skilled. Your future is employment!





From George to Gauteng and beyond, induction day buzzed with excitement!

New learners joined hands, shared stories, and stepped boldly into the world of skills education. The energy was real, the motivation unstoppable. Welcome to the UXi rhythm - a community of doers, makers, and future leaders shaping South Africa's tomorrow.



Laughter, teamwork, and inspiration filled our nationwide induction sessions from 8 September.

Learners discovered what it means to belong to the UXi family - to dream big and work hard. As Block 3 2025 begins, one message rings through: Believe in your ability. Commit to your craft. Your future starts here - with your UXi Artisan Development campus of choice!





Passion

TURNING YOUR PASSION INTO A PROFESSION: UNDERSTANDING ARPL

by Bridgette Smith, Trade Test
Officer – Africa Skills George
(Ntaka Campus)

Who Qualifies for ARPL?

You may qualify for ARPL if you:

- Are 19 years or older.
- Have at least 3 years of relevant workplace experience in your trade.
- Can read, write, and perform calculations relevant to your trade.
- Work either formally or informally (self-employed, community-based, or in small, medium or large enterprises).
- Are not currently on a registered apprenticeship contract.

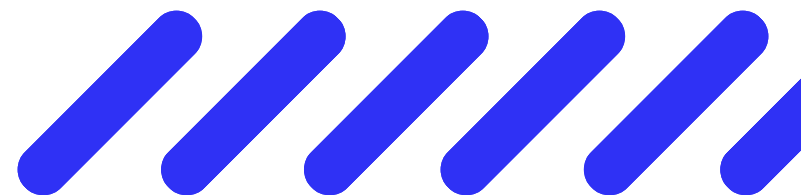
The Future Is Recognised. The Future Is Skilled.

Many semi-skilled South Africans have built years of experience on the job – yet remain unqualified on paper. The Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (ARPL) programme bridges that gap, offering a pathway for experienced workers to become certified artisans without restarting their careers.

What is ARPL?

ARPL stands for Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning, a national process designed by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) to help individuals gain formal recognition for their technical skills and workplace experience.

Through ARPL, experienced workers are assessed against industry standards. If found competent, they can qualify to take the national trade test – the final step toward becoming a Red Seal Certified Artisan.



HOW ARPL WORKS: STEP BY STEP

1 Screening & Application

Apply through an ARPL-accredited training provider such as Africa Skills (an UXi Artisan Development institution). Your experience and supporting documents are reviewed to confirm eligibility.

2 Pre-Assessment

You complete assessments that identify what you already know and what still needs improvement (called a gap analysis).

3 Gap Training (if required)

If you're missing specific skills or theory, you'll receive focused gap training to prepare for full competence.

4 Workplace Experience Validation

Submit proof of work experience, such as service letters or references. These are verified by assessors.

5 Trade Test Recommendation

Once deemed competent in all required areas, you'll be recommended for the national trade test (EISA – External Integrated Summative Assessment).

6 What You Gain

If you pass your trade test, you'll earn:

- Red Seal Certificate – formal recognition as a qualified artisan in your trade.
- Career Advancement – better job opportunities and wages.
- Mobility – international recognition in some industries.
- ARPL at any UXi Artisan Development campus

As part of UXi Artisan Development our campus closest to you is proudly accredited to guide artisans through the ARPL process.

Our experienced facilitators ensure every candidate receives the right support to succeed – from the first assessment to final trade test readiness.

Campus Details

📍 Cnr York Street & PW Botha Boulevard, George, Western Cape

📞 044 050 0211 | WhatsApp 067 675 9847

✉️ study@africaskills.co.za

YOUR EXPERIENCE DESERVES RECOGNITION

If you've been doing the work – it's time to earn the qualification.

Turn your passion into a profession with ARPL through Africa Skills and UXi Artisan Development.

See www.africaskills.co.za / www.uxi-ad.co.za and apply now for ARPL or visit your nearest UXi Artisan Development campus to start your ARPL journey today.

Call 044 884 0791 or email to study@uxi-ad.co.za



HANDS THAT SHAPE THE FUTURE



Train Locally. Work Globally. Success Starts Here

At Africa Skills, we're not training learners, we're launching skilled professionals.



REAL TRADES.



REAL EXPERIENCE.

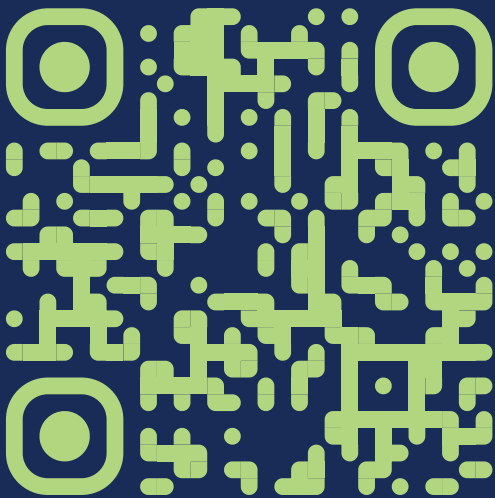


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Our Campuses:

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- VereenigingTech
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Each vehicle serviced by Megalink is handled with the same professionalism, technical precision, and attention to detail that define our standards of excellence.

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Megalink is proud to be RMI/Miwa 5-Star Accredited, reflecting our dedication to safety, reliability, and consistent service quality.

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Mechanical fitting is one of the most essential trades in South Africa's industrial and engineering sectors – the heartbeat of machinery that keeps factories, mines, and construction sites running smoothly. As industries continue to evolve through automation and precision engineering, the demand for skilled Mechanical Fitters is stronger than ever.

A career in mechanical fitting offers both stability and adventure. From assembling and maintaining complex mechanical systems to troubleshooting industrial machinery, qualified fitters play a vital role in keeping operations efficient and safe. They work across industries like manufacturing, mining, energy, automotive, and construction, often using advanced tools such as vernier callipers, micrometres, torque wrenches, and precision measuring instruments.

At UXi Artisan Development, our accredited Mechanical Fitting Red Seal programmes are designed to meet real industry needs – combining classroom knowledge, workshop-based practice, and supervised workplace experience. Learners are trained to:

- Read and interpret technical drawings.
- Assemble, align, and maintain machinery with precision.
- Apply safety, problem-solving, and teamwork skills in demanding environments.

Through our Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) approach, each learner is guided by qualified instructors and industry mentors, ensuring readiness for both national trade testing and the realities of modern industry.



Excellence

FITTING THE FUTURE

BECOME A QUALIFIED MECHANICAL FITTER

**By Charl Grobbelaar, Occupational
Facilitator:**

Mechanical Fitting, Africa Skills GeorgeTech



Charl Grobbelaar at Africa Skills GeorgeTech is a passionate member the UXi Artisan Development Occupational Facilitator team. **Image: UXi AD Media**

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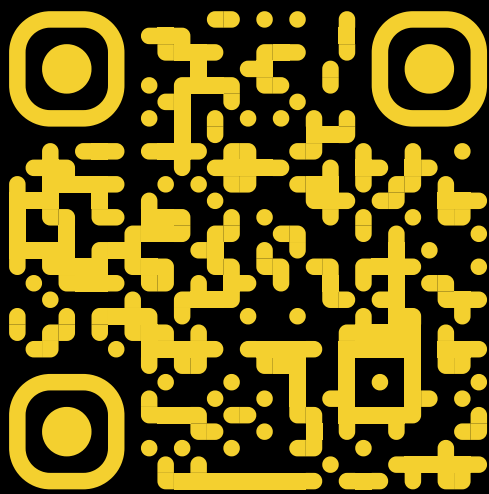


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MINING THE BENEFITS OF SKILLS TRAINING

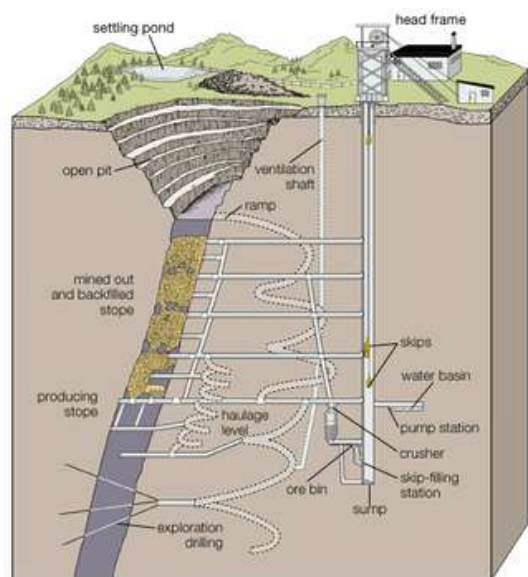
By Vic Nel, Campus Manager:
MCD Training Rustenburg

The Future Is Skilled. It is Discovered.

In mining, we extract valuable minerals from the earth – a process of discovery, refinement, and transformation. In many ways, skills training follows the same principle. Through education and practical application, we uncover, develop, and refine the potential within each learner, turning raw talent into professional strength.

The definition of Mining states that “Mining is the process of extracting valuable geological minerals from the earth” – Skills training can be compared to this concept as during skills training we are extracting valuable skills which will be beneficial in ensuring your development and productivity.

Below is the typical mining development layout.



© 2007 Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. Source: H. Hamrin, Guide to Underground Mining Methods and Applications (Stockholm: Atlas Copco, 1997)

Much like a mining operation, effective training follows key stages: Exploration, Discovery, Development, Production, and Reclamation. In artisan training, we explore new knowledge, discover techniques, develop practical competence, produce results through applied skill, and finally, reclaim success by reproducing excellence consistently in the workplace.

During my own studies in Analytical Chemistry, a lecturer once said: “You may forget the formulas, but the ability to think like a chemist will serve you for life.” That wisdom applies to Artisan training too. It’s not just about remembering procedures – it’s about learning to think, adapt, and apply skills across changing environments.

Take the mining industry, for example. A qualified fitter working underground may install roof bolts in different geological formations – from brittle quartz to dense granite. The same fundamental skillset applies, but the tools, techniques, and approaches must adapt to suit the conditions.

When moving from a platinum mine to a coal mine, the Artisan faces yet another learning curve – applying the same core competence with renewed understanding and innovation. This is the true value of vocational training: it empowers learners to think critically, work flexibly, and grow continually. Skills training, like mining, is a journey of constant discovery – one that strengthens both the individual and the industry.

At MCD Training Rustenburg, part of the UXI Artisan Development Group, we are proud to help learners unearth their potential and refine it into lifelong capability.

Because when we invest in skills, we mine the richest resource of all – human potential.



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WINNING RECIPE FOR TOP FUTURE CHEF CAREERS

By Johan du Plooy, Operations Manager:
François Ferreira Academy & Apprentice Restaurant



Excellence

Ask any graduate chef what first drew them to the kitchen, and the answer is usually the same – a love of food, creativity, and the thrill of making people happy through what you create. Yet turning that passion into a sustainable career takes more than talent. It takes training, discipline, and real experience.

Learning the Craft and the Culture

Past learners of the François Ferreira Academy (FFA) often describe their studies as the point where cooking stopped being a hobby and became a profession. They spent long hours mastering classic techniques and modern trends, learning that precision and teamwork matter as much as creativity.

During their three-year QCTO Occupational Chef Qualification or one-year Highfield Chef Programme, learners balanced theory and practice – about 30 % in the classroom and 70 % in live kitchens. That split proved invaluable: theory-built confidence, while work placements in hotels, restaurants, and catering operations showed them how the hospitality world really works.

“My first placement was terrifying,” recalls one graduate now working on a cruise ship. “But by the second week I was plating dishes for paying guests – and that changed everything. I realised I could do this.”

The Ingredients for Growth

Former learners often say their time at the Academy gave them more than cooking skills. It gave them perspective. The blend of exposure and mentorship shaped four essential ingredients that continue to serve them today:

1. **Technical excellence:** Knife mastery and safety, food safety, and the science behind flavour became second nature through repetition and feedback.
2. **Versatility:** Rotations between hot, cold, and pastry sections–built adaptability – a vital skill for global kitchens that change menus and trends overnight.
3. **Business sense:** Menu costing, stock control, and entrepreneurship opened their eyes to what it takes to run a profitable kitchen or even a small business.
4. **Purpose and planning:** Setting clear career goals early helped them map a path from apprentice to head chef, food stylist, or hospitality manager.

This mix of hands-on experience and self-awareness is what employers notice first.

A Community That Feels Like Family

Graduates often describe The Apprentice Restaurant – François Ferreira Academy’s on-campus training venue and one of multiple vetted host-employer partners – as their most valuable classroom. There, they cooked for real customers, learned to handle pressure, and received immediate feedback from tutors and guests.

A Profession with a Future

Parents sometimes wonder whether hospitality offers stability. The experience of the Academy's alumni provides reassurance. Graduates now work in fine-dining restaurants, luxury lodges, cruise liners, and catering companies across South Africa and the world. Some have started their own bakeries, food trucks, or boutique catering businesses.

Their stories show that culinary training can open doors to both employment and entrepreneurship. With accredited qualifications and verified work experience, they entered the job market already "industry ready".

Growing Future Talent

Hospitality partners who host learners for practical blocks often remark on the enthusiasm and professionalism the trainees bring. Work-integrated placements benefit both sides – learners gain exposure to real-world standards, and businesses enjoy the support of motivated interns who soon become skilled team members.

Many establishments later hire the same learners they helped to train, creating a continuous pipeline of fresh, reliable talent.

What Alumni Say Matters Most

When asked what stayed with them most after graduation, François Ferreira Academy chefs mention curiosity. They continue to study new cuisines, sustainable cooking methods, and technology shaping modern food production.

"You never stop learning," says another alumnus, now a pastry chef in Cape Town. "The Academy taught me how to learn, not just how to cook."

That mindset to stay curious, creative, and committed, is what keeps their careers growing long after the final assessment.



The Bigger Picture

The hospitality and culinary industries need people who care about quality, innovation, and community. Every new intake of aspiring chefs continues a cycle: training, mentoring, and contributing to South Africa's and the world's growing food and tourism sectors.

For those considering this path – whether you're a school-leaver, a parent exploring options, or a business wanting to partner – the stories of our graduates prove that culinary education can be both life-changing and career-building.

**THEIR FUTURES ARE SKILLED.
THEIR CREATIVITY IS THEIR CAREER.
THEIR PASSION IS THEIR POWER.**



To learn more about study opportunities or placement partnerships, visit www.francoisferreira.com or call 044 884 0765.



Passion

**COOK,
SERVE,
THRIVE!**



ESSENTIAL SKILLS FROM THE FRANÇOIS FERREIRA ACADEMY

By Magda Pretorius HOD:

Sales and Marketing

At the François Ferreira Academy, we believe your education is more than just a job. Just like we don't only eat to survive, studying with us is about gaining life skills that help you face every part of your world, not just your career. Our chef and hospitality courses are an awesome investment because they help you become a more capable and confident person.

Home Cooking and Creativity

We start with food, which is truly an act of love. You'll learn the basics of cooking, nutrition, and food safety, meaning you can whip up amazing meals for yourself and your loved ones. This skill alone is a game-changer! Plus, messing around with flavours and ingredients makes you super creative. That ability to experiment and think outside the box will help you in every area of your life.

Skills for Life

The real magic happens in the kitchen and the front-of-house. These fast-paced environments are the best places to learn some essential, powerful life skills:

- **Teamwork and talking:** Hospitality is all about working together and communicating clearly. You'll get great at giving clear instructions and collaborating seamlessly, which is key for any relationship or job.
- **Problem-solving:** Things go wrong in a restaurant—that's life! You'll learn to think fast, stay cool under pressure, and quickly fix unexpected situations. These skills are gold!

- Organisation and detail: A perfect dish or happy guest needs careful planning and a sharp eye for detail. Our courses teach you to be organised, plan well, and keep a high standard in everything you do.
- Cultural awareness: Working with diverse ingredients and people from all backgrounds naturally helps you appreciate different cultures and perspectives.
- Choosing a chef or hospitality course with the François Ferreira Academy is a fantastic choice. You're not just learning a trade; you're learning to thrive—in your career, your kitchen, and your life.

READY TO START BUILDING A SUCCESSFUL LIFE?

Enrol today for a chef or
hospitality course at the François
Ferreira Academy!

visit www.francoisferreira.com
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CRAFT YOUR CULINARY FUTURE

Where Passion Becomes Profession

At François Ferreira Academy, we're not training learners, we're launching skilled professionals.



REAL TRAINING.



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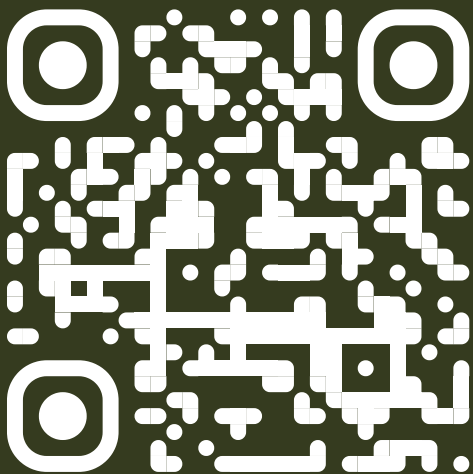


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FRANÇOIS FERREIRA
ACADEMY



THE FUTURE IS PURPOSE-DRIVEN

At UXi Artisan Development, we believe South Africa's economic renewal begins with one powerful idea - education that works. As the country's leading private provider of QCTO-accredited artisan training, our mission is to transform lives and industries through meaningful, hands-on skills development that bridges the gap between learning and earning.

Our success lies in an education model that goes far beyond theory. Every learner is assessed for both attitude and aptitude, ensuring they graduate not only with technical ability but with discipline, confidence, and purpose. Through partnerships with vetted workplaces across South Africa, our learners receive structured, mentored, real-world experience that mirrors the pace and precision of modern industry. This dual approach - classroom learning fused with practical application - produces graduates who are competent, adaptable, and employable from day one.

As part of the UXi group, we are driven by a shared philosophy: Education That Works. Our partnerships with SETAs, employers, and industry bodies ensure that every programme - from Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (ARPL) to Trade Test Readiness and Apprenticeships - is aligned with the evolving needs of the labour market. Each qualification is designed to unlock potential, stimulate business growth, and strengthen South Africa's skills pipeline.

Across our national network of campuses, innovation meets purpose. Here, young people discover their calling, and industries discover their future workforce. With every graduate, we move closer to closing the national artisan shortage - shaping a country where vocational education is not a fallback, but a first choice for those who want to build, create, and lead.

UXi Artisan Development is pioneering excellence in vocational training - inspiring hope, igniting opportunity, and shaping the future one artisan at a time.



By Elsie Harmse, CEO:
UXi Artisan Development



Elsie Harmse is excited about the role of UXi Artisan Development in the closing of the future gap between learning and earning in South Africa. **Image: UXi AD Media**



Professional QCTO Red Seal Artisan training requires close attention from both learner and facilitator is required to master industry standards and employee expectations. **Image: UXi AD Media**

**EDUCATION THAT WORKS –
SKILLS THAT BUILD NATIONS.**

TRAINING AS AN INVESTMENT

By **Elsie Harmse, CEO: UXi Artisan Development**



Accountability

In today's fast-changing economy, one of the most powerful investments any individual or company can make is in training. Unlike assets that depreciate over time, skills appreciate – they grow in value, unlocking opportunities for both people and businesses.

Training is not a cost; it's an investment in future performance. For individuals, it's an investment in employability, confidence, and independence. For employers, it's an investment in productivity, innovation, and long-term sustainability. Skilled employees are not only more efficient – they are problem-solvers who contribute to growth and drive excellence in the workplace.

At UXi Artisan Development, we see every learner as a return on investment waiting to happen. Our approach to training focuses on workplace readiness, practical application, and lifelong learning. The goal is not just to teach skills, but to shape mindsets – to build individuals who take pride in their craft and understand their value in the economy.

We also understand that training goes beyond technical skills. It includes developing leadership, accountability, teamwork, and resilience – qualities that prepare people to succeed in a competitive world. Whether it's a learnership, a trade qualification, or a short course, each programme is designed to create lasting value.

In an era where industries are evolving and technology is reshaping jobs; continuous learning has become essential. Investing in training means staying relevant and future-proof. For South Africa, where unemployment and skills shortages remain challenges, training is not just an investment – it's the key to national growth and transformation.

At UXi Artisan Development, we remain committed to providing quality training that delivers measurable returns – for learners, employers, and the communities we serve.



Investment in the cost of Artisanship opens doors to employment in real world business giants and entrepreneurship.
Image UXi AD Media



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A Red Seal Artisan represents verified, standardised competence - giving employers confidence that everyone meets national and industry-approved benchmarks for quality, safety, and productivity. For industry, this certification directly supports skills reliability, compliance, and workforce sustainability, ensuring that South Africa's technical sectors remain competitive and future ready through QCTO accredited full qualification (3 years) or ARPL assessment, training and trade testing. At IETI CapeTech in Goodwood two successful candidates joined thousands of other newly qualified ARPL Red Seal Artisans delivered by IETI over more than 30 years.



Excellence

NEW JOB AND REMUNERATION MAY AWAIT ARPL SUCCESS

Congrats to Welcome Siyabulela Zini (51)

Who obtained the Red Seal Electrical Artisan certificate on 28 October 2025. Currently Siya is a Millwright Technician. His career experience includes maintenance of cryogenic pumps on premises as well as maintenance of road tankers. He is also doing electrical installations, design, wiring and commissioning. In addition, Siya is compliant to do fault finding, testing motors, electronic circuits, and working on Star Delta and forward reverse control circuits.

Image: Supplied



Congrats to Gustuv Anton Joseph (42)

Who is also celebrating his Red Seal Electrical Artisan qualification for which he completed his Trade Test at IETI CapeTech on 28 October this year. Gustuv is employed as an Electrical Assistant preparing and installing electrical wireways. He also wires electrical installations, preparing and installing single-phase distribution board switch gear, basic three phase installations and fault finding.

Image: Supplied



All these successful candidates now join the ranks of Red Seal Artisans, opening doors to new career opportunities, higher remuneration, and recognition as highly skilled professionals in South Africa's technical industries. **Well done!**



ARPL UNLOCKS PROSPEROUS FUTURES

Excellence

Earning your Red Seal qualification through the Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (ARPL) process delivers both immediate impact and long-term value for individuals, companies, and industry alike. For graduates, it transforms years of practical experience into a nationally recognised certification, unlocking better job opportunities, higher earning potential, and professional credibility across borders. For employers, Red Seal artisans bring verified competence and productivity, reducing training costs and boosting workplace quality and safety. And for the broader industry, each Red Seal graduate strengthens South Africa's skilled workforce pipeline, driving innovation, growth, and global competitiveness. It's more than a qualification - it's an investment in sustainable skills, economic empowerment, and a future built by mastery.



Congratulations to all successful ARPL candidates at UXi Artisan Development Campuses across the country in recent months, including Sibongiseni Ndlovu (32) and Ongama Mbali (28) who recently, through ARPL, successfully qualified as Red Seal Diesel Mechanics. At the UXi Artisan Development campus of EBDA in Brakpan Ntatu Moima (centre), Diesel Trade Testing Officer at EBDA congratulated them on their achievement. **Image: Supplied**

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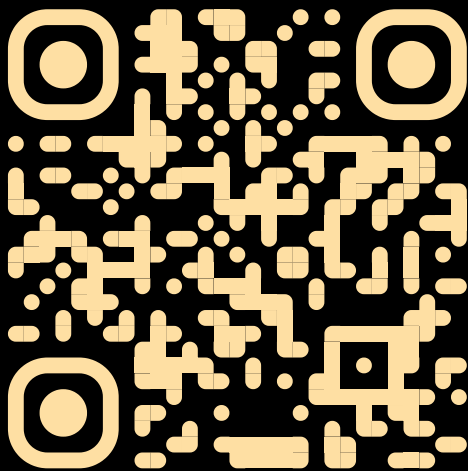


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LEVEL UP YOUR TALENT:

The Africa Skills Marketing Course with Specialisation in Film and Acting



Find Your Purpose.
Live Your Passion.
Perform Your Future.



Innovation

MY FUTURE IS ... ON CAMERA!



Only you know what your acting feels like, but you have no idea what you look like. The problem comes in when what feels right doesn't look right on camera!

– Jacques Gombault



There's something electric about storytelling – that moment when the lights dim, the cameras roll, and raw emotion becomes art. Acting is more than pretending; it's purpose in motion. It's the courage to feel deeply, to express truthfully, and to create meaning through performance.

At Africa Skills, the Marketing Course with Specialisation in Film and Acting Facilitator Jacques Gombault, an accomplished actor and educator with a wealth of experience in screen and stage performance, reminds his students:

“No one will give you work unless you have experience, but how do you get experience if nobody gives you work? We give experience,” says Jacques, the Africa Skills Performance and Film Specialist. That's where true growth happens – where passion meets discipline, and purpose becomes visible.



The Purpose Behind Performance

The Africa Skills Marketing Course with Specialisation in Film and Acting equips aspiring performers with hands-on skills to express, adapt, and evolve. Under Jacques' expert mentorship, learners develop more than camera confidence – they learn authentic storytelling, emotional control, and technical awareness that brings their craft to life on screen.

This course isn't for the faint-hearted. It's for those who feel called to the world of acting – who understand that being an artist means more than fame. It means connection, truth, and transformation.

- Practical Camera Training: Understanding lighting, framing, and camera presence.
- Performance Coaching: Exploring voice, emotion, and physicality.
- Industry Preparation: Gaining insight into auditions, production sets, and professional ethics

What You'll Master In front of the camera

- Ditch the nerves and find your confidence
- Discover your best on-screen style
- Learn how to audition like a pro
- Break habits that hold you back and unlock your real potential

Behind the camera

- Understand how lighting, framing and editing shape emotion
- Learn the basics of writing for screen
- Explore directing, producing and creating short-form digital content

A Career with Purpose

In South Africa's evolving film and entertainment industry, trained performers are in growing demand – not only for cinema and television, but also for digital content creation, advertising, and storytelling across all media. The Africa Skills Marketing Course with Specialisation in Film and Acting bridges passion with profession, providing learners with skills that are both creative and career ready.

At UXi Artisan Development, we believe education should empower purpose. That's why every course, including the Film and Acting Module, combines knowledge, practical training, and workplace experience – the same three pillars that make UXi graduates industry-ready.

Why Choose Africa Skills?

- Learn from seasoned professionals like Jacques, whose experience reflects the real world of performance and production.
- Develop confidence, creativity, and critical thinking through hands-on, on-camera work.
- Be part of a nationally respected institution that celebrates talent, purpose, and skill.
- Align your passion with a career pathway – whether in acting, presenting, directing, or content creation.

YOUR FUTURE IS WAITING - STEP INTO THE FRAME

If you feel that acting isn't just something you do, but who you are – then it's time to step forward. The Africa Skills Film Acting Course will help you find your rhythm, refine your performance, and reveal your true self on camera.

Spaces are limited – because every great story starts with the right cast. Come write yours with the Africa Skills Film Acting Course – directed by you, guided by Jacques Gombault.

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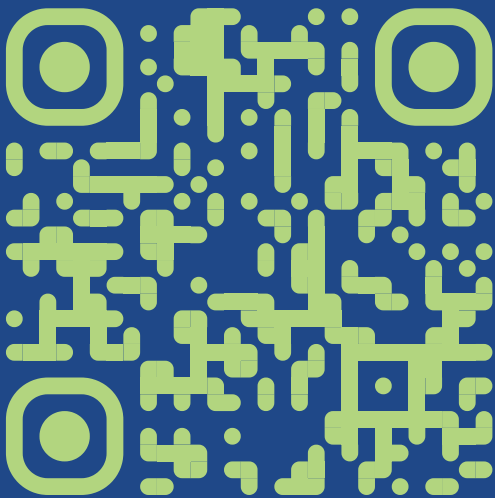


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TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITIES

by **Sakkie Wiese, Campus Manager:**
Africa Skills Pofadder

The Future Is Skilled. The Future Is Local.

The mining sector in and around Pofadder plays a vital role in driving both South Africa's economy and local community growth. Rich in mineral resources and opportunity, this region's mines provide stable employment and a platform for technical advancement in fields such as mechanical fitting, electrical work, welding, and mining operations.

Through collaboration between industry, education providers, and government, these operations not only extract mineral wealth but also create meaningful pathways for skills transfer and human development – ensuring that the benefits of mining extend far beyond the pit.



Accountability

At Africa Skills Pofadder, part of the UXi Artisan Development Group, this partnership between education and industry truly comes to life. As a QCTO-accredited skills development campus, Africa Skills Pofadder equips men and women from the local community with nationally recognised artisan qualifications and essential soft skills for employability, empowering them to contribute confidently to both the mining sector and the broader economy.

Through hands-on training, mentorship, and life skills development, learners gain more than a trade – they gain purpose, pride, and the power to build sustainable livelihoods. In doing so, the Pofadder community continues to transform from a mining town into a skills hub shaping South Africa's future workforce.

Currently, 68 apprentices are completing their training at Africa Skills Pofadder. These include 14 CBP Millwrights, 6 Welders, and 4 Electrician apprentices from Loeriesfontein; 5 Electrician apprentices from Keimoes; 3 private Millwrights and 1 Electrician apprentice; 19 Vedanta apprentices in four trades (now deployed to workplace learning); and 15 Vedanta apprentices in three trades undergoing Intak2 institutional training.

The current first-year intake has successfully completed their Knowledge and Practical Modules, with 22 learners now onboarding with BMM, Gamsberg, and CBP workplaces for experience, while 11 others have been placed with private host employers.

Since June 2025, Africa Skills Pofadder has successfully trained and qualified 35 new technical trade learners, including 8 Electrician Assistants, 8 General Residential Repairers, 7 Diesel Mechanic Assistants, 7 Welder Assistants, and 5 Mechanical Fitter Assistants.

In the same period, 62 learners completed soft skills programmes, achieving qualifications in Basic Computing Skills (25 learners from Pofadder and Pella), Intermediate Computing Skills (21 learners), and Administration Assistant (16 learners).

Each success story represents more than just a certificate – it's proof that when education meets opportunity, communities grow, industries strengthen, and futures are built by skilled hands.



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- **Bricklayer:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Carpenter:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Fitter & Turner:** Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Boilermaker:** Durnacol | P&T
- **Motor Mechanic / Automotive Repairer:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Millwright:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Diesel Mechanic:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI
- **Solar PV Technician:** Africa Skills
- **Mechanical Fitter:** Africa Skills | Durnacol | IETI | P&T
- **Lifting Equipment Operators:** Africa Skills - VereenigingTech

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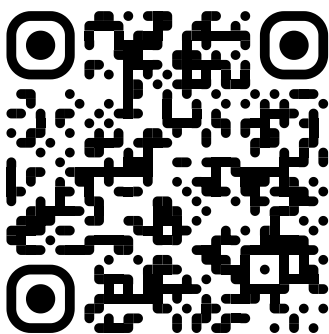
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- **IETI** (Cape Town, Gqeberha & Roodepoort)
- **Africa Skills** (George, Centurion, Pofadder, Vereeniging)
- **P & T Training** (Germiston)
- **MCD Training** (Rustenburg)
- **EBDA** (Brakpan)
- **François Ferreira Academy** (George)
- **Empilweni Education** (Randburg)

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Empowering the Next Generation of Skilled Professionals.

At IETI, we're not training learners,
we're launching skilled professionals.



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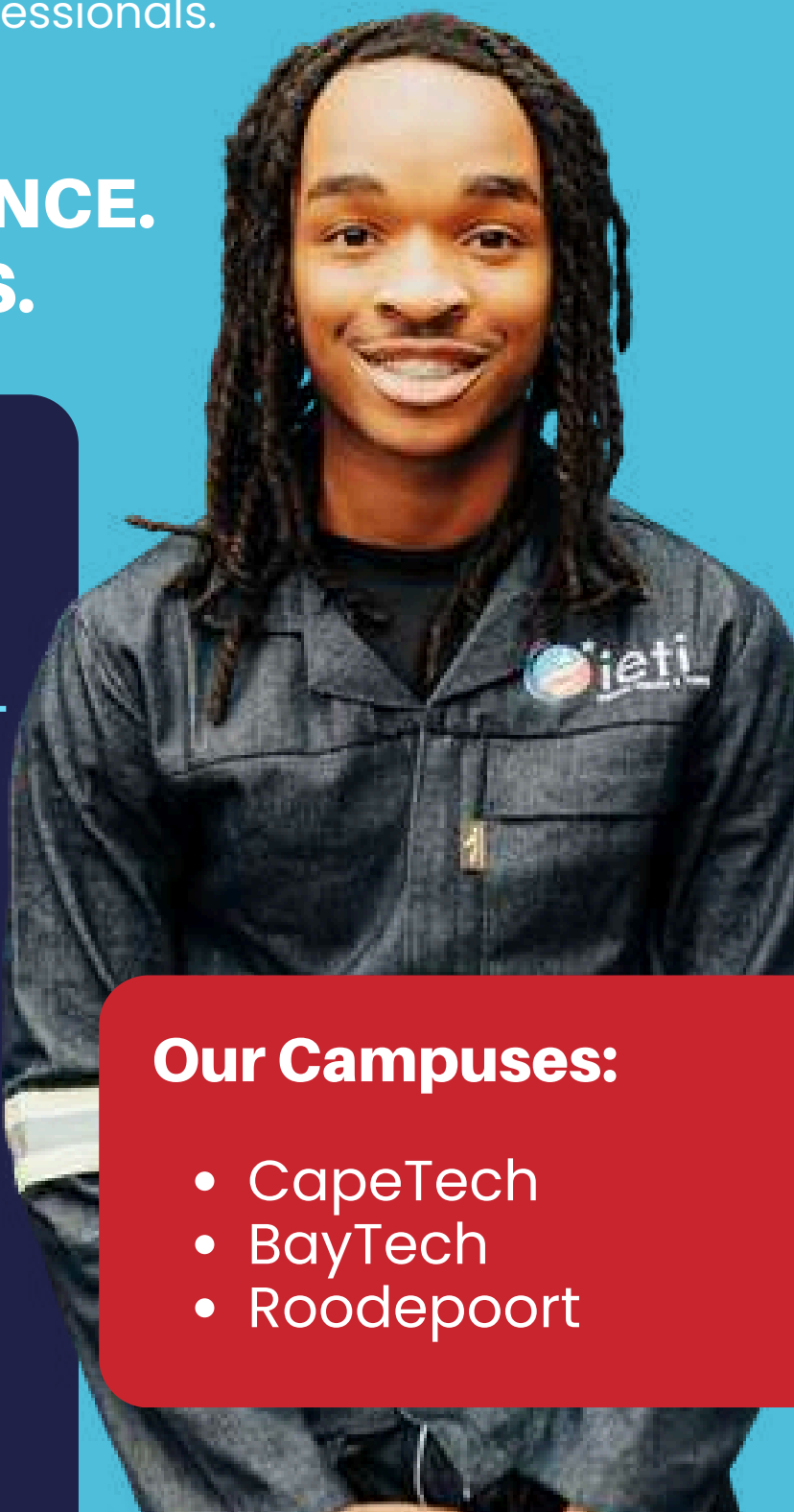
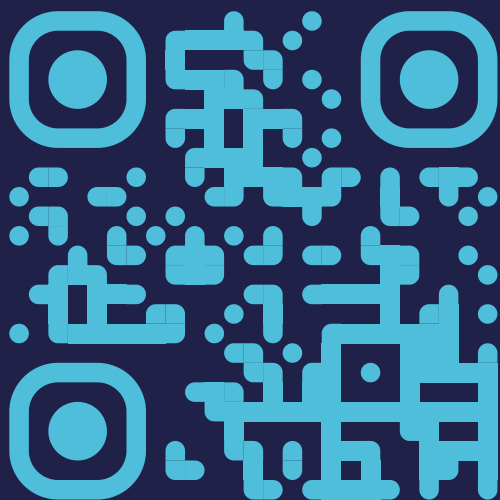


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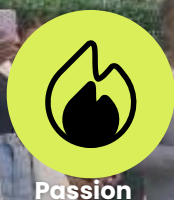


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Our Campuses:

- CapeTech
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ECD - ALWAYS IN DEMAND IN SA AND GLOBALLY

Early Childhood Development (ECD) is arguably the foundation of lifelong learning. From birth to around six years, children's brains develop rapidly, and the experiences they receive in these early years deeply impact their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development. Quality ECD programmes are essential – the more we invest in strong training for ECD practitioners, the more resilient communities and stronger futures we build. South Africa has recognised this, especially in policy, census, and sector studies. For those passionate about teaching and working with young children, ECD is not just a job – it's a calling with real opportunity and stable demand.

Research & Reality: Demand for Qualified ECD Workers in South Africa

Recent research, especially the “Early Childhood Development in South Africa: Current and Future Workforce Requirements” report by Ilifa Labantwana (2025), highlights major gaps and demands in the workforce. [iLifa Labantwana](#)

Key findings:

- There is a significant shortage of appropriately trained and qualified ECD practitioners in many areas, especially in non-school based facilities (preschools, educare centres, home-based programmes). [iLifa Labantwana+1](#)
- The 2030 ECD Strategy from the Department of Basic Education sets targets to expand access (for ages 0-5), which implies that many more practitioners will be needed to meet those targets. [iLifa Labantwana](#)

- The ECD Census 2021 showed over 42,000 Early Learning Programmes (ELPs) across South Africa, many of which have unfilled or underqualified staffing. [DataDrive2030](#)
- Studies reveal inequities: rural and low-income communities often have less access to well-qualified ECD practitioners, playgrounds, or sufficient infrastructure. [SciELO+1](#)

In short, there is strong evidence that the supply of qualified, reliable ECD practitioners is not keeping up with demand. For learners looking for meaningful, stable work, this is good news: places exist, opportunities are growing, and the need is ongoing.

What a Qualified ECD Career Means – Employment, Entrepreneurship & Impact Employment

With a recognised ECD qualification (often at NQF Level 4 or 5), graduates can find work in:

- Educare centres and preschools
- Daycare facilities
- Aftercare programmes
- Grade R facilitation (once requirements are met)
- Roles such as assistant teacher, learner facilitator, centre supervisor

Employers increasingly demand qualifications for registration, compliance with Department of Social Development / Education standards, and safer, more structured learning environments for children.

Entrepreneurship

ECD also offers entrepreneurial pathways:

- Opening your own educare / childcare centre
- Running home-based ECD programmes or playgroups
- Creating specialised services (after-school, holiday programmes, enrichment classes)
- Collaborating with NGOs, non-profits to serve underserved communities

Because the demand is persistent, and many areas (especially rural and low-income urban) are underserved, there is opportunity for socially minded entrepreneurs to build businesses that also address a need.

Impact on Lives

- **For toddlers and babies:** Early experiences shape foundational skills—language, counting, social interaction, emotional regulation. Quality care and early learning boost school readiness.
- **For families:** Trained ECD practitioners give parents confidence, allow working parents to be able to work or study, and improve outcomes for children.
- **For community & country:** Better ECD correlates with improved long-term educational outcomes, reduced grade repetition, better health, stronger social cohesion, ultimately economic gains.

Your Gateway to an ECD Career

If you're called to work with young learners, here are two excellent institutions to consider:

- IIB – Industries Institute for Business, George offers accredited ECD (certificate or qualifications) training in George. They emphasise not just theoretical knowledge but practical, workplace-aligned learning to ensure learners are ready to enter the workforce or start small own ventures. (Check iibonline.co.za for their course offerings and how to register.)
- Africa Skills Business, Randburg (part of the UXi Artisan Development group) likewise offers ECD training programs aligned with national/training authority accreditation. Their courses are designed to meet market demand, with support for placement and entrepreneurship. Contact their Randburg Business Campus or at Empilweni Education (see www.epilwenieducation.co.za) in Randburg to ask about intake dates, fees, and support.

A Continuous & Rising Demand

- The national 2030 ECD Strategy aims to expand access significantly, meaning more centres, more children, more practitioners. **ilifa Labantwana**
- Quality requirements are increasing: regulation, standards of play-based learning, child-to-practitioner ratios (Children's Act), health, nutrition, safety. Only those with proper training/qualifications can reliably meet these.
- Globally and locally, parents and governments increasingly value early learning; the market for high-quality early childhood services is expanding, especially in urban and peri-urban areas.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

If you have passion, patience, and heart for young children, this is a field where you can make a real difference- and enjoy stable, meaningful work. Whether you aspire to:

- be an ECD teacher or facilitator
- lead your own centre
- work in aftercare or community ECD
- or simply support young children at critical developmental stages

then getting a recognised qualification is your foundation.

For More Information & Enrolment:

- **IIB George** – Visit www.iibonline.co.za or contact their George campus for ECD certificate courses, fees, intakes.
- **Africa Skills Business, Randburg** – Reach out through the UXi Artisan Development group (www.uxi-ad.co.za) or specifically their Randburg Business Campus or at Empilweni Education (see www.epilwenieducation.co.za) in Randburg to ask about ECD training offerings, schedule, support.

ECD isn't a job of the past or optional- it is always in demand. It shapes the future - every child, every family, every community. If you feel called to teach, care, nurture, you're needed. It's time to step in.

Every heartbeat in South Africa tells a story — of resilience, hope, and the power of care. Yet behind that strength lies an urgent need: more qualified healthcare professionals who can meet the growing demand for quality, accessible, and compassionate care.

South Africa faces one of the most complex health challenges in the world. With approximately 8 million people living with HIV and more than 270,000 new tuberculosis cases reported in 2023, our healthcare system carries a heavy responsibility. On top of this, chronic illnesses are rising — 67% of South Africans live with hypertension, and 1 in 10 suffer from diabetes.

The need for skilled healthcare professionals has never been greater.

Healthcare Is Essential

Healthcare qualifications are not just certificates — they are commitments to life, dignity, and community well-being. In South Africa, where the healthcare system must serve millions across urban and rural areas, qualified healthcare professionals make all the difference.

Qualified healthcare professionals help to:

- Improve patient care: Skilled and trained healthcare workers ensure safe, effective, and compassionate care — improving recovery rates and patient satisfaction.
- Promote equity: A strong healthcare system depends on a steady supply of qualified practitioners to address historic inequalities and ensure all South Africans have access to quality care.
- Address public health challenges: Trained professionals are vital to implementing South Africa's primary healthcare approach, reaching communities where care is needed most.

When healthcare workers are well-trained with industry and occupational authority-accredited qualifications, communities thrive, patients recover, and the nation and economy grow stronger.



Accountability

HEALTHCARE QUALIFICATIONS MATTER

BUILDING A HEALTHIER FUTURE

By Marinda Haarhoff, Campus Manager:
Empilweni Education



Marinda Haarhoff, a seasoned healthcare professional is leading the Empilweni Education team to train future qualified healthcare workers to professionally care for the elderly, the frail and permanently disabled South Africans. **Image: UXi AD Media**



The Future: Community and Home-Based Healthcare

While hospitals and clinics remain essential, the reality is that not all care needs to happen inside medical facilities. South Africa's growing population, ageing citizens, and limited hospital capacity have made Community and Home-Based Healthcare one of the fastest-growing sectors in the industry.

Home-based carers play a critical role in our healthcare ecosystem – offering medical, personal, and emotional support to those who need it most: the elderly, patients with chronic illnesses, and individuals recovering from surgery or injury.

Benefits of Home-Based Care to the Community:

- Comfort and convenience: Patients recover in the familiar surroundings of their homes.
- Fewer hospital admissions: Early intervention and home treatments reduce the need for hospitalisation.
- Shorter hospital stays: Patients can continue recovery safely at home, freeing up hospital capacity.
- Better outcomes: Care provided in a supportive home environment often results in improved recovery and overall quality of life.

Community-based care is not only cost-effective – it's compassion-driven. It restores dignity, provides employment, and empowers South Africans to care for their communities.

Empilweni Education: Your First Step Toward a Caring Career

At Empilweni Education in Randburg, part of the UXi Artisan Development Group, we are proud to train future healthcare professionals who serve with skill, compassion, and purpose. Our QCTO-accredited healthcare qualifications are designed to give learners practical experience and job-ready confidence from day one.

Whether you dream of becoming a Medical Information Manager, a Home-Based Carer or Home-Based Carer Assistant, a Community Health Worker, or continuing your journey toward qualifications in Healthcare Support Services, your career begins here at Empilweni – where care meets skill.

NOW, OPEN UP YOUR FUTURE CAREER

South Africa needs you — your empathy, your energy, and your hands-on care.

Make a difference. Build your career in a field where you will always be needed. Contact Empilweni Education, a proud UXi Artisan Development Campus.

Where?

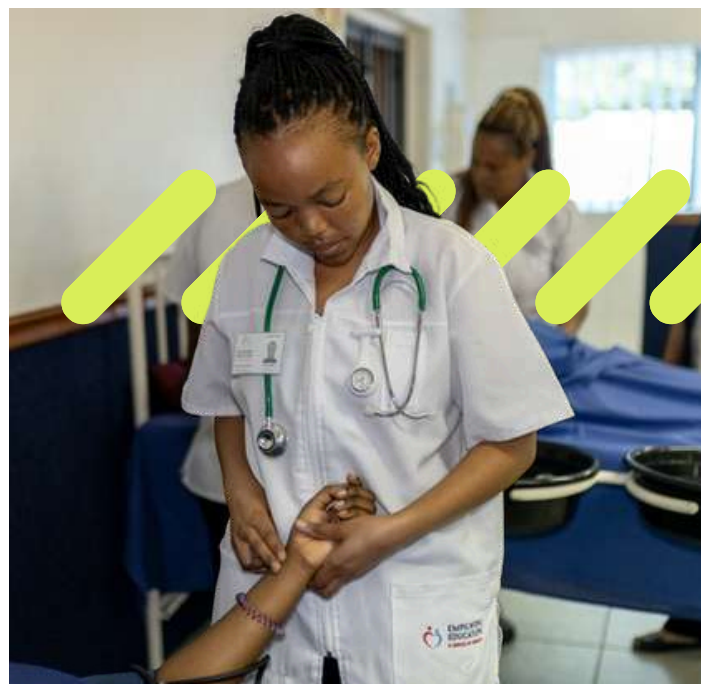
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E: study@empilwenieducation.co.za

Visit: www.uxi-ad.co.za OR

www.empilwenieducation.co.za to select your course, your campus, and to apply for February 2026, May 2026, or September 2026 intakes – or any future intake that fits your journey best.



BUILD YOUR PATH IN HEALTHCARE

Empowering Communities, One Skilled Learner at a Time.

At Empilweni Education, we're not training learners, we're launching skilled professionals.



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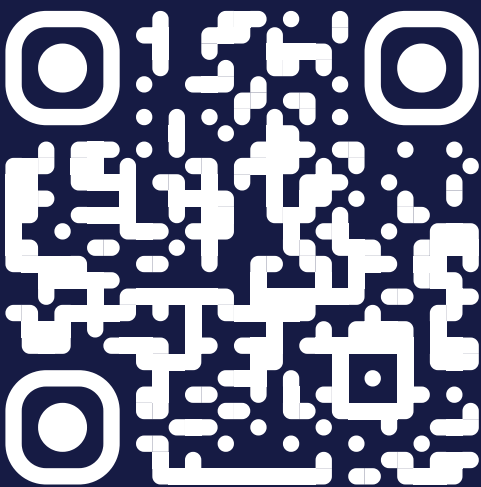


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YOUR FUTURE IN BUSINESS STARTS HERE

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At IIB, we're not training learners,
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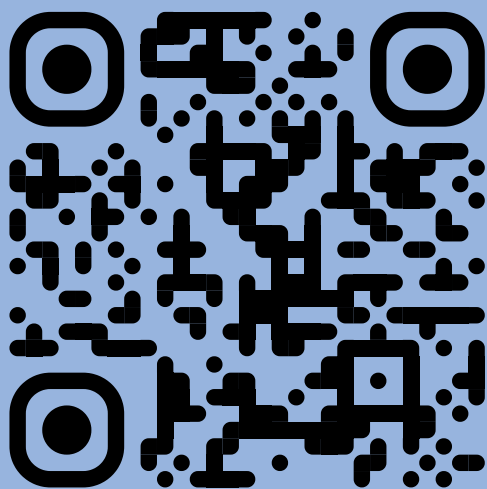


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INDUSTRY
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Passion

CAMPUS NEWS CHIPS & BITS



Mauritz Zietsmann, HOD: Sales & Marketing at Africa Skills Centurion William Mark Ashton, an outstanding learner at Centurion High School with a well-earned bursary incentive as he will be joining the Electrical Programme on the campus in 2026.
Image: UXi AD Media

EXCITING GROWTH AT AFRICA SKILLS CENTURION!



Africa Skills Centurion is growing into the vibrant, hands-on campus we've always envisioned! Our third block intake was a great success, welcoming 36 new Electrical students and 3 Welding students to the Africa Skills family. With such strong momentum, we're already looking forward to an action-packed first block in 2026.

A special highlight this term was our first-ever bursary handover, valued at R46,000, hosted at Centurion High School. The bursary was awarded to William Mark Ashton, an outstanding learner who will soon join our Electrical programme. In a wonderful coincidence, William had already chosen Africa Skills as his preferred training destination - making this partnership more meaningful!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Centurion High School for their ongoing collaboration and shared commitment to nurturing South Africa's future artisans.

Here's to continued growth, new partnerships, and empowering more skilled professionals in 2026!



Proud learners at Africa Skills Centurion sharing their passion to be prepared for a solid future with in-demand scarce skills qualifications.
Image: UXi AD Media

ALEX HEADS UP AFRICA SKILLS GEORGETECH & GEORGE NTAKA

Alex Engelke has been appointed the new Campus Manager at Africa Skills in George. As a BSc graduate Alex is experienced and passionate in the fields of Food Science where he progressed from 2015 to 2020. Dedicated to and passionate about the management, success and development of future QCTO accredited Red Seal Artisans and all who have dreams about trades industry qualifications, Alex has gained essential exposure and experience over the past few years.





EBDA WELCOMES YOUTH ON THE EAST RAND

With QCTO accredited theory and industry standard workshop practical at Africa Skills EBDA in Brakpan apprentices are prepared for work placement experience at host employers.



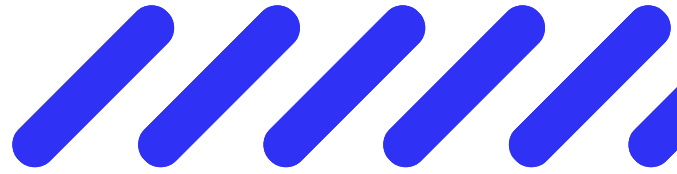
THE FUTURE IS BUSINESS

Valued partnerships and efficient team members ensure the best QCTO accredit Work Integrated learning programs available at www.iib-online.co.za, home to UXi Artisan Development industry demanded online business training. At IIB (Industry Institute of Business) we develop job-ready professionals through practical, QCTO-accredited business qualifications that build confidence, competence, and career growth. Our team is in full support of October Cancer Awareness month.



BUSINESS QUALIFICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE: THE IIB WAY

By Denise Marshall,
Campus Manager: IIB



Passion

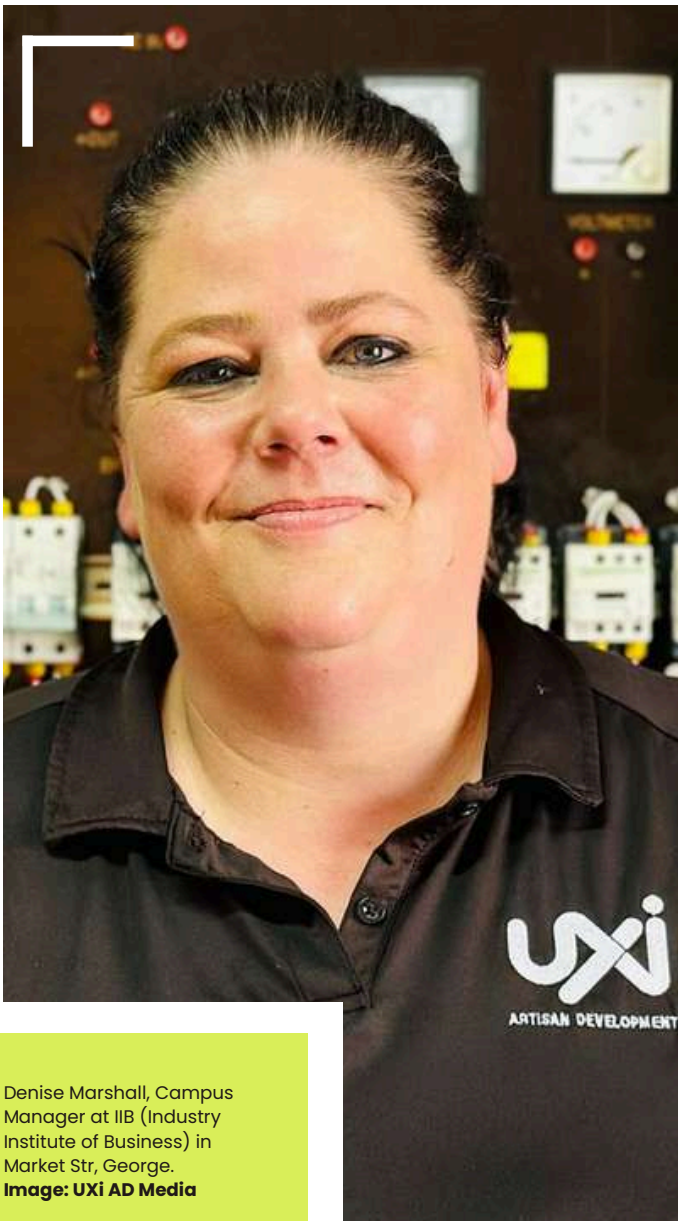
In today's fast-changing world, achieving financial independence isn't just a personal goal. It's essential. The Industry Institute of Business (IIB) helps learners, employees, and aspiring entrepreneurs turn this goal into reality with accredited business qualifications that combine practical skills, entrepreneurship, and real-world experience.

IIB delivers accredited financial, banking and business courses in South Africa to enhance your career with online learning.

Whether you're a school leaver exploring your first career, a parent guiding your child, or a professional looking to upskill or re-skill, IIB's online programmes prepare you for success. From foundational business principles to advanced management and entrepreneurship, learners gain the tools to move from job seekers to job creators. The focus is on learning by doing, ensuring graduates are ready to manage, innovate, and lead in any business environment.

Hands-on learning is at the heart of IIB's approach. Students develop business plans, take part in simulated enterprises, and apply classroom concepts to real-world challenges. This practical experience builds critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and the confidence needed to thrive financially and professionally.

Through strong industry partnerships, IIB ensures all programmes stay relevant to market needs.



Denise Marshall, Campus Manager at IIB (Industry Institute of Business) in Market Str, George.
Image: Uxi AD Media



Recently George-based IIB, the François Ferreira Academy and Africa Skills shared the marketing platform at the Plett Youth Career Show 2025. F.I.t.r.: are Joyce Sonti (Sales Administrator: Africa Skills), Bongiwe Sika (Dept of Social Development: Bitou), Johan Pretorius – HOD: Sales & Marketing: IIB and Avril Rittels (Sales & Marketing: François Ferreira Academy).
Image: Supplied

Learners gain exposure to current business trends, digital tools, and financial literacy, giving them a head start in launching businesses, managing enterprises, or advancing into leadership roles. IIB qualifications are not just certificates as they are pathways to independence, empowerment, and long-term career success.

Project Management: Unlock Career Opportunities

Project management is one of the most in-demand and versatile skills across industries – from finance and retail to tech and education. IIB's QCTO-accredited Occupational Qualification in Project Management equips learners with the knowledge, practical experience, and workplace exposure needed to lead projects and drive results.

The programme combines three key components:

- **Knowledge Modules:** Learn the essentials – project planning, budgeting, stakeholder management, and quality assurance.
- **Practical Modules:** Apply your knowledge through real-world simulations, case studies, and collaborative projects.
- **Workplace Modules:** Gain on-the-job experience and mentorship while managing live projects.

This integrated approach ensures learners are ready for roles such as project coordinators, team leaders, or project managers or to run their own businesses successfully. Employers value IIB graduates for their practical skills, leadership ability, and results-oriented mindset.

With IIB, Project Management isn't just a qualification – it's a gateway to opportunity, confidence, and career growth.

Early Childhood Development (ECD): The Essential Difference

The demand for qualified Early Childhood Development (ECD) professionals continues to grow. IIB's ECD qualifications equip learners with the skills to educate, nurture, and support young children during their most formative years – preparing them for meaningful careers in schools, care centres, and community initiatives.

The programme includes:

- **Knowledge Modules:** Learn child development, curriculum planning, and teaching techniques.
- **Practical Modules:** Apply teaching strategies, classroom management, and creative learning activities.
- **Workplace Modules:** Gain hands-on experience in real early learning environments with mentorship.

Graduates leave ready to make an immediate impact, with pathways to employment, career progression, or entrepreneurship. Beyond career benefits, ECD training empowers learners to positively influence children's social, emotional, and cognitive growth – making it a career with real purpose and community impact.

IIB isn't just about qualifications – it's about transforming lives. Whether you're a school leaver, a working professional, or an employer seeking skilled, results-driven talent, IIB's accredited programmes – listed completely on www.iibonline.co.za – give you the practical skills, confidence, and opportunities to succeed in business, education, and beyond.

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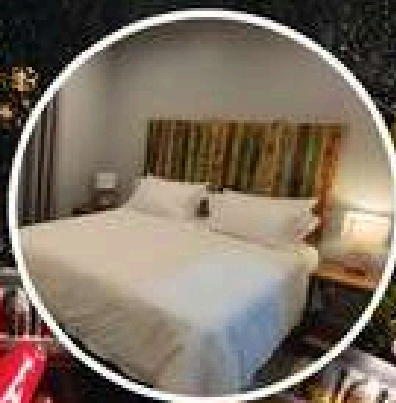


Chai & Spice

Restaurant • Guesthouse • Spice Market

Chai & Spice, established in George in October 2020 by husband and wife team Udesh and Sangeetha Ramparsad (originally from Durban), offers a unique dining experience featuring traditional Durban-style Indian cuisine with an exciting fusion of cultures. A first of its kind in the Garden Route! Our dishes are prepared using fresh, carefully selected spices sourced directly from our Spice Market. Choose from a variety of lamb, chicken, prawn, or vegetable curries, served with your choice of bunny chow, rice, roti, or naan.

In addition to our restaurant, our Spice Market provides an authentic oriental shopping experience, offering a wide range of spices, snacks, lentils, beans, and other specialty products. We also welcome guests to our guesthouse, which features four rooms, each thoughtfully furnished with matching bedding, comforts, and décor.



Opening hours: Mon to Sat: 11:00 – 19:30

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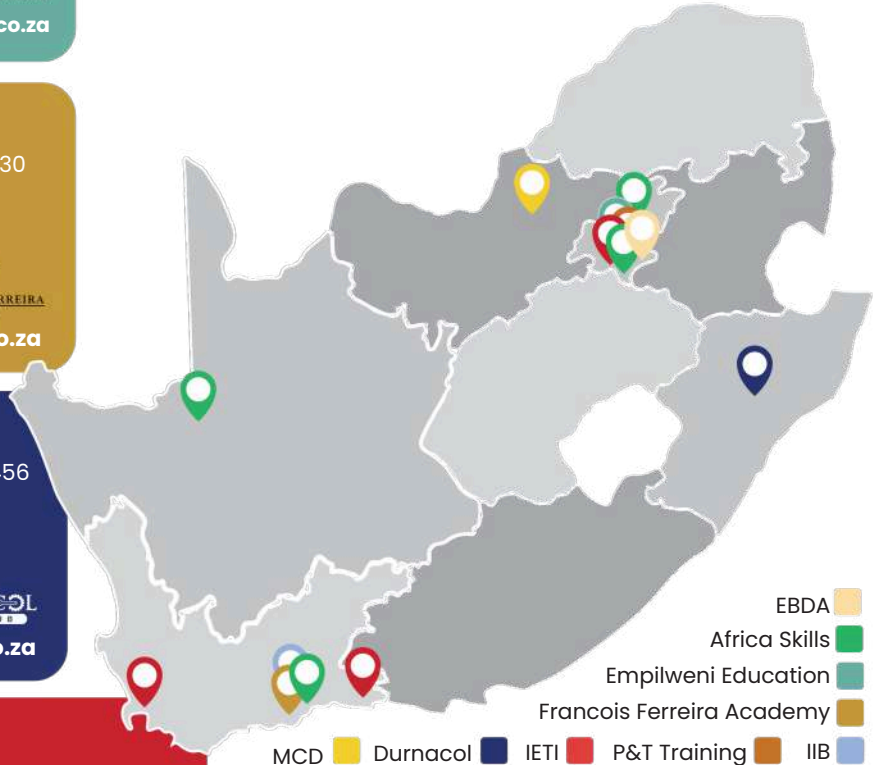
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