

## Skills Programme: Blasting Assistant in Surface Mines and Quarries

Registration number: SPCLA-G017  
 NQF: FET  
 Duration: 23 Days

Accrediting SETA: MQA  
 Credits: 14 (Minimum)  
 RPL: Yes

### Purpose

People with this skills programme will be able to comply with part of the Explosives Usage at Mines and Works Regulations under the Mine Health and Safety Act in terms of the competencies specified for blasting assistants but excluding the duties covered by the Skills Programme for the Management of Explosives Magazines on Mines and Quarries.

### Entry Criteria

- Communications and Mathematical Literacy - NQF Level 2
- Basic knowledge of surface mine or quarrying operations

### Qualification Rules:

This qualification is made up of core and elective unit standards and a minimum of 14 credits is required to complete the qualification:

#### Core:

- All 12 credits must be achieved

#### Elective:

- At least one of the elective unit standards must be achieved in accordance with site specific requirements.

### Core Unit Standards

SAQA ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	CREDITS
257036	Demonstrate a basic understanding of explosives and accessories used	2
244378	Receive, handle, store and issue explosives and accessories at a workplace	2
257022	Make up primers and charge holes	2
257058	Time and connect blast initiating systems	2
257055	Identify and demarcate misfires in a surface excavation	2
116520	Apply, safety health and environmental principles and procedures in a workplace	2

### Elective Unit Standards

SAQA ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	CREDITS
12484	Perform basic fire fighting	4
120496	Provide risk-based primary emergency care / first-aid in the workplace	5
253025	Demonstrate knowledge and ability to work in a surface mine	8
257015	Transport and distribute explosives using a light duty explosives vehicle	4
257017	Transport and distribute explosives using a heavy duty explosives vehicle	2
257034	Load and off-load material using a skid steer loader	9
257019	Load, transport and place explosives components into blast holes using a mixer-placer truck	6
230018	Operate a mixer-placer explosives truck	6
257040	Dewater blast holes using a vehicle-mounted dewatering pump	4

244422	Demonstrate knowledge of the most common harmful gases and vapours	4
257042	Install and maintain an initiating system on a surface mine	2
257030	Assist blasting operations	4