



Covid-19 Regulatory Update compiled by Lexinfo CC
09 April 2020

Covid-19 related guidelines and regulations: <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>.
Covid-19 Directives and notices relating to legal practitioners:
<http://www.derebus.org.za/directives-covid-19/> / <https://lpc.org.za/>

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AGRICULTURE

Media Release

Western Cape Agriculture. MEC Ivan Meyer on amended regulations to export wines. 07 April 2020.

“I welcome the news today that regulations have been amended to allow for the export of wines from South Africa. During the lockdown period the following is now permitted:

- The transportation of wines and any other fresh produce products at seaports and international airports designated as Ports of Entry for export and
- Agricultural cargo can be transported to seaports and international airports designated as Ports of Entry and exported to the relevant destination.

The top export products from the Western Cape in 2017 included citrus fruit, wines, grapes, fresh apples, pears and quinces.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-ivan-meyer-amended-regulations-export-wines-7-apr-2020-0000>

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COMPETITION

Government Gazette

Competition Act 89 of 1998

Expansion of the scope of COVID-19 Block Exemption for the Health Care Sector, 2020: Amendment of COVID-19 Block Exemption for the Health Care Sector, 2020 Regulations published in [RGN349 in GG 43114 of 19 March 2020](#). RGN456 GG 43215 p3 8Apr 2020

<https://www.gov.za/documents/competition-act-expansion-scope-covid-19-block-exemption-health-care-sector-8-apr-2020>

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EDUCATION

Media Releases

Department of Basic Education. Basic Education and SABC launch Coronavirus COVID-19 TV and radio curriculum support programmes for learners. 08 April 2020.

“The SABC and the Department of Basic Education have launched a multi-media learner support initiative under the banner: COVID-19 Learner Support aimed at limiting the impact of the lockdown to the school calendar. The initiative is part of the broader efforts to prevent a total loss of school year since the lockdown was announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa as a measure to combat the spread of corona virus known as COVID-19. The programme is scheduled to start tomorrow, April 9, 2020 and will broadcast across three SABC TV Channels and 13 Radio stations with online support. The series will provide curriculum support lessons to learners in Grades 10, 11 & 12 and Early Childhood Development (ECD).”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/basic-education-and-sabc%2%A0launch%2%A0coronavirus-covid-19-tv-and-radio-curriculum-support>

Western Cape Education. MEC Debbie Schäfer thanks communities for feeding schemes during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 April 2020.

“The emergency school feeding programme started around the Western Cape today, as schools and communities have come together to ensure our learners’ health will not suffer during this extended school closure. I have been overwhelmed by the support we have received from the vast majority of our schools. Staff and volunteers have gone the extra mile to provide meals today, and I offer them my sincere thanks. It is clear that they really care about our province’s children. This morning I visited two schools where the protocols we have issued to ensure safety and distancing are in place, and we have received a number of photos from across the province showing children waiting a suitable distance apart for their food.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-debbie-sch%3%A4fer-thanks-communities-feeding-schemes-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

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EMPLOYMENT LAW

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Amendment of Directive by the Minister of Employment and Labour in terms of Regulation 10(8) of the Regulations issued by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of section 27(2): Insertion and substitution of various clauses in [COVID-19 Temporary Employee / Employer Relief Scheme \(C19 TERS\), 2020](#).

GenN240 GG 43216 p3 8Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43216_08-04_Labour.pdf

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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Media Release

Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries. Minister Barbara Creecy leads distribution of food parcels to waste pickers in Midrand, 8 Apr. 07 April 2020.

“The Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, Honourable Barbara Creecy jointly with Coca-Cola Beverages South Africa (CCBSA), Managing Director, Velaphi Ratshefola and CCBSA Public Affairs, Communication and Sustainability Director, Nozicelo Ngcobo will on the 8th April lead the distribution of food parcels to the waste pickers in Midrand, Johannesburg, Gauteng. “As the collection of recyclables has not been included as an essential service, the consequence of this is that waste pickers are unable to work during the lockdown period. As a result, hundreds of waste pickers are currently experiencing situations of extreme hardship,” said Minister Creecy.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-barbara-creecy-leads-distribution-food-parcels-waste-pickers-midrand-8-apr-8-apr>

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LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS

Media Releases

Department of Communications. Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams apologises for breaching Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown rules. 08 April 2020.

“Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams, would like to convey an apology to President Cyril Ramaphosa, the National Command Centre and the South African society at large for breaching lockdown rules put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19. President Ramaphosa and Minister Ndabeni-Abrahams met yesterday after a photo was circulated on social media showing the Minister at the home of Mr Mduzuzi Manana during the lockdown and social distancing period. “I regret the incident and I am deeply sorry for my actions. I hope the President and South Africans will find it in their hearts to forgive me,” said Ndabeni-Abrahams.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-stella-ndabeni-abrahams-apologises-breaching-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-rules-8>

KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government. Premier Sihle Zikalala: Latest developments on Coronavirus COVID-19 in KZN. 08 April 2020.

“Thank you once again for bracing this media briefing with your presence. This provides us with an invaluable opportunity to keep the people of KZN and South Africa abreast of the latest developments regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. As you are all aware this Covid-19 has changed life as we know it and is affecting every sector of society. The provincial executive met this morning and received reports from various departments on various matters pertaining to our response to Covid-19. These are: Academic Recovery Plan; investigation into alleged irregularities in the purchase of blankets by DSD; developments at St Augustine’s Hospital and PPE stocks and related labour matters.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-sihle-zikalala-latest-developments-coronavirus-covid-19-kzn-8-apr-2020-0000>

The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa censures Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams for Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown lunch. 08 April 2020.

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has placed Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies Ms Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams on special leave for two months – one month of which will be unpaid. As to allegations that the Minister violated the lockdown regulations, the law should take its course. This follows the revelation on social media that the Minister had recently visited the home of a friend who hosted a lunch, contrary to the lockdown regulations.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-censures-minister-stella-ndabeni-abrahams-coronavirus-covid-19>

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MEDIA LAW

Media Release

Government Communications. Government welcomes arrest of suspect who peddled fake news on Coronavirus COVID-19 test kits. 07 April 2020.

“Government welcomes the arrest of a 55-year old male suspect who circulated a misleading video clip on COVID-19 test kits. He has already appeared before Court in the Western Cape, on Tuesday 07 April. The suspect has been charged in terms of the Disaster Management Act Regulation 11(5)(c) which prohibits publishing information through any medium including social media with the intention to deceive people on government measures to address COVID-19. Disinformation is unacceptable and dangerous to our society. Such acts should be condemned by all South Africans who remain committed in fighting the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. All of us have a responsibility to desist from peddling fake news.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/government-welcomes-arrest-suspect-who-peddled-fake-news-coronavirus-covid-19-test-kits-7>

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MEDICAL LAW

Government Gazette

Competition Act 89 of 1998

Expansion of the scope of COVID-19 Block Exemption for the Health Care Sector, 2020: Amendment of COVID-19 Block Exemption for the Health Care Sector, 2020 Regulations published in [RGN349 in GG 43114 of 19 March 2020](#). RGN456 GG 43215 p3 8Apr 2020

<https://www.gov.za/documents/competition-act-expansion-scope-covid-19-block-exemption-health-care-sector-8-apr-2020>

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued by Minister of Health in terms of Regulation 10(1)(a) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to address, prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19.

Directions deal with:

- Recruitment and Training of Human Resources
- Deployment of Human Resources
- Sourcing of Human Resources from the Expanded Public Works Programme, Retired Health Professionals, Community Based Organisation and Non -Governmental Organisations to Render Services in Identified Sites
- Provision of Health Equipment, Sanitation Materials and Medical Supplies
- Disposal waste and sanitation of equipment from quarantine or treatment facility
- Identification and establishment of mortuaries that will accommodate all COVID-19 mortal remains
- Disposal of COVID -19 mortal remains
- Visitors from outside South Africa

GN457 GG43217 p3 8Apr2020

http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43217_08-04_Health.pdf

Media Releases

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms 18 deaths and total of 1845 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 08 April 2020.

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases is 1845. This is an increase of 96 from the previously reported cases. The provincial breakdown is as follows:

Gauteng: 782; Western Cape: 495; Kwazulu – Natal: 354; Free State: 88; Eastern Cape: 45; Limpopo: 21;

Mpumalanga: 21; North West: 15; Northern Cape: 13 and unallocated: 11. The total number of COVID-19 tests

conducted to date is 63 776. This is an increase of 5 678 from our last report. Reporting of confirmed deaths:

Today we are saddened to report 5 more COVID-19 related deaths. This takes the total number of deaths to 18.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-18-deaths-and-total-1845-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-8-apr>

Western Cape Provincial Government. Premier Alan Winde emphasises importance of testing for Coronavirus COVID-19. 08 April 2020.

“As at 00h01 on 08 April 2020, the Western Cape had recorded 510 positively confirmed Covid-19 cases. As at 12h00 on 08 April 2020, we have 31 people admitted to hospital for Covid-19, with nine people receiving care in ICU. Today, the Western Cape surpassed the 500-case mark, and with every additional case we register, we increase the risk of a vulnerable person being infected. It is important that we all continue to take the necessary steps to ensure we protect ourselves and others. This includes regular handwashing, not touching your face, and abiding by the rules of the lockdown by staying home. Together with social distancing when we do go out in line with the lockdown regulations, these are the gold standard for infection prevention, and we must continue to use these as our strongest line of defence.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-emphasises-importance-testing-coronavirus-covid-19-8-apr-2020-0000>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. President Ramaphosa sends well wishes to UK Prime Minister.

2020 Apr 8 SA News

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has wished the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Boris Johnson, a speedy recovery. Johnson is currently in ICU after testing positive for COVID-19. “We wish Prime Minister Boris Johnson a full and speedy recovery, and we are sending our support to him and to the people of the United Kingdom. “We are going through a most challenging period, but we shall overcome. “Our thoughts are with him and his loved ones at this time,” President Ramaphosa said. Johnson was admitted to the intensive care unit at St. Thomas Hospital in London, on Monday.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/president-ramaphosa-sends-well-wishes-uk-prime-minister>

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SAFETY AND SECURITY

Media Releases

National Treasury. Treasury calls on compliant suppliers to provide Coronavirus COVID-19 commodities. 08 April 2020.

“Due to the shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to curb the spread of COVID-19, the National Treasury in support of the Department of Trade, Industry, and Competition (DTIC) calls on all compliant, particularly local, suppliers providing commodities listed below to direct their offers to the PMO set up for this purpose. The submissions will be assessed by the support team responsible for coordinating the process, exclusively for the identified commodities. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) descriptions: disposable aprons, protective surgical gowns, protective eyewear, surgical gloves, overshoes, protective hoods, biohazard bags, ventilators, alcohol-cleaning, disinfectants – clinical and venturi mask.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/treasury-8-apr-2020-0000>

South African Local Government Association. SALGA assesses local government's contribution to curbing the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19. 08 April 2020.

"Whereas the SALGA NEC is very encouraged that municipalities are strictly and without exception adhering to the range of directives issued by national and provincial government departments, in direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, there are several areas of concern including matters related to the negative impact on municipalities of changes to regulations and related contradicting media pronouncement; the sustainable delivery of water to communities, the issuing of permits to informal food traders as well as funding mechanisms to cover the municipal response to the pandemic."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/salga-assesses-local-government%E2%80%99s-contribution-curbing-spread-coronavirus-covid-19-8-apr>

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SOCIAL SERVICES

Media Releases

North West Provincial Legislature. North West Legislature on grant payments and efforts to fight the spread Coronavirus COVID-19. 07 April 2020.

"The North West Provincial Legislature Speaker Hon. Sussana Dantjie has expressed her appreciation on the work done by the North West Premier, Professor Job Mokgoro and the provincial government in ensuring that grant payments were done without any problems. She also thanked Community Development Workers and volunteers in various wards who ensured that grant pension pay-outs are done without any qualms. She also appreciated the Oversight role played by Honourable Members of the Provincial Legislature during this difficult time."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-legislature-grant-payments-and-efforts-fight-spread-coronavirus-covid-19-8-apr>

South African Social Security Agency. SASSA changes social grant payment dates. 08 April 2020.

"Lessons learned from the last payment cycle during the National Lockdown have compelled SASSA to review the payment dates going forward. As from the month of May 2020 disability and Older Persons Grants will be paid from the 4th day of the month. All other grants will be paid from the 6th of every month. The grant payment for April was brought forward to the 30 March 2020 and the first two days were dedicated to people with disabilities and older persons to ensure compliance with the State of Disaster requirements. Impatient child support grant beneficiaries could not wait for the 1st of April and descended upon payment channels as early as 30 March. This posed all sorts of health challenges and it became difficult at some stores and ATM's to maintain social distancing."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sassa-changes-social-grant-payment-dates-8-apr-2020-0000>

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TAXATION

Mapping

VAT 412.11. Mapping of essential goods with reference to Annexure B of the Regulations (R.398, Government Gazette No. 43148 of 25 March 2020) under the Disaster Management Act, 2002)

<https://www.sars.gov.za/AllDocs/LegalDoclib/SecLegis/LAPD-LSec-COVID19-Reg-2020-003%20-%20VAT%20412.11%20Mapping.pdf>

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Municipalities urged to assist informal traders to comply with regulations. 2020 Apr 8 SA News

"The Parliamentary Committee on Small Business Development has called on all municipalities to assist eligible informal traders to comply with their COVID-19 trading regulations. This follows the directions issued by Small Business Development Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, which are in line with the amendments to the regulations on the COVID-19 lockdown. These were published in the Government Gazette by Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Minister, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, on 2 April 2020. The amendments are aimed at assisting small businesses, including corner shops, spazas, fruit and vegetable stores, as well as the informal trading sub-sector."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/municipalities-urged-assist-informal-traders-comply-regulations>

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WATER

Media Release

Department of Water and Sanitation. Minister Lindiwe Sisulu directs officials to increase pace in provision of water during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 08 April 2020.

“The provision of water tanks and tankers (trucks) is moving swiftly as per the directive issued by the Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Ms Lindiwe Sisulu last month. In her directive, Minister Sisulu instructed the DWS at Head Office, all Provinces and water entities to ensure that all communities, especially rural areas and informal settlements be provided with reliable water as a matter of urgency. Subsequently, Rand Water was appointed to coordinate all the water delivery activities and a National Command Centre was established at Rand Water to ensure that Minister’s directive is implemented effectively.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-lindiwe-sisulu-directs-officials-increase-pace-provision-water-during-coronavirus>

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