

<b>Title</b>	Multi-Certification Skills Programme
<b>Organisation</b>	Department of Education, Gauteng Province
<b>Innovation</b>	<p>The Gauteng Department of Education's Multi-Certification Skills Programme is a ground-breaking initiative, unique in South Africa's public school system. Under this programme, each learner is expected to acquire at least one accredited skill for the academic year. By matriculation, learners can hold up to 13 certified skills, significantly improving their readiness for tertiary education, employment, or entrepreneurship. This programme goes beyond academic learning by focusing on the holistic development of learners. It recognises that learners have varied interests and talents, and it provides multiple pathways for personal and professional growth.</p> <p>Many young people exit the schooling system lacking tools needed to participate meaningfully in the economy. By embedding practical and accredited skills into the curriculum, the programme ensures that learners leave school with competencies that make them more employable and capable of creating their own opportunities.</p>
<b>Impact</b>	<p>In partnership with the Sci-Bono Discovery Centre, learners across the Gauteng Province acquire certified, practical skills in various fields, ranging from swimming, coding, robotics, entrepreneurship, first aid, artificial intelligence and drone technology. These skills are not just extracurricular, but are accredited and formerly recognised and can be presented as part of the learner's curriculum vitae upon graduation, giving them a distinct advantage in both higher education and job market applications. The programme is especially impactful in for learners in township and under-resourced schools, where historically, opportunities for exposure to such practical and technical training were limited.</p>