FPLNS
Award Rules and Certification

Programme

Cluster 1: Functional Literacy and Numeracy Skills

Cluster 2: Life Skills & Values

Cluster 3: Trade & Livelihood Skills

PATHWAY

END OF PRIMARY
- Not achieved at NQF Level 1

FPLNS PROGRAMME
- Awarded by MES

- Unsuccessful

NC2 AT MITD

- Successful

NC3 AT MITD

Entry requirements for the FPLNS Award

Grade 9 students of 2025

| All Subjects in Cluster 1 | All Subjects in Cluster 2 | At least 2 Electives |

Optional: AL/Arabic and KM

Entry requirements for the FPLNS Award

Grade 9 students of 2026

| All Subjects in Cluster 1 | All Subjects in Cluster 2 | **At least 6 Electives over 2 years** |

Optional: AL/Arabic & KM

Entry requirements for the FPLNS Award

Grade 9 students of 2027 onwards

| All Subjects in Cluster 1 | All Subjects in Cluster 2 | **At least 9 Electives over 3 years** |

Optional: AL/Arabic and KM

Proficiency Level in Subjects

Basic	Intermediate	Proficient
• Demonstrates emerging interest in learning tasks. • Achieves some of the foundational learning objectives in Numeracy, Literacy, and Trade & Livelihood skills.	• Shows consistent engagement and motivation in learning activities. • Achieves at least half of the learning objectives in Numeracy, Literacy, and Trade & Livelihood skills. • Demonstrates steady progress with the ability to apply learned skills in familiar contexts.	• Demonstrates a strong and sustained interest in the subject. • Achieves more than half of the learning objectives • Applies knowledge and skills confidently across a range of contexts, showing readiness for the next stage of learning.

Guidelines for the Assessment

The 'Guidelines for Assessment' provides the following information:

- The aims of the assessment
- Components of the assessment
- The planning of the assessment
- The monitoring at school
- The responsibilities of the different stakeholders

Performance criteria

Building
Communication
Skills for Teens

- Performance Criteria have been developed in each subject ([Assessment in FPLNS](#)).

- The Performance Criteria should be used by Educators when deciding on the proficiency level attained.

- The Performance Criteria allows a standardization of the evaluation across schools.

- The descriptors are set in a positive language to positively reward students for what they achieve.

Example: Performance criteria in Scientific Literacy

Criteria	Basic	Intermediate	Proficient
Understanding scientific concepts	Identifies simple facts or terms with help	Explains simple concepts in own words, may have some inaccuracies.	Explains basic science ideas clearly and links them to real-life situations.
Observation and data Collection	Makes simple observations when guided	Records observations with some independence using words or basic drawings, tables.	Collects accurate observations using appropriate formats with minimal support.
Using scientific terminology	Uses everyday language; rarely uses science terms without prompting	Uses simple science terms in context with help.	Uses key science vocabulary correctly in speaking or writing.
Answering Questions	Answers direct questions with short or one-word responses	Responds to 'why' or 'how' questions with brief explanations.	Gives thoughtful and complete answers; even asks meaningful questions.
Applying knowledge	Recognizes familiar situations but struggles to apply knowledge	Applies known ideas to slightly different contexts with support.	Independently applies basic knowledge to real-life situations.

CERTIFICATION

- National Foundation Certificate of Education (NFCE – to be confirmed) awarded by the MES

- Pitched at the National Qualification Framework Level 2

- Same level as the NC2 certificate on the Vocational pathway of the NQF and the NCE certificate on the Academic pathway

- Proficiency level is each subject is provided

- Attainment of the award rule

Award Rule

- An intermediate level in at least of 4 subjects as follows:

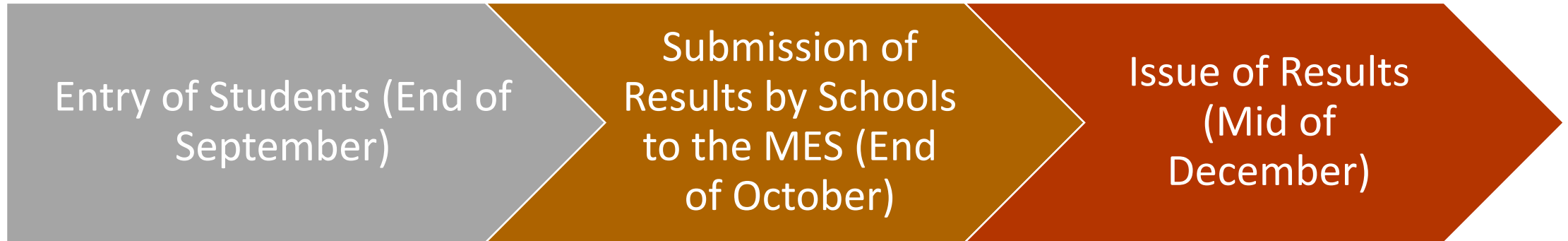 At least two subjects from Cluster 1

  +

  At least one subject from Cluster 2

  +

  At least one subject from Cluster 3

Satisfy at least 60% attendance (Possibility of including this criteria to the Award Rules as from 2026 onwards)

Administrative Procedures by the MES

| Entry of Students (End of September) | Submission of Results by Schools to the MES (End of October) | Issue of Results (Mid of December) |

- Proper verification of all entries and subjects entered
- Ensure results are submitted on time to the MES
- Result Slips will be issued by mid- December
- Certificate will be provided
- All Portfolios to be kept at schools for a period of 6 months.

Thank You