



higher education
& training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Emperors Palace

Presentation Framework

- *Policy and Procedures for Measurement of Research Output of Public Higher Education Institutions*
- Application Process for Journal Inclusion on Local List
- Criteria for Listing of Local Journals
- Amendment of Journal Information
- DHET Procedure
- Review of Listed Journals
- Improvements to the Policy
- Points to Remember
- Some Statistics

The Policy

- The policy recognises the following research outputs for purposes of subsidy:
 - ✓ Research Articles in **approved Journals** (**1 unit**)
 - ✓ Scholarly Books and Chapters in Books (between **up to 5 units** depending on the length)
 - ✓ Published Conference Proceedings (**0.5 units**)

The Policy

- Journals are **peer-reviewed** periodical publications devoted to disseminating **original research** and **new developments**.
- All research articles published in **approved** journals are subsidised.
- Book reviews, abstracts, news articles and similar publications are not subsidized.
- There are 3 lists of approved journals (ISI, IBSS, DHET)

Application Process for Journal Inclusion on DHET List

- Editors are responsible for applying for inclusion of their journals on approved lists.
- For international lists, the administrators of the lists must be contacted directly. The DHET plays no role in the application or selection process.
- For the DHET list, applications must be submitted by **15 June** together with required **information** and **hardcopies** of the 3 latest consecutive issues.

Application Process

The following information must accompany the application:

- Title (translations if not in English);
- The ISSN of the journal;
- Publisher, the publisher's address & contact details;
- Frequency of publication;
- Editorial policy & Peer Review process;
- Editorial Board, (mention status & institutional affiliation);
- URL for electronic journals; and
- Proof of the journal's library holdings/downloads.

Criteria for Listing of Local Journals

- The purpose of the journal must be to disseminate research results and the content must support high level learning, teaching and research in the relevant subject area;
- Articles accepted for publication in the journal must be **peer reviewed**;
- The **majority of contributions** to the journal must be beyond a single institution;
- The journal must have an ISSN;
- The journal must be published regularly;
- The journal must have an **editorial board** that includes members beyond a single institution and is reflective of expertise in the relevant subject area; and
- The journal must be distributed **beyond a single institution**.

Amendment of Journal Information

- Editors are encouraged to inform the DHET of any change in the information about an approved South African journal.
- There is no deadline for the submission of such information.
- Changes to the editor, title, frequency, ISSN or publications format (print/ online) will not impact on the journal's accreditation status.

DHET Procedure

- The DHET checks all applications and an internal panel assesses the journals against the criteria in the policy.
- Applications are then sent to ASSAf for their input.
- The DHET makes the final decision and informs editors of the outcome before the end of the year.
- The journal is added to the approved list in January for publications in the following year.

Review of Journals

- The policy requires that the DHET periodically samples journals to assess if they continue to meet the criteria.
- Institutions and individuals may also submit a proposal (with reasons) for the removal of a journal.
- For purposes of transparency, the reasons for removal of journals will be made public.

Review of Journals

- The DHET is currently reviewing all listed journals. The process began in 2009 and will be completed in 2011.
- All editors will be requested to submit hardcopies of journals and information as required when applying for accreditation.
- ASSAf is also conducting its own review of journals. The two processes are separate, but the DHET & ASSAf liaise regarding their findings.

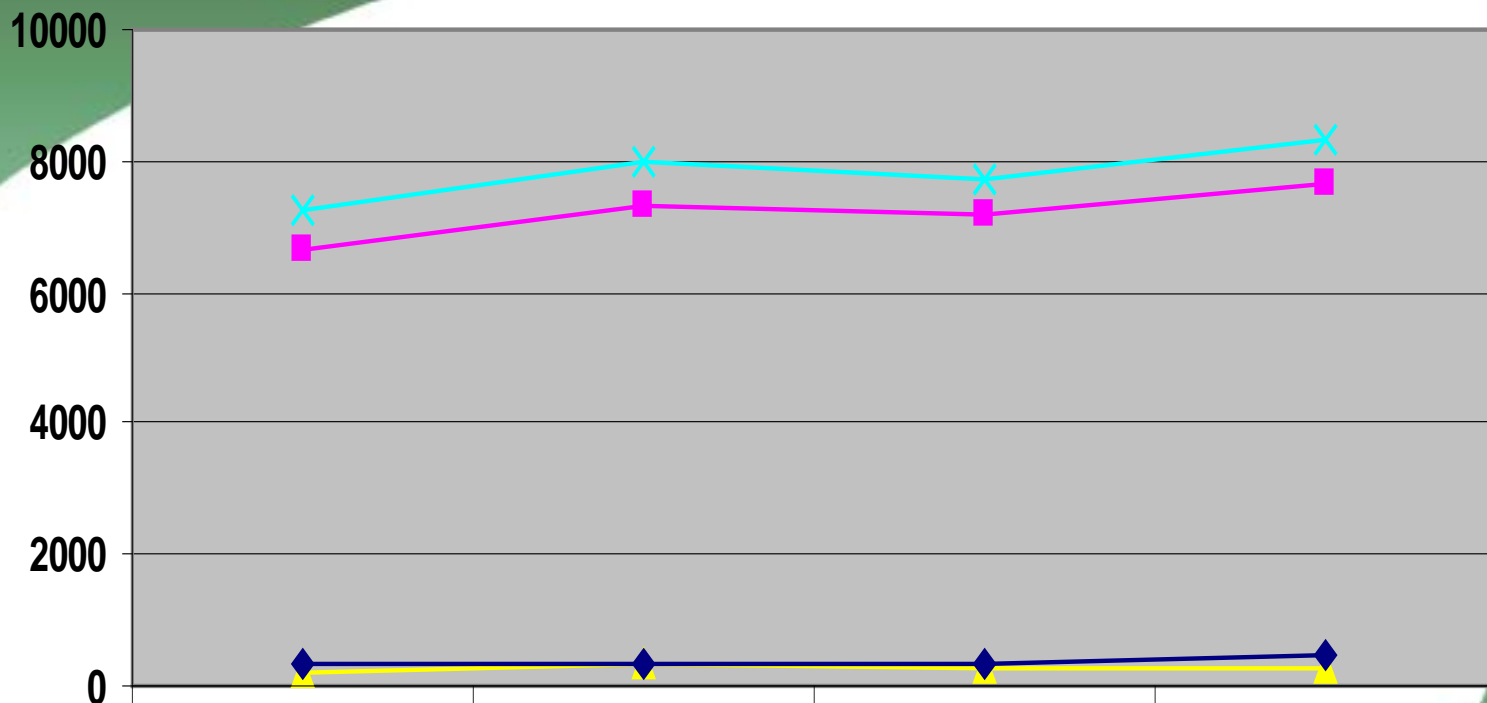
Improvements to the Policy

- The DHET recognises that there are areas where the policy can be improved.
- A process is currently underway to introduce the improvements.
- Any changes will be made in consultation with the sector.
- For instance, the DHET is considering increasing the number of approved journals lists & the unit allocation for books.

Points to Remember!

- The DHET subsidises institutions and not journals even if they are published by University Presses.
- Subsidy is for research publications only.
- The Department will recognise journals that adhere to highest standards of ethics.
- Maintaining quality and high academic standards benefits everybody.

Research Outputs at HEIs, 2005-2008



	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Output	7230	8002.74	7750.96	8348.59
Journals	6661.9	7340.13	7163.25	7637.15
Books	223.32	311.04	266.12	265.68
Proceedings	344.78	351.57	321.59	445.76

Publications According to Index

