



ZIMBABWE SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL

Public Health (COVID-19 Prevention, Containment) During the Conduct of the 2020 Examinations

GUIDELINES FOR EXAMINATION CENTRES

1.0 Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 (coronavirus) as a pandemic and the virus has now spread to many countries and territories. It has been proven that COVID-19 is transmitted through direct contact with respiratory droplets of an infected person (generated through coughing and sneezing). Individuals can also be infected from touching surfaces contaminated with the virus and touching their faces (e.g., eyes, nose, mouth).

The COVID-19 virus may survive on surfaces for several hours, but simple disinfectants can kill it. While COVID-19 continues to spread, it is imperative that Examination Centres take action to prevent further transmission, reduce the impact of the outbreak and support control measures.

2.0 Aim

The aim of these guidelines is to provide information to ensure the protection, safety and security of candidates from the Covid19 pandemic before, during and after the Examinations.

3.0 Objective

To ensure that Heads of Examination Centres enforce the provisions of the Statutory Instrument 099 of 2020 on Covid 19 prevention and containment during the conduct of Public Examinations.

4.0 General

- 1.1 These requirements/conditions **SHOULD** be read in conjunction with the Policy Guidelines for the Establishment of an Examination Centre and guidelines that shall be issued by the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare.
- 1.2 These condition apply exclusively to accredited Examination Centres.
- 1.3 ZIMSEC reserves the right not to deploy Examination Question Papers to Examination Centres that fail to comply with the provisions of SI 099 of 2020.
- 1.4 It is the responsibility of the Centre to ensure that all candidates adhere to the provisions of SI 099 of 2020 before they are admitted for the examinations.
- 1.5 All Candidates and Examination Administrators **MUST** be temperature tested at all entrance points to the Examination Centres.
- 1.6 ZIMSEC **SHALL** endeavour to comply with the provisions of SI 099-2020 and ensure that it produces and delivers a safe and secure examination to safe and secure Examination Centres.

5.0 Mandatory Requirements

Heads of Examinations Centres are required to put in place and enforce the following guidelines in line with statutory instrument 099 of 2020 and as shall be guided by Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education in order to prevent the spread of the Covid 19 pandemic

- 5.1 Clean and disinfect all rooms, surfaces, facilities, equipment and vehicles intended for use before, during and after the conduct of examinations.
- 5.2 Provide clean water, sanitation and waste management facilities.
- 5.3 Put in place regular cleaning and disinfection programmes and facilities at the Centre.
- 5.4 Reinforce frequent hand washing with safe water, soap and or sanitising hands with alcohol based hand sanitizers.
- 5.5 Enforce the compulsory and correct wearing of face masks by all Examination administrators and candidates.
- 5.6 Promote and enforce social distancing at all times.
- 5.7 Develop school emergency and contingency strategies to deal with Covid 19 related incidentals.
- 5.8 Provide Personal Protective Equipment for Examination administrators.
- 5.9 Follow all laid down procedures in cases that may require containment and treatment as guided by the Ministry of Health.

6.0 ZIMSEC's Response to SI 099 of 2020

ZIMSEC will enforce full compliance with **Statutory Instrument 099 of 2020** by;

- 6.1 Screening and testing all its employees Covid 19.
- 6.2 Process all Examination materials under SI 099 -2020 compliant environment.
- 6.3 Disinfecting all Examination materials, equipment and delivery vehicles.
- 6.4 Provide Personal Protective Equipment to all its permanent and contracted employees handling the Examination.
- 6.5 Enforce the social distancing and the correct and mandatory wearing of face masks all the time.
- 6.6 Enforce personal hygiene and regular washing and sanitising of hands by its permanent and contracted staff.

Heads of Examination Centres and the responsible authority shall be responsible for the enforcement of all provisions of the SI 099-2020. The Council may assist at its discretion in exceptional cases.

For further information, please contact ZIMSEC on the following;

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