



**LIMPOPO**  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DEPARTMENT OF  
CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE,  
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS & TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

## **Media Statement**

**For immediate release**

**06 November 2024**

### **Provincial Initiation Coordinating Committee (PICC) takes resolution on the commencement of 2025 Initiation Schools' Season Applications.**

The Provincial Initiation Coordinating Committee (PICC), which is the Committee responsible for both winter and summer initiation schools in the Limpopo Province, have started the process of issuing applications to safeguard the safe Initiation Schools' Seasons in the province. The PICC has resolved and gazzetted that application forms to conduct the 2025 male and female Initiation Schools commence from 04 November 2024 to 28 February 2025.

According to the PICC resolution, all applications are to be submitted on the prescribed application form which is obtainable from the Limpopo Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) Head Office or at the District Offices.

The process to be followed is that prescribed application forms should be duly completed and signed, accompanied by the necessary relevant documents which consist of the registration name of the Caregiver, medical fitness certificates, proclamation on the area the initiation school is to be held, a copy of certificate of the traditional surgeon registered in terms of the Traditional Health Practitioners Act, as well as a registered letter from the PICC to perform initiation rituals.

In addition to the required supporting documents, Principals and Traditional surgeons must have valid medical fitness certificates which must not be more than three months old before the opening of the initiation school and both must be at least 40 years old.

Highlighting the provision of section 21(2)(a) of the Customary Initiation Act, Chairperson of the PICC, Hosi Shitlhangoma Mudavula Chauke states that all Principals, Traditional Surgeons, and Caregivers must have no criminal history or criminal record. “It is mandatory for Principals, Traditional Surgeons and Caregivers to undergo police clearance before applying for permits to stage initiation schools,” said the Chairperson.

Hosi Chauke discourages applicants to avoid applying for initiation schools permits on a yearly basis to avoid the commercialization of this sacred practice but to also allow children to reach maturity age which is 16 years.

The PICC Chairperson, Hosi Mudavula Chauke says that applications received after the closing date will not be considered and that there will be no extensions in terms of stipulated application dates.

“Finally, Principals and Caregivers of approved schools should take note that the provision of section 27(1) of the Customary Initiation Act 2 of 2021 states that initiation seasons must be held during the relevant provincial school holidays and may not interfere or overlap with official school terms,” he says.

***Issued by the Department of Co-operative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs.***

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