



14 October 2024

Dear Valued Registered Person

Important Update: Normalising the 5-year CPD Cycle for Registered Persons

This correspondence aims to apprise all registered persons of an important update concerning the re-establishment of the five-year Continuing Professional Development (CPD) cycle for those registered persons whose renewal cycle commenced from 2022 and onwards.

What has changed?

As per Section 22(1) of the Engineering Profession Act, registered persons must apply to ECSA in the appropriate manner for the renewal of their registration at least three (3) months before their initial professional or specified category registration expires. Should the registered person neglect to renew his/her registration the Council will have no alternative but to refuse and cancel the registered person's registration. No renewal due will be held in abeyance for longer than ninety (90) days.

The renewal cycle is hereby confirmed as being a five (5) year term, which means that all persons whose registration cycle commenced in the 2022 year and later, will have to submit the requisite number of CPD credits within 5 years from the commencement date.

Why the change?

ECSA has determined that at least 20% of registered persons continue to violate the regulations due to their non-compliance with Section 22(1) of the Act and the CPD Rules. As a result, these individuals are misrepresenting themselves as ECSA-registered persons and therefore are guilty of improper conduct, according to the ECSA Code of Conduct.

An additional important motivation for the review is the implementation of the PrivySeal initiative, whereby the registration status and good standing of a registered person will be visible on the certificate and the seal and can be obtained from the registered person's profile in real-time. Registered persons can expect a new registration certificate with an updated look and feel as soon as PrivySeal is implemented. The new certificate will also require that registered persons update their contact details timeously for the details on the certificate to display correctly.

Impact on the Registered Person?

The registered person due for renewal will need to comply with the CPD Rules on an annual basis and must record his/her credits on the designated system. Should the registered person not renew their registration by the end of their 5-year CPD cycle, their renewal will be refused, and their registration will be cancelled within ninety (90) days of their CPD cycle expiration date and would the registered persons need to reapply for registration with ECSA.

We understand that this is a significant change, and we are here to support you. The latest version of the CPD Rules can be found on our website. Additionally, we will be offering several webinars and workshops to help you understand and meet these requirements.

Please feel free to contact our CPD support team at engineer@ecsa.co.za or (+27) 0 11 607 9500.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bothma', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Franciska Bothma
Executive: Statutory Services