**Referral of a qualification or part-qualification to the SAQA for verification and evaluation**

 **32A.** (1) *(a)* All organs of state, employers, education institutions, skills development providers and QC’s must authenticate, prior to appointment or registration, if the qualification or part-qualification which is presented to them for the purposes of appointment, study or for any other related purpose, is registered on the national learners’ records database.

(*b*) If not registered on the national learners’ records database, such qualification or part-qualification must be referred to the SAQA for verification and evaluation.

(*c*) The Minister may in consultation with the SAQA exempt any category of persons, or entity contemplated in paragraph *(a)* from the provisions of this section by notice in the *Gazette*.

 (2) If after verification or evaluation of the qualification or part-qualification –

*(a)* the SAQA establishes that the qualification or part-qualification is an authentic qualification or part-qualification, but is not on the national learners’ records database, the SAQA must record such a qualification or part-qualification on the national learners’ records database; or

*(b)* the SAQA shall comply with section 13 (1B)*(a)* and *(b)* and shall refer such a finding or information to the relevant body.

(3) The SAQA must perform its functions in terms of (1) and (2) within 30 days so as to not prejudice the holder of the qualification or part-qualification.