

ADVERTISEMENT

AUTHORIZATION OF SEED CERTIFICATION ENTITIES, SEED INSPECTORS AND SEED ANALYSTS

Under Section 3B of the Seeds and Plant Varieties Act, Kenya Plant Health Service (KEPHIS) may authorize competent private or public persons to perform specified functions under the Act on its behalf. The objective of authorization is to complement KEPHIS to enhance efficiency in seed certification process. Authorization will also create an environment for effective participation of both public and private sectors in the production, inspection and testing of quality planting material and promote sustainable access of affordable seed.

KEPHIS wishes therefore to invite qualified person(s) to apply to be authorized as seed inspectors, seed samplers and seed analysts. Applicants meeting the requirements will be selected, trained and examined by KEPHIS to confirm their skills and knowledge in the areas they will have applied. Only persons who will pass the examination will be considered for Authorization. The authorized person(s) will carry out the certification activities in their areas of authorization when such activities arise. Please note that these are not KEPHIS jobs but authorized persons will recover their costs from the owners of seed crops/seeds.

Institutions seeking to be authorized as Inspection Entities or Seed Testing Laboratories are also invited to apply.

For seed industry players wishing to have their employees trained on the same for capacity building purposes (not for authorization) may apply for consideration provided they meet minimum qualifications.

For further details and application forms, please visit: www.kephis.org. The guidelines for authorization are also available on this web site.

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR AUTHORIZATION OF ENTITIES (INSPECTION UNITS AND SEED TESTING LABS)

a. General

- i. Registration by the registrar of companies/societies.
- ii. Demonstrate impartiality, confidentiality and independence.

b. Infrastructure and facilities (As applicable)

- i. Reliable means of transport
- ii. Inspection/labeling/sealing tools & equipment
- iii. Office space
- iv. Documentation capacity (Data/record handling, storage and analysis)
- v. Seed testing laboratory, tools and equipment (For laboratories only)

c. Personnel (As applicable)

- i. Gazetted inspectors/ samplers/analyst.

2. PRIVATE SEED INSPECTORS

a. Expected responsibilities

- i. Field Inspection of seed crops
- ii. Seed processing Inspection
- iii. Seed Sampling

b. Minimum qualifications

- i. Academic - Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) Grade C- or equivalent.
- ii. Technical and professional –
 - Diploma in General Agriculture or related disciplines from a recognized institution and at least three years' experience in seed industry or related field or one-year internship under a gazetted person. OR
 - Certificate in Agriculture or related discipline from a recognized institution and ten years' experience in seed Inspection
- iii. Integrity –Current Certificate of Good Conduct from the National Police Service.

Selected Candidates shall be expected to undergo training, pass requisite examinations and complete attachment before gazettelement as private seed inspectors.

3. PRIVATE SEED ANALYSTS

a. Expected responsibilities

- i. Seed Sampling

ii. Seed testing

b. Minimum qualifications

- i. Academic - Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) Grade C- or equivalent.
- ii. Technical and professional –
 - Diploma in General Agriculture or related disciplines from a recognized institution and at least three years' experience in seed industry or related field or one-year internship under a gazetted person. OR
 - Certificate in Agriculture or related discipline from a recognized institution and ten years' experience in seed Sampling/testing
- iii. Integrity –Current Certificate of Good Conduct from the National Police Service.

Selected Candidates shall be expected to undergo training, pass requisite examinations and attachment before gazettelement as private seed analysts.

Interested candidates should submit their applications so as to reach the undersigned by 5th May 2017

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