

17 February 2025

Dr Michelle Deborah Hatch (412581) School of Acc Economics & Fin **Westville Campus**

Dear Dr Hatch.

Protocol reference number: HSSREC/00005210/2023

Project title: Students' experiences and perceived effect of the mentoring programme on their academic outcomes

in the School of Accounting, Economics and Finance at the University of KwaZulu-Natal

Approval Notification – Recertification Application

Your request for Recertification dated 11 February 2025 was received.

This letter confirms that you have been granted Recertification Approval for a period of one year from the date of this letter. This approval is based strictly on the research protocol submitted and approved in 2023 and recertification submitted and approved in 2024.

Any alteration s to the approved research protocol i.e. Questionnaire/Interview Schedule, Informed Consent Form, Title of the Project, Location of the Study must be reviewed and approved through the amendment /modification prior to its implementation. Please quote the above reference number for all queries relating to this study.

PLEASE NOTE: Research data should be securely stored in the school/department for a period of 5 years

Incidents of adverse events and serious adverse events (AEs and SAEs) should be reported in writing to HSSREC, the study sponsors, and any regulatory authority (where appropriate), within 7 working days of the occurrence for local sites and 14 days for all other South African sites.

This approval is valid for one year: 17 February 2026.

To ensure uninterrupted approval of this study beyond the approval expiry date, a progress report must be submitted to the Research Office on the appropriate form 2 - 3 months before the expiry date. A close-out report to be submitted when study is finished.

HSSREC is registered with the South African National Research Ethics Council (REC-040414-040).

Yours sincerely,

Professor Dipane Hlalele (Chair) /nng

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