

MICHELLE NHLANE

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To whom it may concern

I Michelle Nhlane am writing to provide my reference regarding my successful completion of WSET Level 4 Diploma Program at International Wine Education Centre (IWEC) / The Wine Centre.

After completing my WSET Levels 1-3 in 2023 I sought to further my studies and enroll in the Diploma Program. I was faced with financial difficulties that made paying the full tuition upfront impossible. I approached Cathy and Kevin Marston about my situation, that I wanted to further my program if I got a payment plan as I was self-funding the program. Kevin was adamant at first because I had no sponsor or bursary and said that the program was no easy walk in the park as it needed a lot of dedication and hard work because if I fail a module the cost of rewriting the exam was high, plus extra money was required for wine tasting workshops as that was not included in the initial fees. Since I was determined, I convinced them if given the opportunity I would do it and fail no module.

Thanks to the payment plan offered by IWEC. I was able to begin the Level 4 Diploma program in April 2024 without full payment of fees and got all the study materials, access to study portals and got access to high quality education without delay.

This support not only enabled me to start the Diploma Program, but it also provided the structure and flexibility needed to continue and complete my studies successfully. Throughout the course I demonstrated dedication, perseverance and commitment to learning. I passed all my 5 modules first time, failing only the final D3 Theory Paper which I am going to re-sit in May 2026.

The experience highlights my resilience and determination to pursue education despite the financial constraints. It also reflects the positive impact of International Wine Education Centre (IWEC) and other Institutions that offer flexible financial arrangements, enabling self-funding and highly motivated students to achieve their academic goals.

The Zero interest payment plan benefited me but nothing to IWEC as it required more admin work to follow up and update my monthly installments.

I wholeheartedly recommend International Wine Education Centre (IWEC) for any future educational and professional opportunities. Their Adaptability, Dedication and Tenacity are fully commendable.

Yours Sincerely  
Michelle Nhlane