



merSETA

MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING AND RELATED SERVICES SETA

FIRST 2010/11 DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROJECT FUNDING WINDOW

APRIL 2010

The Merseta Governing Board wishes to announce the first of two Discretionary Grant Project Funding Windows in the new financial year:

Window	Opening Date	Closing Date	Award deadline
DG 3	01 April 2010	30 April 2010	31 July 2010

Eligibility criteria

- ✦ Only companies registered with the merSETA, or exempt from paying levies, or in the process of registering a SETA transfer to the Merseta, may make an application.
- ✦ Where a company has more than 50 employees it is required that the company training committee has been consulted.
- ✦ Applications for more than 10 learners in any learning programme category will need to comply with a due diligence exercise to verify capacity to implement the planned training.
- ✦ All training applied for needs to commence within three months of the finalisation of the grant award.

- ✦ Companies that have not made sufficient progress with their DG 1 and/or DG 2 applications are strongly urged to refrain from applying in the first funding window of 2010, until their prior obligations have been met.
- ✦ Hard copy submissions will be accepted only by exception. Applications should be made on the dedicated portal, accessible on the merSETA website, at www.merseta.org.za. (Merseta regional offices will be available by appointment for companies to submit the electronic uploads.) No late submissions will be accepted.
- ✦ The funding allocations and guidelines may be requested from the Call Centre, or downloaded from the merSETA website.
- ✦ Alignment to Scarce and Critical skills is preferred. The Scarce Skill Listing and Sector Skills Plan are available on the merSETA website.

Call Centre: 0861 637 738

#	Learning Programme Category	Eligibility criteria	Grant structure
1	Learnerships 18.1 Grants to assist workers to access Learnerships leading to scarce skills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 2009 Scarce Skills lists • Subject to verification process 	<p><u>Primary Focus Learnerships (not trade related)</u> (Learnerships quality assured by the MERSETA ETQA) R27 500 per learner</p> <p><u>Trade related Primary Focus Learnerships</u> (Learnerships quality assured by the Merseta that lead to a trade test) R28 125 per learner</p> <p><u>Bonus grants for persons with disability</u> R 20 000 per learner (proof to be submitted on registration)</p>
2	Learnerships 18.2 Grants to assist unemployed people to access Learnerships leading to basic entry, intermediate and high level scarce skills in the MER sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 2009 Scarce Skills lists • Subject to verification process • NSDS Equity criteria apply (84% Black, 54% women, 4% PWD) 	<p><u>Primary Focus Learnerships (not trade related)</u> (Learnerships quality assured by the MERSETA ETQA) R22 000 per learner</p> <p><u>Trade related Primary Focus Learnerships</u> (Learnerships quality assured by the Merseta that lead to a trade test) R28 125 per learner</p> <p><u>Non-primary focus Learnerships</u> (Learnerships quality assured by the MERSETA ETQA) R19 800 per learner</p> <p><u>Bonus grants for people with disabilities</u> R 20 000 per learner (proof to be submitted on registration)</p> <p><u>Plus additional Learner Allowance:</u> NQF L1 = R1 000 p/m NQFL2 = R1 500 p/m NQF L3 = R2 000 p/m NQFL4 = R2 500 p/m</p>
3	Apprenticeships *ATRAMI: Discretionary Grants @ R35000 per candidate are still provided, independent of Apprenticeship grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MERSETA workplace approval • Subject to verification process 	<p>R112 500 per apprentice</p> <p><u>Bonus grants for persons with disability</u> R 20 000 per learner per annum (proof to be submitted on registration)</p>

#	Learning Programme Category	Eligibility criteria	Grant structure
4	<p><u>New Venture Creation</u> Assisting new entrants into the labour market to acquire scarce and critical skills for self employment. (i) NVC Learnership L2 or L4</p> <p>(ii) Incubation (post Learnership support)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MERSETA levy paying employers who have a previous track record in business incubation activities and successful implementation of Learnerships. • Learners must already have been certificated for a MERSETA technical qualification or skills programme, either through training or an RPL process • Merseta companies may apply to provide business incubation / mentorship to young entrepreneurs and NVC graduates within the manufacturing & engineering sector • All new ventures registered with SARS, where relevant 	<p><u>Basic Grant</u> R19 000 per learner <u>Bonus for persons with disability</u> R 20 000 per learner (proof to be submitted on registration) <u>Plus additional Learner Allowance:</u> NOFL2 = R1 500 NOFL4 = R2 500</p> <p><u>Incubation Grant</u> R12 500 per learner for six months.</p>
5	<p>Skills Programmes (18.1) The MERSETA funds the implementation of scarce and critical skills programmes for employees in the MER sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills programmes be registered and address critical or scarce skills in the MERSETA 	R210 per credit per learner.
6	<p>Skills Programmes (18.2) Project based approached to targeted interventions to youth at risk and/or people with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This category is also open to NGOs and CBOs as well as registered MERSETA levy-payers, or exempted companies 	R210 per credit per learner to a maximum of six months.
7	<p>Workplace Experience Grants are paid to companies that provide structured experiential training to a minimum of six months for FET students requiring workplace experience or HET students needing to complete their qualification (HET)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companies registered with the MERSETA. 	<p><u>Basic Grant to company</u> R15 000 per learner for six month period. <u>Learner allowance</u> R12 500 per semester or six month period. <u>P1 and P2 Registration grant to institution</u> R1500 per learner per semester.</p>
8	<p>Graduate Development Internship grants linked to scarce occupations needed to promote the employability of unemployed HET graduates, and /or their professional registration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HET Graduate trainees should work under the supervision of relevant managers and be given the opportunity to demonstrate independent initiative and judgement. 	<p><u>Basic Grant to company:</u> R60 000 per annum per learner.</p>
9	Adult Basic Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only for 18.1 (employed) learners. 	R 2000 per learner per ABET learning area.

#	Learning Programme Category	Eligibility criteria	Grant structure
	(ABET) Unit standard-based learning programmes across a variety of ABET levels and learning areas.		
10	Sector Specialists Training		<u>Assessor</u> R3000 pp <u>Moderator</u> R2500 pp <u>Skills Development Facilitator</u> R5000 pp

Please note: Additional project-based opportunities for accessing assistance for training and development activities:

#	Project Name	Description	Contact Person
1	Accelerated Artisan Training Programme (AATP)	Project to fast-track the training of artisans, open to companies training 10 or more apprentices, and subject to project specific rules.	Helen Brown / Tsholo Mtembu
2	Bursaries	Bursaries are available for employees in the sector, subject to the MERSETA Bursaries Policy.	Camilla Smith
3	Retrenchment Assistance Plan (RAP) and Training Layoff Scheme (TLS)	i) RAP is a training assistance plan to past employees in the sector, retrenched since June 2007. (ii) TLS is a training assistance plan available to employers in distress, and allows for training initiatives to be put in place for workers on short-time, to help avoid retrenchments. Terms and conditions apply.	Vikesh Panday
4	Voucher Implementation Programme (VIP)	Training support programme for SMEs based on short courses and skills programmes. See www.mersetatrainingvouchers.org.za	Linda Nxumalo / Merle Esterhuizen
5	Toolbox	Provision of trade specific toolboxes to SMEs with less than 50 employees that are training artisans. See www.mersetatoolbox.org.za	Carol Moletsane
6	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	The MERSETA is currently piloting a RPL Project. It is proposed to introduce an RPL Discretionary Grant in the second 2010 funding window.	Azwifaneli Tshisikamulilo

7	HIV/AIDS Project	The MERSETA is currently implementing an HIV & AIDS programme aimed at SMEs in the sector, which seeks to develop and promote a best-practice approach to the management of HIV & AIDS in the workplace.	Romiela Pillay
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