



## The merSETA DISCRETIONARY GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION NOTICE EXTENSION November 2021 - February 2022

The Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA) issued a call for funding applications with the closing date of 15 December 2021. The merSETA has taken a decision to extend the closing date of 15 December 2021 to 28 February 2022. The scope of the applications is also expanded to include DG funding application for the year 2022. /23. This extension means there will be no other calls for DG funding applications in February 2022 to April 2022. This however does not affect the call for legislated mandatory grant applications that will open 1 February to April 2022.

This extension call for discretionary grant funding applications is accompanied by guidelines which provide more details of the initiatives and set of related interventions for financial 2022/23, and requirements for application. Interested applicants must refer to the guidelines for this call to guide the substance of their applications ([www.merseta.org.za](http://www.merseta.org.za)).

NB: The stakeholder categories identified in the call for application originally closing 15 December 2021 are only counted for financial year ending 31 March 2022. Applicants who will be submitting applications for the 15 December call must be guided by the guideline that was issued indicating the focus areas of initiatives and related interventions. Given that the extension now includes application for 2022/23 these stakeholders are encouraged to make another application for financial year 1 April 2022 – March 2023 and mark it accordingly.

The merSETA has taken a decision to separate discretionary grant and mandatory grant application processes. An exclusive mandatory grant application process will commence 1 February 2022 ending 30 April 2022.

Below is a list of stakeholders aligned to the 2022/23 Annual Performance Plan (APP) targets. Applicants are encouraged to align their applications to these stakeholder categories as well as initiatives and related interventions outlined in the guideline.

Stakeholder	Target applicant
1. Higher Education Institutions partnerships	Higher education institutions registered by relevant South African regulatory bodies.
2. Cooperatives support initiative	Individual cooperatives operating businesses related to merSETA sector industries value chain or, an umbrella body for cooperatives doing same, wishing to put in place skills that enhance enterprise growth and development.
3. Small businesses for enterprise growth and development	Small businesses who require funding for skills that enhance enterprise growth and development.
4. Public Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges	Public TVET colleges in the Republic of South Africa.
5. Public Community Education and Training Colleges interventions (CET)	Public CET colleges in the Republic of South Africa
6. Trade Unions	Registered trade unions in the mer sector for worker education.
7. Employer partnerships	Levy and Non-levy paying entities in the mer sector. (Please refer to guideline for guidance regarding multiyear applicants).
8. CBOs/NGOs/NPOs for skills to growth, development, and sustainability.	Registered CBOs/NGOs/NPOs in the mer sector.
9. Rural development projects	Entities providing mer sector skills development projects in rural areas.
10. Organisation providing capacity building/training programmes for career advice practitioners/counsellors	Entities providing career development services to cover the scope outlined in the application guideline.
11. Organisation to implement research & innovation projects	Entities providing research and innovation programmes/projects

### FUNDING PRIORITY

Applicants are encouraged to align their applications to addressing the 3 key occupational categories:

1. Programmes or projects aimed at developing high level skills e.g., managers, professionals and technicians and associate professionals.
2. Programmes or projects aimed at developing mid-level skills e.g., clerical, sales and service, skilled craft and trade workers.
3. Programmes or projects aimed at developing elementary skills e.g., machine operators and elementary workers.

Applicants should note that the learning intervention types for occupations in the merSETA sector include but not limited adult education and training, artisan recognition of prior learning, apprenticeships, bursaries, candidacy, internships, learnerships, skills programmes, work integrated learning.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY

Eligible entities are stipulated in the application guideline obtainable on the merSETA website.

### HOW TO APPLY

A guideline has been posted in the merSETA website for applicants to get more information on each of the initiatives and related interventions. Visit [www.merseta.org.za](http://www.merseta.org.za) for all application information.

Applications must be submitted through NSDMS via the project portal and the normal grant initiation platform by **28 February 2022**.

**IMPORTANT:** Once an entity has made a submission, it must take a screen shot that will show it has made the submission and the date and time of the submission.

**Only submission received by deadline date and via the stipulated portal will be considered.**