



## Invitation to Cover the Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the merSETA and National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS)

**RSVP: [tmasekela@merseta.org.za](mailto:tmasekela@merseta.org.za)**

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is an invitation letter to various media houses to cover the signing of a MOU between the merSETA and NSFAS.

The Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA) is one of the 21 Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) established to promote skills development in terms of the Skills Development Act of 1998 (as amended).

With the constant financial struggles faced by students classified as the “missing middle”, leading to their inability to afford higher education, the merSETA has undertaken to collaborate with NSFAS to offer support to these students, through the provision of funding, which will be administered by NSFAS. The funding is for a total amount of **R141.75 million**.

Through this collaboration, 300 students from the “missing middle” will be supported to pursue higher education studies. The focus of the studies will be on mer-sector specific programmes, at 26 (twenty-six) of the public universities in the country, over a three-year period, from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025.

The signing of the MOU between the merSETA and NSFAS will take place as follows:



**merSETA Head Office, 8 Hillside Road,  
Parktown, Johannesburg**



**27 March 2023**



**10:00 - 11:00**

We will be obliged if you honour our invitation. Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Disa Mpande**  
**merSETA Acting CEO**