



merSETA
MANUFACTURING, ENGINEERING
AND RELATED SERVICES SETA

MANDATORY GRANT MEDIA STATEMENT

To: All Media

Attention: News Editors / Manufacturing and Engineering Reporters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Johannesburg, 26 February 2024

Opportunity for Skills Development Funding Now Open

The Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA) hereby announces the commencement of the Mandatory Grant application process for the 2024/25 Financial Year. This grant represents a pivotal opportunity for stakeholders and Skills Development Facilitators (SDFs) to secure funding for the advancement of skills within the sector. The application portal is open effective immediately and will remain accessible until the 30th of April, 2024. Stakeholders and SDFs are urged to submit applications through the National Skills Development Management System (NSDMS).

Essential Submission Details:

- **Mandatory Grant Parameters:** It is to be noted that entities contributing to the merSETA levy must submit their Mandatory Grant applications independent of Discretionary Grant requests. Applications must include the Workplace Skills Plan (WSP), Annual Training Report (ATR), and requisite documentation.
- **Organising Framework for Occupations (OFO) Codes:** The Department of Higher Education and Training has mandated the use of the 2021 OFO Code version for the current submission cycle. The merSETA website and NSDMS are both sources for accessing the updated OFO codes.

Reporting Interval Specifications:

- The scope of the Annual Training Report should encompass training activities from the 1st of January 2023 to the 31st of December 2023.
- The Workplace Skills Plan should project training initiatives from the 1st of January 2024 to the 31st of December 2024.

Signatory Requirements:

In the presence of a recognition agreement with labour or a labour union, a Labour SDF who is part of the Training Committee must electronically endorse the grant application before the closure date. In the absence of such an agreement in companies with a workforce exceeding 50 employees, the same endorsement is required from an Employee SDF who is part of the Training Committee.

Application Process:

Submissions for the Mandatory Grant are to be executed exclusively via the NSDMS platform at (<https://nsdms.merseta.org.za/>), and adherence to the submission deadlines is imperative. Applicants are advised to acquaint themselves with the detailed requirements as outlined in the Grant Policy and Criteria, available on the merSETA website at (<http://www.merseta.org.za>).

Support and Assistance:

Should you require assistance or have inquiries, please direct your communication to the merSETA Regional Offices, or contact the Call Centre at 086-163-7738 or 010-219-3000.

Conclusion:

This announcement is issued with the intent of empowering stakeholders within the manufacturing and engineering sectors to enhance their skills development initiatives. We encourage eligible entities to seize this opportunity for growth and development.

Issued by the Manufacturing, Engineering and Related Services Sector Education and Training Authority (merSETA).

For further information or media inquiries, please contact:

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We anticipate your engagement with the NSDMS portal and look forward to facilitating the enhancement of skills within our sector.