



higher education & training

Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

COPY

Private Bag X174, PRETORIA, 0001, 123 Francis Baard Street, PRETORIA, 0002, South Africa
Tel: (012) 312 5911, Fax: (012) 321 6770
Private Bag X9192, CAPE TOWN, 8000, 103 Plein Street, CAPE TOWN, 8001, South Africa
Tel: (021) 469 5175, Fax: (021) 461 4761

Enquiries: Ms Portia Lusenga Telephone: 012 312 5132 Email: Lusenga.p@dhet.gov.za

To: SETA Administrators and Chief Executive Officers

Skills Development Circular No. 17/2016

REQUEST SETAs FOR INPUTS AND COMMENTS TO THE DRAFT SETA BURSARY POLICY

The Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) with the Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs), are working on the bursary policy that is aimed at standardizing all bursaries which are currently being administered by different SETAs.

The Minister of Higher Education and Training engaged with the SETAs on the following key issues:

- NSFAS was established in accordance with section 3 of the NSFAS Act, No.56 of 1999 to operate a national financial aid scheme in terms of which low cost loans or bursaries are made available to disadvantaged students at higher education institutions;
- The SETA was established in accordance with the Skills Development Act, No.97 of 1998 as amended to develop the skills of the South African workforce, to increase the levels of investment in education and training in the labour market.

As part of the resolutions of the meeting, SETAs have agreed on the following:

- SETAs will continue to support NSFAS with the student funding;
- NSFAS should improve the administration of SETA funds and tighten its policies for reporting;
- Administrative guidelines and criteria should be developed and reviewed;
- Alignment of the learner selection processes and enrolment envisaged for academic, technical, scarce and critical skills courses; and
- There be an alignment in reporting and collaboration with the Auditor-General to ensure effective and efficient way of reporting.

It is against the background given that all SETAs are requested to submit their inputs and comments relating to the draft SETA Bursary Policy. Find attached the SETA Bursary Policy as (Annexure A).

Please note that this invitation also extends to all SETA Board Members, Chairpersons, Chief Financial Officers and the Learning Programme Managers.

Kindly send your comments and inputs to Ms Portia Lusenga on the email address: Lusenga.P@dhet.gov.za or Mr Abiah Melodi on the email address: Melodi.A@dhet.gov.za by 18 November 2016.



Mr ZC Mvalo

Deputy Director-General: Skills Development Branch

Date: 27/10/2016