ARTISAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BRIEFING PRESENTATION

2020
| 1.  | Introduction          |
| 2.  | Strategic objectives of the NSF |
| 3.  | Specific objectives of the RFP |
| 4.  | Overall objectives of the RFP and Beneficiaries |
| 5.  | Eligible applicants   |
| 6.  | Ineligible applicants |
| 7.  | Eligible programmes  |
| 8.  | Eligible criteria    |
| 9.  | Application submission process |
| 10. | RFP Process          |
| 11. | Enquiries            |
1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Request for Proposal is to fund training of artisans. The artisan development training system delivery relies on Skills Development Providers (SDPs) for:

- Theoretical and practical training;
- Workplaces for apprentice on the job training; and
- Trade Testing for the external summative assessment.

These different but connected modalities play a critical role in the artisan development value chain. It is for this reason that the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) through the National Skills Fund (NSF) has to contribute towards the achievement of Outcome 5 and other national priorities, whereby the NSF provides funding to support skills development projects like the Artisan Development Programme as approved by the Director General of the Department of Higher Education and Training for the NSF to issue the RFP to benefit above 4500 beneficiaries.
2. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

The RFP is aligned to the following Performance Output Indicators as indicated in the NSF Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan (APP):

Outcome 1: Quality skills developed:

- Number of learners funded by the NSF for education and training during the specified financial year
- Number of learners that completed their education and training towards occupations in high demand
- Number of learners from rural areas that completed their education and training
- Number of SMMEs and co-operatives where NSF funded learners completed education and training
- Number of learners that completed education and training through SMME and co-operative skills development initiatives
- Number of learners that acquired skills through NSF-funded community-based skills development initiatives
- Number of workers that completed their education and training through worker education initiatives
3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE RFP

• To select artisan training projects that target key priority trades implemented by accredited skills development providers that are in line with economic & sector opportunities in all provinces, that support National Development Plan & other government priorities;
• To improve the efficiencies, effectiveness and productivity of the economy through artisan development;
• Improving livelihoods through artisan development;
• Improving prospects of employment of trained artisans;
• Innovation and partnerships in delivering artisan development; and
• Supporting capacity building initiatives.
4. OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE RFP AND BENEFICIARIES

- To contribute to the achievement of the National Development Plan target of producing 30,000 artisans annually by 2030.

**BENEFICIARIES**

- Unemployed and Under- employed.
- Designated groups: women, youth and people with disability.
- Learners from rural, townships and peri-urban areas.
5. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Accredited Private Skills Development Providers (SDPs) through:

- Quality Council of Trade and Occupations (QCTO);
- Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs);
- National Artisan Moderation Body (NAMB); and
- Other recognised sector bodies (e.g. SAMSA)
6. INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Non-accredited SDPs in Artisan Development,
- Public Entities/ State Owned Enterprises,
- Public Universities,
- Public TVET colleges,
- Government Departments,
- Community Education & Training (CET) Colleges, and
- Individual/person.
7. **Eligible Trades/Programmes**

- Electrician (with wiremen’s licence)
- Millwright
- Boilermaker
- Plumber
- Mechanic including automotive mechanic
- Diesel mechanic
- Carpenter and Joiner
- Welder (inclusive: coded welding & under water)
- Rigger
- Fitter and turner
- Mechanical fitter
- Pipe fitter
- Gold Smith/ Diamond & Gemstone Setter
- Mechatronic
- Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic/Refrigeration Mechanic
- Boat Builder & Repair
- Instrument Technicians
- Metal Fabricators/ Sheet Metalworkers; and
- Auto Electrician
7. ELIGIBLE TRADES/ PROGRAMMES

...continued

- Maritime artisanal programme to support the maritime sector, e.g. Boat Builder and Repairs, etc.

- Artisanal Learnerships aligned to the local and provincial Integrated Development Plan (IDP)

- Artisanal Short Skills Programme for a limited number of beneficiaries. These should provide functional/technical skills to beneficiaries where short Skills Programmes are proposed. The Skills Programmes must be unit standard aligned; specific emphasis on preparing and supporting the learner to earn a living in their respective communities and to be implemented over a period not exceeding six months. They should also provide the learner with practical skills training. Lastly, the Skills Programmes should be aligned to the local and provincial IDP in the province targeted for training.

- Business Enterprise skills for relevant business development programme. This should be unit standards aligned taken from the New Venture Creation (NVC) or related unit standard based programme. A flexible methodology is envisaged with an interactive and hands-on approach to facilitated learning. This should include business incubation for a minimum period of six months (SMME/Cooperatives’ development).
8. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND EVALUATION/ADJUDICATION PROCESS

We have provided eligibility criteria to be used in the evaluation process.

1. **Admin compliance stage:**
   evaluates/assesses compliance to administrative requirements.

   The NSF will send acknowledgement letters to all applicants that submitted proposals at the end of this stage.

2) **Technical Evaluation stage:**
   evaluates/assesses the technical viability of the project to produce certain outputs and outcomes.

3) **Due Diligence:**
   evaluates/assesses the capacity of the applicant & their supporting infrastructure to execute the intended project.

   **Projects that have a positive due diligence are then included in pool for final project selection.**
PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

• During technical evaluation projects are ranked into different bands but usually starting from 50% upwards e.g 50-60/61 to 70/71 to 80 etc

• This assists the relevant committee to determine the appropriate cut off point for due diligence. We focus on national interest to determine cut-off point rather than who makes it to what level.

• The NSF also develops a model for the equitable distribution of the RFP budget across the 9 province using criteria such as Population; Poverty, Unemployment, Previous NSF spend; National Priorities (e.g National Economic Reconstruction Plan) - all of which are independent of the applicants are
PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

• The model and its various criteria tells the NSF how much of the budget goes to what province - a provincial budget for the RFP.
• The model also indicates what priority trades/programmes need to be considered to support the province.

THEN

• The pool of projects is disaggregated into province-to-determine the final selection.

SELECTING AMONG MANY GOOD PROJECTS IS NOT EASY
BUT IT IS DONE IN A FAIR AND OBJECTIVE MANNER.
PROJECT ADJUDICATION (FUNDING ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE-FAC)

A committee appointed by the DG (FAC) receives the report and recommendations on the entire RFP process. This includes:

- Number of applications received by due date
- Results of the Admin Compliance evaluation
- Technical evaluation and its various outcomes
- Due diligence and its outcomes
- The grant distribution model and its provincial distributions
  - The final projects recommended for DG approval
  - The projects not recommended for approval
  - Deliberations of the FAC are minuted and form part of records for any project
9. APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic:

• No posted or faxed application will be accepted.

• No walk-in, hand delivered or couriered applications will be accepted in any of the DHET or NSF offices.

• Only emailed applications will be accepted.

• Applications with all attachments must be emailed to ArtisanRFP@dhet.gov.za.

• Applications must be submitted on the application template found on the website and must be typed.

• One application per organisation/ institution.

• Recommend to keep to maximum of 3 Provinces in an application.
9. APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS….continued

• The proposal and annexures must be submitted to the NSF not later than 11 September 2020 @ 14h00 to the following email address: ArtisanRFP@dhet.gov.za.

• Late applications will not be evaluated. (The Email will be disconnected after 14h00)

• Applications emailed to other email addresses other than the one provided will not be evaluated.

• Terms of Reference, Guidelines and the application template will be available on the DHET website: www.dhet.gov.za under Tenders tab to Open bids then click NSF Request for Proposals Artisan Development Programme.

• The budget must be in compliant with the Generic National Workplace Data Learner Grant Funding and Administration System Policy requirements.

• The application Grand Total (all inclusive) must not exceed R100 million.
10. RFP PROCESS

The RFP was launched in the following media platforms on 09 August 2020:

- Sunday Times
- City Press, and
- DHET Website

Closing date: 11 September 2020 at 14:00. No late applications will be evaluated.
11. ENQUIRIES

• For further information and enquiries regarding the RFP contact the NSF on: ArtisanRFP@dhet.gov.za.

• No walk-ins or telephonic enquiries will be allowed.

• The DG shall from time to time when needed post updates (progress, etc.) on the RFP on the website.

• NB.: Final outcome will be communicated in writing to all applicants at the end of all the stages.