



MINISTER  
HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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- To Sector Education Training Authority Chairpersons  
Sector Education Training Authority Administrators  
Sector Education Training Authority Chief Executive Officers  
Chief Director: National Skills Fund
- cc Director-General  
Acting Deputy Director General: Skills Branch

### NATIONAL ARTISAN DEVELOPMENT

The Human Resource Development Council has endorsed the work of the Artisan and Technician Development Technical Task Team (ATD-TTT) to remove the three primary blockages to implementing a national artisan development programme, being a shortage of:

- Detailed, accurate, current data for artisan trade prioritization, workplaces and placement, scientific target setting and monitoring and evaluation;
- A single guaranteed funding model for all artisan trades applicable to all sectors including single, simple artisan learner administration and grant disbursement system; and
- An artisan Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) system that is focused on supporting persons who are working as support workers in the engineering field to become certificated artisans.

In regard to the second blockage related to funding and learner administration, the primary implementation agencies to remove this blockage are the National Skills Fund (NSF) and the Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs). To address and remove this blockage I have approved the attached "**POLICY FOR A GENERIC NATIONAL ARTISAN LEARNER GRANT FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM**" for implementation by all SETAs and the National Skills Fund NSF from 1 April 2013.

Although the SETA Grant regulations as issued on 3 December 2012 in Government Gazette No. 35940 requires Section Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) to develop funding policies that are specific and unique to the needs of their sector as determined by their sector skills plans (SSPs), the cross sectoral nature of artisan development, as well as, the

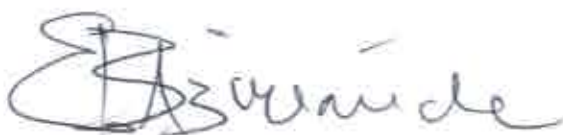
critical need for artisans in the country requires a standardized approach across all SETAs and all Sectors.

In recognition of this need for standardization and to accelerate national artisan development, I have declared 2013 as the Year of the Artisan at an event held in Tembisa on 4 February 2013. This policy is a key and critical component of operationalising 2013 as the Year of the Artisan. I have asked the Deputy Minister to include the promotion, advocacy and monitoring of this policy in his 2013 Year of the Artisan Programme. I look forward to receiving positive reports from him on the full implementation of this policy by all SETAs and the NSF.

In addition, as part of broader review and revitalization of the post school education and training system that will be guided by the white paper on the post school system, there will also be a review of the Skills Development Act during the 2014 Parliamentary Year and this policy will become an integral part of that review process.

Further enquiries in this regard to specific details for the implementation of this policy may be submitted directly to the Technical Advisor: National Artisan Moderation Body, Dr Florus Prinsloo, on [prinsloo.f@dhet.gov.za](mailto:prinsloo.f@dhet.gov.za).

Yours sincerely



Dr BE Nzimande, MP  
Minister of Higher Education and Training

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