

STAKEHOLDER NOTICE

REPRIORITISATION OF THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN (APP) AND LEANER REGISTRATIONS

The W&RSETA enters into a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) on targets for skills development priorities to be delivered during a financial year.

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated for the W&RSETA to reprioritise its APP for the 2020/2021 financial year. Part of this process included consultation with stakeholders in order to have better understanding of the skills needs for the Sector that should be prioritised by the W&RSETA in order to respond to the impact of COVID-19 on the Sector. Some of the feedback that was received during consultations include the following:

- Additional funding to cover the provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Provide additional funding to cover tools for online learning. This must also include the approval of online learning material
- Focus on supporting job retention and re-skilling of existing employees
- Implementation of an online system to manage application and the delivery of programmes
- Focus on the support of vulnerable communities including small businesses, unemployed youth, cooperatives and NGOs
- Consider increasing re-skilling programmes for current employees on COVID-19 requirements and business operations to address retrenchments that are already being implemented by some companies
- As a result of the changes within businesses, companies may not have the capacity to host new learners as they were already uncertain whether they will be able to continue with current programmes

The W&RSETA considered the stakeholder feedback and thereafter conducted a review of the 2020/2021 APP which has resulted in the reprioritisation of the targets to prioritise the following:

- Job retention - employed staff to be re-skilled or capacitated for multi-tasking of activities to prepare for possible changes to business processes
- Increase the number of skills programmes to address the re-skilling / multi-skilling of staff to adapt to new business processes and COVID-19 requirements.
- Current learners to be assisted to exit the system (certification)
- Assist vulnerable youth to gain access to education, training and employment opportunities
- Support vulnerable sectors of the economy (SMME's, Informal Traders, Cooperatives and NGOs)
- Implement Reasonable Accommodation and measures to support the sector with COVID-19 regulations, particularly PPE
- Special Projects – TERS for Retrenchees; skills programmes for unemployed youth; training of Environmental Health Practitioner Graduates to support compliance with COVID-19 regulations

As a result of the reprioritisation, the W&RSETA has revised its APP targets from 63 to 42 including completion targets. Funding windows were advertised on 24 June 2020 and applications will close on **17 July 2020**.

Learner Registration

As at 1 April 2020, the W&RSETA discontinued the use of the Indicium system for learner registration which has been replaced with the introduction of the Management Information System (MIS). Due to the national lockdown and various other issues, there have been delays in the implementation of the ETQA module on the new MIS. This has necessitated the W&RSETA to extend registrations of learners for all the 2019/2020 projects to **31 July 2020**.

Stakeholders are requested to complete the **attached** Bulk Registration template and submit with the learner agreements and supporting documentations as a form of registering learners (including all supporting documents) while the SETA resolves the system issues. Once the system is functional, the learner information and documentation will be uploaded on the MIS

For any queries related to this notice, please contact your relevant regional office.

Yours in skills development,
W&RSETA