



DISCRETIONARY GRANT POLICY

AGRICULTURE SECTOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING AUTHORITY (AGRISETA)

Discretionary grants will be funded from monies received as contemplated in Section 7 (3) of the Skills Regulations.

The AgriSETA will transfer unclaimed mandatory grants to the Discretionary Grant Fund within 3 months of the deadline for claiming Mandatory Grants in respect of each levy year.

All other surplus funds will be transferred to the Discretionary Grant Fund within one month of the financial year end.

Discretionary grants are available to employers, training providers and workers and the unemployed who have applied, through the set application process, for funding of learning programmes or projects that meet the National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS) targets, the AgriSETA priorities and, where specified, the sector specific needs.

At the judgement of the AgriSETA, or where legislation requires, other objectives (but not limited to), such as the Human Resources Development Strategy, the Accelerated Growth and Development Strategy and Sector Charter targets, will be supported

The Governing Body (Board) will approve the annual Service Level Agreement (SLA) budget allocations to each NSDS target.

The AgriSETA management will ensure that a valid, fair and transparent process is developed and established to evaluate the applications against the set criteria and within the time periods set. They will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee (EXCO), or any other relevant nominated Standing Committee or person, who will approve the allocations to the detailed projects and their aligned budget per NSDS target.

Any applications that fall outside the established criteria will be tabled to the Board for consideration.

The AgriSETA will develop the procedures and processes to manage the administrative and financial aspects related to the discretionary grant applications. This would include contractual obligations, payment guidelines and more.

Funds allocated to the approved project / applicant are to be utilised within a specified period, whereafter the funding may be withdrawn and transferred back into the Discretionary Grant Fund.

Funds allocated to a project / applicant are available only for the specific award made i.e.: learning programme, number of learners, learner profile etc.

Any changes to the original funding awarded need to be formally requested, in writing, for the AgriSETA's consideration.

Payments will be made in line with the contract and against the agreed deliverables and against learners who are in the process at the specific time the agreed on payment is requested.

Should the project terminate, for whatever reason, any funds that have not been used, will be transferred back into the Discretionary Grant Fund.

Where funds have been proven to be used negligently or fraudulently, the AgriSETA will institute the necessary procedures and processes to recover these funds.

Where discretionary grant funding is allocated to a service or training provider or other suppliers, the procurement must be conducted according to the PFMA and Treasury Regulations specifically as contemplated in Section 16A Supply Chain Management(SCM).