

(A) Financial Year 2027 / 2028 Discretionary Grants Application

APPLICATION PERIOD 01 August 2026 to 15 September 2026 at 24h00

AgriSETA was established as the Sector Education and Training Authority for the economic sub-sectors that include primary and secondary agriculture through the Skills Development Act of 1998 as amended.

SUB-SECTOR	SIC CODE	SIC DESCRIPTION
Aquaculture	13000	Fishing, operation of fish hatcheries and fish farms
Fibre	30118	Grading, ginning and packing of wool and cotton raw material
Pest control	99003	Pest control
Tobacco	11142	Manufacture of tobacco products
	62208	Processing and dispatching of tobacco
Sugar	11122	Sugar plantation including sugar cane and sugar beet
	30420	Manufacture of sugar including golden syrup and castor sugar
Seed	11140	Seed production and marketing
Poultry	11220	Other animal farming, production of animal products (not elsewhere classified)
	11221	Ostrich farming
	30114	Poultry and egg production including the slaughtering, dressing and packing of poultry
Milling, pet food and animal feed	30311	Manufacture of flour and grain mill products including rice and vegetable milling, grain mill residues
	30330	Manufacture of prepared animal feeds
	30331	Manufacture of pet foods
	30332	Manufacture of starches and starch products
Horticulture	11120	Growing of vegetables, horticultural specialties and nursery products
	11121	Growing of vegetables, horticultural specialties (including ornamental

SUB-SECTOR	SIC CODE	SIC DESCRIPTION
		horticulture) and nursery products
	11130	Growing of fruit, nuts, beverage and spice crops
	11301	Growing of coffee and tea including coconuts, cocoa, nuts, olives, dates, etc.
	12109	Growing of trees as second crop by farmers
	30132	Fruit packed in cartons, fruit juice concentrate drummed and fruit juice in container ready for consumption
	30133	Fruit exporters and importers
	30493	Processing and marketing of coffee and tea including coconuts, cocoa, nuts, olives, dates, etc.
	62112	Service to nut farmers and companies
Grains and cereals	11110	Growing of cereals and other crops (not elsewhere classified)
	30300	Manufacture of grain mill products and starches
	30313	Handling and storage of grain
	61502	Wholesale and retail trade in agricultural machinery
	62111	Sale and distribution of agricultural raw materials and other farming inputs
Red meat	11141	Production and animal products (not elsewhere classified)
	11210	Farming of cattle, sheep, goats, horses, asses, mules and hinnies; dairy farming
	11222	Game farming
	11300	Growing of crops combined with farming of animals (mixed farming)
	11400	Agricultural and animal husbandry services except veterinary activities
	11402	Other animal farming (not elsewhere classified)
	30115	Production, sale and marketing of agricultural by-products (e.g., bones, hides)
	30117	Slaughtering, dressing and packing of livestock including small game for meat and processing of ostrich products
	61210	Wholesale trade in agricultural raw materials and livestock
	74136	Transport of livestock as supporting activity
	87120	Agricultural and livestock research

Agriculture Sector Education Authority (AgriSETA) hereby invites eligible stakeholders within the agricultural sector to apply for Discretionary Grant funding. The Grant is intended to meet the AgriSETA skills needs as set out in the Sector Skills Plan (SSP), Strategic Plan, priorities in the National Skills Development Plan, Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP) as well as the Master Plans in Agriculture. In addition, the allocation of discretionary grant funds intends to improve the supply of qualified and competent workers in line with the Sector Priority list.

Please note: Due to the high volume of applications received by AgriSETA in the past, stakeholders are advised to limit applications to projects in line with the [Sectoral Priority Occupations list for 2027 - 2028 programmes.](#)

List of qualifications to apply for

AgriSETA invites all levy and non-levy paying employers, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO's), Community Based Organisations (CBO's), Non-Profit Organisations (NPO's), Cooperatives, TVET Colleges, Accredited Training Providers, Agricultural Colleges, Universities, Universities of Technology, SMME's, Community Education and Training Colleges (CET's), Agricultural Trade Unions / Federations, Companies, Land Reform beneficiaries, and small BEE companies to forward applications for the respective Learning Programmes.

NB. Individual applications shall not be considered

AgriSETA Interventions that will be advertised for 2027 / 2028 Financial Year:

Learning Programme	Email address for submission of applications
Internship Programmes (WIL)	2027INT@agriseta.co.za
Graduates Placement programme	2027GP@agriseta.co.za

Bursaries for Employed Learners	2027BU@agriseta.co.za
Bursaries for employed Learners continuing studies, Funded in previous year.	
Bursaries for Unemployed Learners	

Bursaries for unemployed Learners continuing their studies	
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B) Financial Year 2027 / 2028 Discretionary Grants Application

APPLICATION PERIOD 01 AUGUST 2026 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 24H00

Learning Programme	Email address for submission of applications
Learnerships Programme 18.1 (Employed)	2027LSE@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes 18.1 (Employed)	2027SPE@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes for Seasonal workers	2027SW@agriseta.co.za
Artisan Development Programmes	2027ART@agriseta.co.za
Commodity Organisations	2027COMM@agriseta.co.za
Learnership Programmes 18.2 (Unemployed)	2027LSU@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes 18.2 (Unemployed)	2027SPU@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes for Persons living with Disabilities Unemployed	2027PWD@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes for Land Reform Beneficiaries Unemployed	2027LRB@agriseta.co.za
Programmes in Support of Rural structures (Mentorship) Unemployed	2027SRS@agriseta.co.za

Please click on the Interventions to download the Application Forms

1. Learnerships 18.1 - Employed

1.1 Learnerships 18.2 - Unemployed

- The value of the Grant per learner;
- 18.1 (Employed) – R30 000.00
- 18.2 (Unemployed) – R30 000.00
- 18.2 (Unemployed) learner stipend R24 000.00 for 08 months @ R3000 per month.

N.B There is no learner allowance for employed learners on Learnerships.

All applicants applying for legacy qualifications should ensure that the learners are enrolled by 31 May 2026

2. Skills Programmes 18.1 – Employed

2.1 Skills Programmes – 18.2 Unemployed

- 18.1- Employed & 18.2 - Unemployed learners **R200.00 / Credit / Learner.**
- Applications should not exceed a maximum of 60 credits
- There is no Learner allowance on Skills Programmes
- Skills Programmes should be made of Unit Standards from the same qualification not different qualifications.

3. Support to Rural Structures (Mentorship)

Mentor refers to a type of a person who has been involved in farming or advisory in the agricultural industry for several years and has a wealth of hands-on experience and is prepared to offer advice and possibly teach and assist new and young farmers in the art of the agricultural business.

- A detailed application form as provided **MUST** be used and all requests for funding under Support to Rural Structures will be evaluated according to it.
- Mentorship applications shall be linked to a beneficiary organization. Mentor must be linked to a mentoring organization. (Agricultural Co-operatives, Land Reform Beneficiaries in agriculture as well as individual small farmers shall be supported)
- All Rural Structures must submit proof of registration as a legal entity.
- Only proven functional projects will be supported, start-ups are excluded for funding under this intervention;
- **Only non-credit** bearing programmes shall be funded, credit bearing programmes SHALL NOT be supported under this intervention.
- **ALL** fields of the application form should be fully completed and **ALL** supporting documents required must be attached.
- The minimum number of people to be mentored should be five (05).

4. Bursaries

- Please note that only agriculture related qualifications shall be supported for unemployed learners while levy paying companies can apply for other qualifications aligned to sector priority occupation list.
- Bursary funding is from NQF Level 6 upward, except for Nated courses offered by public TVET and ATVET Colleges.
- AgriSETA will not fund short courses e.g., National Certificate and Certificates.
- The latest statement of account from the Institution for continuing learners must be included in the application.
- Applicants who have been funded the previous year and would like to continue with the same qualification, are to re-apply as continuing learners.
- They should have acquired a minimum 50% achievement of registered modules.
- Repeat modules shall not be funded for.
- The bursary value for - Undergraduate and Postgraduate is R70 800.00 / per learner
- All expenses shall be funded to the maximum of R70 800 combined First year learners are encouraged to apply

5. Internships (Work Integrated Learning (WIL))

- Funding for Internships (WIL) shall only be for learners who require practical experience to obtain a qualification from a TVET and ATVET colleges.
- No funding shall be provided to students who have been in an internship (WIL) before.
- University of Technology and Agricultural Colleges shall be funded for R60,000 at a maximum of 12 months per learner.
- N6 learners from TVET Colleges shall be funded for 18 months at R90,000 per learner

6. Graduate Placement

- Graduate Placements shall prioritize learners who obtained their qualifications (e.g. National Diploma / Degree) from Agricultural or Public TVET colleges, Universities and require workplace experience to increase their chances of employment / self-employment.
- Placement shall be for 12 months
- R60 000.00 per learner

7. Artisan Development

- Only AgriSETA Workplace approved Employers who would like to apply for Learners intending to enroll for trades are eligible to apply.
- Contracted - R206 290.00 / Per Learner for three (3) Years minimum
- ARPL (Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning):
- Employed R35 000.00 for one year
- Unemployed R55 000.00 for one year

8. Commodity Organisations

- A commodity organisation refers to one that brings together other interest groups related to a particular commodity or sector
- A detailed application form as provided **MUST** be used and all requests for funding under Commodity Organisations will be evaluated according to it.
- All Commodity Organisations must submit proof of registration as a legal entity.
- **Only non-credit** bearing programmes shall be funded, credit bearing programmes SHALL NOT be supported under this intervention.
- ALL fields of the application form should be fully completed and ALL supporting documents required must be attached.

9. Skills Programmes for Land Reform Beneficiaries

- (Unemployed) 18.2 learners **R200.00 / Credit / Learner.**
- Applications should not exceed a maximum of 60 credits.

- There is no Learner allowance on Skills Programmes.
- Skills Programmes should be made of Unit Standards from the same qualification not different qualifications.
- Land reform beneficiaries must have received the land through Department of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development.
- Proof must be produced. (A letter from the Department/Tribal Authority confirming beneficiaries).

10. Skills Programmes for Persons living with Disabilities

- (Unemployed) 18.2 learners **R200.00 /Credit /Learner.**
- Applications should not exceed a maximum of 60 credits.
- There is no Learner allowance on Skills Programmes.
- Skills Programmes should be made of Unit Standards from the same qualification not different qualifications.
- This programme is targeted at persons living with disabilities only.
- Proof must be produced. (A proof of Medical Report and Functional Assessment Report confirming the disability / Report from Department Social Development and Department of Education or Occupational Therapist).

11. Skills Programmes for Seasonal Workers

- Employed - 18.1 learners **R200.00 / Credit / Learner.**
- Applications should not exceed a maximum of 60 credits.
- There is no Learner allowance on Skills Programmes.
- Skills Programmes should be made of Unit Standards from the same qualification not different qualifications.
- This programme is targeted at seasonal workers only.
- Employment confirmation letter/fixed term contract should be in line with the training period.

12. Expression of interest through Partnerships

- AgriSETA hereby invites expressions of interest of skills development proposals from qualifying applicants. Proposals are evaluated using a

competitive process based on the evaluation criteria, strategic alignment of the application, availability of funds and distribution of funds.

○ **Focus areas for Proposals:**

- Rural: Learnerships,
- Bursaries (Employed and Unemployed), Graduate Placements & Internships
- Mentorship programmes for unemployed youth.
- Skills programmes for:
 - NPOs
 - NGOs
 - CPOs
 - Persons living with disability
 - SMMEs.
 - Entrepreneurship and business development programmes (interventions aimed at improving entrepreneurial skills and business start-up support).
- Impact Assessments and tracer- studies (On any of these beneficiaries – Work Integrated Learning, Unemployed Youth Learnerships & Bursaries).
- 4IR Skills Programmes including but not limited to cyber security, drone technology, data science and digital product design within the Agricultural sector.

○ **The following Organisations are eligible to forward Proposals:**

- Employers in the Agriculture and related-services sectors.
 - Accredited Training Providers and Institutions of Higher learning (Including CETs, TVETs, ATVETs)
 - Agriculture Professional Bodies Cross - Disability organisations
 - Federations and Organised Labour (Trade Unions in the Agriculture Sector)
- All proposals forwarded must be in **PDF format** and forwarded to the correct email address Proposals2027@agriseta.co.za
- **NB: No Proposals forwarded to any other AgriSETA email address will be considered.** No hand delivered/hard copies/ we Transfer/Dropbox Proposals will be accepted.
- The proposals must align to AgriSETA Performance Targets and Sector Skills

Plan (Proposals should address Sector Priority Occupations identified within the Agricultural Sector).

- **All submissions must comply with the requirements stated below:**
- All proposals should contain sufficient information to allow AgriSETA to make a fair determination on awarding/not awarding funds.
- Collaborations with Private Sector and Public Higher Education Institutions in submission of Proposals are encouraged due to AgriSETA's mandate to link the Private Sector with Public Higher Education Institutions.
- Approval of some of the programmes will be subject to the successful compliance with WSP/ATR submissions requirements, where applicable (*Levy paying Employers*).
- Enquiries and/or submission of required documents must be directed to AgriSETA and addressed to Nosipho Hela (siphelele@agriseta.co.za)
- It shall be noted that the proposals on any of the above interventions can be co-funded, where a stakeholder indicates a co-funding split with AgriSETA.
- **Important Components to include in the Proposal:**
 - Clearly indicate proposal focus area.
 - Experience of Implementation of Proposed Projects (attach letters of reference).
 - Submit a Project Plan covering the full scope of the project from start to completion.
 - Budget Breakdown (Per Learner Cost and Total Cost) – Show all line items in the budget.
 - Implementation Methodology (including recruitment process for beneficiaries).
 - Region/Province where the project will be implemented.
 - Risk Matrix (Stating Risk, Possibility of Occurrence, Impact of Risk and Mitigation of Risk).
 - Attach Accreditation Letter (Where Applicable).
 - Clearly indicate co-funding percentage split (Where Applicable).

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATIONS

1. All applications must be submitted through AgriSETA designated emails for each learning intervention as stipulated in the advertisement.
2. **NB: No Proposals forwarded to any other AgriSETA email address will be considered.** No hand delivered/hard copies/ We Transfer/Dropbox Proposals will be accepted.
3. Applications are open from 01 August 2026 to 15 September 2026 at 24h00.
4. Late applications will not be considered.
5. Only **fully** completed applications with the required supporting documents shall be considered for evaluation.
6. All Training Providers / Mentors must be on the Central Supplier Database (CSD) and proof must be submitted.
7. AgriSETA reserves the right not to appoint an applicant.
8. No funding shall be provided to students who receive funding from other sources, e.g. NSFAS, NSF, other SETAs, Funza Lushaka and other Funders.
9. AgriSETA shall not take responsibility for Learning programmes that commence before the enrolment of learners on the system and without the applicant receiving written confirmation of commencement.
10. Public TVET or ATVET can be a lead employer, and a training provider provided there is an MoU with the workplace.
11. Employers shall be approved for learnerships, and skills programmes provided it is different groups of learners.
12. The duration of the internship allocations shall be guided by requirements of the qualification.
13. Only South African citizens shall be eligible for funding of learning programmes
14. COMPULSORY documents / information that should be provided.
 - A copy of the Company registration documents must be submitted.
 - Proof of Accreditation or Programme Approval.
 - A valid SARS Tax Clearance Certificate or Tax Compliance Status Pin should accompany all applications.
 - Proof of submission of the current year's Workplace Skills Plan (WSP) and Annual Training Report (ATR) (for large and medium companies).
 - Small companies that are levy paying must submit proof of the current year's WSP and ATR.
 - EMP 201 form from SARS (employers).
 - Learning interventions applied for must be selected from the **Sectoral Priority**

Occupations list for 2027 / 2028.

For further enquiries, please contact the Learning Programmes Officers below.

Learning Programme	Contact Person	Email address
Learnerships 18.1, Skills Programmes 18.1	Ms Rirhandzu Makhubele	rmakhubele@agriseta.co.za
Learnerships 18.2	Ms Gugu Mdluli	gmsiza@agriseta.co.za
Skills Programmes 18.2	Ms Nelisiwe Sibande	nelisiwep@agriseta.co.za
Commodity Organisations	Ms Gugu Mdluli	gmsiza@agriseta.co.za

Support to Rural Structures (SRS)	Mr Siphelo Maxayi	siphelom@agriseta.co.za
Artisan Development	Mr Jeffrey Mphaki	jeffrey@agriseta.co.za
Graduate Placement	Ms Merriam Marobyane	merriam@agriseta.co.za
Internships	Mr Akhona Mahlati	akhona@agriseta.co.za
Bursaries (Continuations)	Ms Latifa Dube	latifa@agriseta.co.za
Bursaries (New)	Ms Andani Sengani - Mphepu	andani@agriseta.co.za
Expression of interest through Partnership	Mr Sophelele Makhanya	sophelele@agriseta.co.za

Enquiries on all programmes for North West, Limpopo & Northern Cape	Mr Ledile Kgomo	ledilek@agriseta.co.za
Enquiries on all programmes for Mpumalanga, Gauteng & Free State	Mr Tsepo Ndlangamandla	tsepo@agriseta.co.za
Enquiries on all programmes for KwaZulu Natal, Eastern Cape & Western Cape	Mr Xolani Zituta	xzituta@agriseta.co.za