



higher education & training

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NATIONAL ARTISAN DEVELOPMENT CIRCULAR 1 OF 2022: REVISED POLICY - THE GENERIC NATIONAL ARTISAN WORKPLACE DATA, APPRENTICESHIP - ARPL GRANT FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM POLICY

The Department of Higher Education and Training has revised The Generic National Artisan Workplace Data, Learner Grant Funding and Administration System Policy (The Policy) in line with its objectives of ensuring that the Department continuously produces a skilled and capable workforce to support an inclusive growth path.

The Policy forms part of an apprenticeship and artisan development system wide standardisation process that aims at simplifying artisan development processes to improve the user (employer, learner, skills development provider) experience in their interactions with the apprenticeship and artisan development system. Amendments have been effected to The Policy as follows:

1. The Policy incorporates (Artisan Recognition of Prior Learning) ARPL at all levels of the Policy.
2. The Policy establishes a data collection mechanism for ARPL budgets and their allocation.
3. The Policy establishes an ARPL Grant amount for employed and unemployed candidates.
4. The Policy extends the Apprenticeship and ARPL Grant review period from taking place annually to every three years.

5. The Policy established the maximum and final amounts that any SETA can fund. No SETA may fund above or below the published grant amounts.
6. The Policy ceases the practice of SETAs paying stipends to funded apprentices directly to transferring the full funded amount (based on a 4 tranche disbursement system) to employers (for them to administer and pay the stipends), thus allowing employers to access the Section 12(H) learning allowance of the Income Tax Act.

The Apprenticeship Grant will remain unchanged at R206 290.00. The ARPL Grant will be R35 000.00 for employed candidates and R55 000.00 for unemployed candidates. The amounts may be reviewed every 3 years and calculated using the Producer Price Index.

The apprenticeship and ARPL grant amounts are effective as of 1 April 2022. This will allow for a smooth transitional process in the administration of SETA learnership grants and NSF funding.

It is trusted that this revision will assist employers (lead and host employers) to indenture more artisan learners and that SETAs and the NSF will work closely with the Department to fully meet the requirements of The Policy.

Yours sincerely



Dr N Sishi
Director-General

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