

FOODBEV SETA: DISCRETIONARY GRANT FUNDING FOR THE 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR

First Funding Window: Skills Development Grants for the Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sector

The Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sector Education and Training Authority (FoodBev SETA) is pleased to announce the first discretionary grant funding window for the 2026/27 financial year. We invite eligible entities to apply for grants to address critical and priority skills needs within our sector.

Funding Window Dates

- **Opening Date:** 17 October 2025
- **Closing Date:** 14 November 2025
- ***Applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered.***

1. Purpose of the Grant

This discretionary grant is designed to fund skills development interventions that directly support the strategic objectives of the FoodBev SETA's Sector Skills Plan (SSP) and national priorities. The primary goal is to build a sustainable pipeline of skilled, competent, and employable individuals for the food and beverage manufacturing sector.

2. Funding Priorities

Applicants must prioritise programmes listed on the Sector Skills Plan List. Applications for skills or occupations not classified as priority or scarce will require a detailed and compelling motivation for consideration.

3. Who Can Apply?

The following entities operating within the food and beverage manufacturing sector are eligible to apply:

- Levy-paying and non-levy paying employers.
- Public TVET & CET Colleges.
- Public Universities and Universities of Technology.

3. Available Learning Programmes & Grant Values

Please refer to the table below for details on available programmes, grant values, and durations.

Table 1: Learning Programme Interventions

Learning Programme	Full Grant Value per Learner	Envisaged Duration
AET (Adult Education & Training)	R 5,000.00	6 months per learning area
Apprenticeship/Artisans (Employed)	R 55,000.00	12 months
Apprenticeship/Artisans (Unemployed)	R 206,290.00	36 months
Bursaries (Employed)	R 50,000.00	Per HEI course duration
Bursaries: Research & Innovation (Unemployed) - Master's	Up to R 120,000	Per HEI course duration
Bursaries: Research & Innovation (Unemployed) - PhD	Up to R 150,000	Per HEI course duration
HEI Bursaries (Unemployed)	R 120,000 p/a (Max: R 360,000)	Per HEI course duration
Candidacy Programme	R 84,000 p/a (Max: R 252,000)	36 months
Learnership (Employed)	R 25,000.00	12 months
Learnership for People with Disability (Employed)	R 34,000.00	12 months
Learnership (Unemployed)	R 67,000.00	12 months

Learning Programme	Full Grant Value per Learner	Envisaged Duration
Learnership for People with Disability (Unemployed)	R 88,000.00	12 months
Skills Programme (Employed)	R 200.00 per credit (Max: 60 credits)	Per credit count
TVET Placement (N6) - non-engineering	R 63,000.00	18 months
TVET Placement (N6) - Engineering	R 84,000.00	24 months
Internship (Unemployed) - 6 Months	R 30,000.00	6 Months
Internship (Unemployed) - 12 Months	R 60,000.00	12 Months
Work Experience for Graduates	R 60,000.00	12 Months

5. Critical Compliance Information for Applicants

- **Learner Registration Deadline:** All successful applicants must have the capacity to recruit learners and submit complete learner registration documents to the FoodBev SETA by **30 June 2026**.
- **Extended Legacy Programmes:** For extended legacy learnerships and skills programmes, the **final date for learner registration is 30 June 2026**. Stakeholders must submit all registration documents by **12 June 2026** to facilitate this. You must hold extended accreditation for these specific programmes.
- **Occupational Qualifications:** Stakeholders applying for Occupational Qualifications who are awaiting QCTO accreditation must provide verifiable evidence that they are in the process of obtaining accreditation for the relevant qualification.

6. How to Apply

- Applications must be submitted online via the **FoodBev SETA SIMS** portal: www.foodbev.co.za.
- A dedicated mailbox is available for manual applications only where online submission is impossible. Please contact the relevant official for this information.
- Upon successful submission, you will receive an automated confirmation of receipt with a unique reference number.

7. Important Notice on Funding Awards & SETA Discretion

- **Application Does Not Guarantee Award:** Submission of an application is a request for funding and does not constitute a guarantee of an award.
- **Award Criteria:** All applications are subject to approval based on the **availability of funds, adherence to the SSP, and full compliance with the set criteria.**
- **Past Performance:** The FoodBev SETA will prioritise applicants with a demonstrated track record of successfully implementing grants. This includes, but is not limited to, a history of:
 - Registering awarded learners timeously.
 - Maintaining low rates of learner drop-outs, cancellations, and terminations.
 - Ensuring learners progress according to schedule.
 - Exiting learners from the system upon completion or discontinuation.
 - Absorbing some of the learners being trained
- **SETA's Rights:** The FoodBev SETA reserves the right, at the sole discretion of the Accounting Authority or its delegate, to:
 - Not fully award the requested number of beneficiaries.
 - Partially fund an application.
 - Decline an application entirely.
 - Cancel the funding process.
- **Finality of Decision:** All funding decisions made by the FoodBev SETA are final and binding. The SETA's discretion in the award of grants, as guided by its policies and the availability of funds, is not subject to appeal on the grounds of the applicant's perceived need alone.

Contact Details

For assistance: For any enquiries regarding discretionary grants application requirements or require clarity, please reach out to the following officials during working hours (Monday to Friday, 09:00 - 16:00).

Programme	Contact Person	Email Address	Contact Details
Artisans Employed and Unemployed Bursaries Employed and Unemployed Research Bursaries (Masters and PhD)	Collin Mshayisa	CollinM@FoodBev.co.za	011 253 7322
Skills Programme Employed	Aluwani Ramoleta	AluwaniN@FoodBev.co.za	011 253 7346
Candidacy Programme Internships (University Students) Work Experience Graduates TVET Placements	Boitshoko Shashape	BoitshokoS@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7358
Learnerships Employed	Julia Ratopola	JuliaD@FoodBev.co.za	011 253 7324
AET Employed Learnerships Unemployed	Mashoro Malapela	MashoroM@FoodBev.co.za	011 253 7312
Trade Union Support, SDF & T number registrations	Japhta Selwane	JaphtaS@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7304
Lecturer Development	Thabang Madihlaba	thabangm@FoodBev.co.za	011 253 7368

For more information, including the detailed Discretionary Grants Handbook and required compliance documents, please visit our website: www.foodbev.co.za under "What We Do > Skills Development Funding".