

FOODBEV SETA DISCRETIONARY GRANT: THIRD FUNDING WINDOW FOR 2026-27 FINANCIAL YEAR

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

The Food and Beverage Manufacturing Sector Education and Training Authority (FoodBev SETA) invites eligible stakeholders to apply for Discretionary Grant funding under the third funding window for the 2026/27 financial year.

The purpose of this funding window is to support strategic skills development interventions that address priority and scarce skills within the food and beverage manufacturing sector, in line with the FoodBev SETA Sector Skills Plan (SSP), the Sector Priority Occupations Interventions List (SPOIL), and national skills development priorities.

Funding Window Dates:

- Opening Date: 02 October 2026
- Closing Date: 16 October 2026

Applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered.

Evaluation and Allocation timelines

- Evaluation of applications: 19-30 October 2026
- Presentation to committees and Allocations: 02 to 10 November 2026
- Contracting: 11 November 2026
- Implementation: 16 November 2026
- Registration deadline: 15 February 2027

1. Purpose of the Grant

This funding window is open to Employed Bursaries and Recognised Trade Unions support only. Applications are encouraged to learning programmes that are listed on the **Sector Priority Occupations Interventions List (SPOIL)**. Trade unions may apply for short programmes to capacitate office bearers and members to perform their roles more effectively and efficiently.

2. Funding Priorities

Applicants must prioritise programmes listed on the Sector Priority Occupations Interventions List (SPOIL). Applications for skills or occupations not classified as priority or scarce will require a detailed and compelling motivation for consideration.

3. Who Can Apply?

Applications are invited from the following eligible entities operating within the food and beverage manufacturing sector:

- Levy-paying and non-levy paying employers.
- Recognised FoodBev SETA Trade Unions

3. Learning Programmes & Grant Values Available

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

Table 1: Learning program interventions

Learning Programmes	Full value of the grant per learner	2026/27 APP Target
Bursaries (Employed) Final Year, Postgraduate studies or Management and Leadership Development Courses (minimum NQF level 6)	Up to maximum of R 50,000	50
Trade Union support	Allocated as per proposed training	Dependent on training requirements

NOTE: LEARNER ENROLMENT SUBMISSION CUTOFF DATE: All stakeholders applying for the discretionary grant for 2026/27 financial year must have the capacity to recruit and submit learner registration documents by the cutoff date of **15 February 2027** for the learning programmes as no extension will be granted. For bursaries, learner registration means confirmed registration with the tertiary institution, in addition to registration on SIMS. For trade unions, the training must commence before the financial year-end (31 March 2027), in addition to registration on SIMS.

How to Apply:

- All applicants must submit their applications online via the FoodBev SETA **SIMS** www.foodbev.co.za or submit via the dedicated mailbox for manual applications **(applicable to trade unions only)**
- Upon submitting your application on SIMS, you will receive an automated discretionary grant application confirmation of receipt with reference number.

4. 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.

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
- Employed Bursary - Recognised Trade Union	Teboho Ngwane	Tebohon@foodbev.co.za	0112537313
	Mashoro Malepela	Mashorom@foodbev.co.za	0112537312
	Japhta Selwane	Japthas@foodbev.co.za	0112537304
	Julia Ratopola	JuliaD@FoodBev.co.za	0112537324
	Aluwani Ramoleta	AluwaniN@FoodBev.co.za	0112537346
	Mandy Lirumo	MandyL@FoodBev.co.za	0112537376
	Gcobani Gqangeni	GcobaniG@FoodBev.co.za	0112537325

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"**.

