FoodBev Manufacturing SETA

7 Wessel Road Rivonia, 2128
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DISCRETIONARY GRANT 2027/28 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 2027/28 financial year. We invite eligible entities to apply for grants to address critical and priority skills needs within our sector.

APPLICATIONS OPEN	APPLICATIONS CLOSE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE
09 November 2026	07 December 2026	30 September 2028

Applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered.

Anticipated Timelines

	Stage	Date	Action
1	**Applications open**	**09 Nov – 07 Dec 2026**	Submit online via SIMS
2	**Evaluation of applications**	**08 Dec 2026 – 26 Feb 2027**	Applications evaluated by FoodBev SETA (FBS) team
3	**Presentation to committees**	**01 Mar 2027 – 12 Mar 2027**	Evaluated applications presented to various committees of FBS for approval
4	**Contracting**	**15 March – 31 Mar 2027**	Contracts issued to and concluded with successful grant applicants.
5	**Implementation**	**From 1 Apr 2027**	Learner recruitment and training begin in the 2027/28 financial year.
6	**Registration deadline**	**120 days from contracting date**	Final cutoff for learner registration documents. No extension will be granted.

1 Purpose of the Grant

This discretionary grant funds skills development interventions that directly support the strategic objectives of the FoodBev SETA 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.

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2 Funding Priorities

Applicants must prioritise programmes aligned with the Sector Priority Occupations Interventions List (SPOIL). full list can be obtained from FBS website. Applications for skills or occupations not classified as priority or scarce will require a detailed and compelling motivation for consideration and the discretion to approve remains with FBS.

For unemployed bursaries, applicants must apply for occupations eligible for bursary funding, as specified in the FoodBev SETA Discretionary Grant Handbook, available on the FoodBev SETA website at www.foodbev.co.za under **What We Do > Skills Development Funding**.

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 and CET Colleges
- Public Universities and Universities of Technology

4 Learning Programmes and Grant Values

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

Table 1: Learning programme interventions

Learning programme	Grant Value
AET	R 5,000.00 (R2,500.00 for Numeracy and R2,500.00 for Literacy) per learner, per annum
Apprenticeship / Artisans (Employed), including Trade Occupations	R 55,000 per learner per annum
Apprenticeship / Artisans (Unemployed), including Trade Occupations	R 206,290 per learner for a period of three (3) years (includes training and stipends)
Bursaries (Employed): Final Year, Postgraduate studies or Management and Leadership Development Programs	Up to a maximum of R 50,000 per learner, per annum
Bursaries: Masters (Unemployed learners)	Up to a maximum of R120,000 per learner, per annum
Bursaries: PhD (Unemployed learners)	Up to a maximum of R150,000 per learner, per annum
Bursaries Unemployed University learners	Maximum of R 120,000 per annum for a maximum period of three (3) years
Candidacy Programme	R84,000 per annum, paid for maximum period of three (3) years
Learnership Employed	R 25,000 per learner per annum

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Learning programme	Grant Value
Learnership for People with Disability (Employed)	R 34,000 per learner, per annum
Learnership Unemployed	R 67,000 per learner, per annum
Learnership for People with Disability (Unemployed)	R 88,000 per learner, per annum
Skills Programme	R200.00 per credit for employed, based on total number of credits applied for, to a maximum of 60 credits
TVET Placement (N6)	R 63,000.00 for non-engineering courses (18 months); R 84,000.00 for engineering students (24 months) per learner
Internship – University of Technology	R 30,000 for 6 months; R 60,000 for 12 months per learner
Work Experience for Graduates	R 60,000 per learner, per annum
Lecturer Development (TVET & CET)	Up to a maximum of R 63,000.00

LEARNER ENROLMENT SUBMISSION CUTOFF DATE: All stakeholders applying for the discretionary grant for the 2027/28 financial year under this window, must have the capacity to recruit and submit learner registration documents by the cutoff date of **120 days after contracting** for all learning programmes. No extension will be granted.

5 How to Apply

- Submit your application online via the FoodBev SETA SIMS at www.foodbev.co.za, or through the dedicated mailbox for manual applications.
- Upon submitting your application on SIMS, you will receive an automated discretionary grant application confirmation of receipt with a reference number.

6 Important Notice on Funding Awards and SETA Discretion

- **Application does not guarantee an award:** submission of an application is a request for funding and does not constitute a guarantee of an award.
- **Awarding:** the awarding of grant funding is subject to discretionary of the award committee and availability of funds. The evaluation process which will consider previous performance of grant recipients, where applicable.
- **Past performance:** the FoodBev SETA will prioritise applicants with a demonstrated track record of successfully implementing grants, including but 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 implementation plan

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  - Exiting learners from the system upon completion or discontinuation
  - Absorbing at least 20% of the learners that have completed their training.
- **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
  - Decline an application entirely
  - Cancel the entire grant 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.

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Contact Details

For assistance: for any enquiries regarding discretionary grant application requirements, or if you require clarity, please contact the following officials during working hours, Monday to Friday, 09:00 – 16:00.

Contact person	Email address	Telephone
Teboho Ngwane	Tebohon@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7313
Mashoro Malepela	Mashorom@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7312
Japhta Selwane	Japthas@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7304
Julia Ratopola	JuliaD@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7324
Aluwani Ramoleta	AluwaniN@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7346
Mandy Lirumo	MandyL@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7376
Gcobani Gqangeni	GcobaniG@foodbev.co.za	011 253 7325

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