



DISCRETIONARY GRANT FUNDING WINDOW

UNEMPLOYED BENEFICIARIES ON PROGRAMMES – STRATEGIC PROJECTS & COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2026



PURPOSE

To support national priorities through innovative, impact-driven skills development for unemployed youth, contributing to the strategic outcomes of BANKSETA.



ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Eligible employers
- Government departments and public entities including SETAs
- Public universities and universities of technology (UoTs), TVET and CET colleges
- Accredited training providers
- Eligible Partnership Applicants



FUNDING CATEGORIES & CAPS (VAT INCLUSIVE)

Programme Category	Funding Cap per Learner (VAT inclusive)	Key Details
Registered / non-registered skills programmes	Up to R30 000	Maximum 6 months
AI bursaries	Up to R80 000	6 – 12 months
Graduate & Youth Employment Transition / Work Readiness	Up to R15 000	Minimum 2 weeks structured learning



APPLICATION & DOCUMENTS

- 1 Complete and sign the prescribed application form for your selected programme category.
- 2 Submit the completed application form and all required supporting documents online via the BANKSETA SIMS platform:
<https://sims.bankseta.org.za/login>
- 3 Applications received after the closing date and time, or through a channel other than the prescribed submission channel, will not be accepted.



FUNDING WINDOW DATES

OPENS: Friday, 16 October 2026
CLOSES: Tuesday, 17 November 2026 at 16h00



BENEFICIARIES

- Unemployed South Africans under 35 years of age.
- BANKSETA will prioritise:
 - Women
 - People with disabilities
 - Rural areas



KEY CONDITIONS

- All programmes must be delivered in **person**.
- Applicants may apply for **only one programme** category and one application per applicant.
- The same beneficiary and programme cost must not receive duplicate or double funding from another funder, including another SETA.
- Only approved and eligible costs will be funded.
- A maximum of 2.5% administration fee may be included in the funding.



BRIEFING AND SIMS TRAINING

An online briefing session, including guidance on the SIMS application process, will be held. Attendance is encouraged.

BRIEFING SESSION DETAILS

DATE: Thursday, 22 October 2026
 TIME: 10h00
 JOIN: Microsoft Teams meeting
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3472792840224479?p=xAaUxXvFACPmKdJRo>
Meeting ID: 347 279 284 022 447 9
Passcode: sn6sN27d



MORE INFORMATION
<https://bankseta.org.za/discretionary-grants/>