

“Road To Renewal”

Special Discretionary Grant (DG) Expression of Interest Evaluation Criteria for 2025/2026

The purpose of this call is to fund targeted interventions that move beyond routine training interventions.

Unlike standard ‘traditional’ Discretionary Grant projects, the targeted interventions funded through this call include some PIVOTAL where shortfalls have been identified and those that are primarily non-PIVOTAL in nature, all which clearly strengthens impact, sustainability and the pathway to employment or enterprise development.

1. Focus Areas

Projects should respond to real challenges in the construction sector and in communities, with a strong emphasis on equity and inclusion. Proposals are expected to address one or more of the following areas:

- Rural and township development and revitalisation
- Inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities
- Expanded opportunities for youth and women
- Support to military veterans and their dependants
- Community-based social enterprises;
- Local economic development opportunities
- Improvements in public service delivery
- Job creation and absorption
- Self-employment and enterprise uptake in the construction sector
- 4IR and digital skills where there is a direct link to meaningful economic or social outcomes.

2. Funding Conditions

- Funding will prioritise projects that demonstrate strong alignment with the CETA Annual Performance Plan indicators, Sector Skills Plan priorities, and relevant government priorities.
- Projects that merely replicate existing Discretionary Grant interventions without a broader social-impact component, or that consist solely of standard learnerships, bursaries, or internships without a wider change model, will not be prioritised for funding.



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- The allocation of special discretionary grants remains at the sole discretion of CETA and is subject to the applicable grant policy, internal processes, and the availability of funds.

3. Compliance Considerations

In compliance with CETA DG policy, Discretionary Grants will not be awarded to the following institutions, amongst others:

3.1.1. Entities that are insolvent or in the process of being wound up. 3.1.2. Entities that are undergoing business rescue proceedings.

4. 3.1.3. Entities have entered an arrangement with their creditors or have suspended business activities.

3.1.4. Entities that have had their debt written off by CETA in the past, either due to non-recoverability or caused by unethical behaviours, etc.

3.1.6. Entities with pending Discretionary Grants related litigation proceedings with the CETA will not be considered for further funding. 3.1.7. Directors and shareholders of

companies that have been blacklisted on the National Treasury register of entities / directors prohibited from doing business with the state, CETA or any other organ of state. 3.1.8. Entities who have failed to implement CETA awarded projects in the past, abandoned projects and / or poor performed in discharging their contractual training obligations.

3.1.9. Entities who have a history of enrolling learners who do not meet minimum entry requirements into CETA learning programmes.

3.2. Evaluators will consider whether the purpose of the proposal is clearly articulated and whether the project's strategic intent is convincingly linked to the CETA's Strategic Focus Areas, Discretionary Grant priority areas, scarce and critical skills, government priorities, Economic Reconstruction & Recovery Programme and the District Development Model.

3.3. They will consider the definition of the targeted groups or beneficiaries, including learner status, equity profile, disability status, geographical spread and the recruitment approach.

3.4. The design of the programme and interventions will be reviewed to determine whether the mix of learning and non-learning components, locations, duration and partnerships is coherent and feasible.

3.5. Applications open on **15 December 2025** and Close on **16 January 2026**.

3.6. All applicants will be evaluated according to the below criteria:



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COMPLIANCE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	REASONS
CSD Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entities must be registered on CSD with a compliant status Name of entity must appear on the document, along with the list of directors i.e., directors' full names, surnames, and ID numbers; and NGO/NPO/Cooperatives/Trade Unions documents must reflect that they operate within the Construction CETA sub-sectors. Public Sector Institutions are exempted from registering on the CSD. 	Mandatory	<p>SETA grant regulations require grants to be awarded to a legal entity that can do business with the state.</p> <p>Proof that entity has registered and is compliant as per SDL Act</p>
Applicant's Declaration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be fully completed and signed 	Mandatory	Agreement with sharing of information (POPI)
Levy Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the employer is a levy payer, proof of levy registration – employers paying levies to the CETA must provide a copy of their EMP101 reflecting SETA 05 (CETA). Other levy payers must submit the relevant EMP101 reflecting the relevant SETA code. Exemption certificate from SARS or provide a letter from their accountant/ auditors confirming that their payroll is less than R500 000,00 (from all entity types NGOs/NPOs/Cooperatives and Trade Unions). 	Mandatory	In compliance with the 2012 SETA Grant Regulations and CETA DG Policy



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COMPLIANCE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	REASONS
Workplace Information (Host Agreement/ letter/SLA) where applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-hosting entities should indicate so as well as mention current projects that beneficiaries will benefit from for exposure. • Host Agreement/Letter/SLA must be in the letterhead of the host employer, signed and date must be valid at the point of application. • The Employer or the Host Agreement/Letter/SLA must acknowledge the agreement with the applicant entity and that they are well equipped for the implementation. • The Employer or host employer must indicate the mentoring capacity (i.e., number of qualified people as mentors must be indicated) and commitment to host the learners for the duration of the learning programme applied for. 	Mandatory	To ensure successful Project implementation and availability of workplaces where applicable.
Signed Reference Letters /Close-out reports (Past relevant experience in implementation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants making submissions as a service provider for the non-pivotal interventions listed below must include at least one reference letter supporting their application. The reference letter should verify that the applicant has successfully delivered an intervention that is the same as, or substantially similar to, the one for which they are applying): 	Mandatory for non-pivotal interventions	To ensure that applicants have a proven track record of experience in implementing similar projects.



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COMPLIANCE ITEM	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	REASONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Co-operatives in the construction sector funded or trained for skills that enhance enterprise growth and development. ○ Small businesses funded for skills that enhance growth and development. ○ People trained on entrepreneurship and supported to start their business. ○ CBOs/NGOs/NPOs/NPCs funded <p>TVET Colleges and CET Colleges are required to provide/submit a detailed proposal for the interventions they seek to apply for.</p>		
Satisfactory Progression Criteria on previously awarded DG Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CETA will consider past Project implementation record 	Consideration for evaluation purposes	To ensure that entities implement the projects

Approved By: Mr Oupa Nkoane	Administrator and Accounting Authority		
Name	Designation	Signature	Date

