

7. How are learnerships, skills programmes and apprenticeships funded?

The Skills Development Act makes various provisions for payment. In summary, these are as follows:

There are six types of grants that an employer might claim. These are:

- A workplace skills grant
- A workplace skills implementation grant
- A grant towards the costs of learnerships and learner allowances
- A grant towards the costs of skills programmes
- A grant towards the costs of providing apprenticeship training
- A grant towards a programme, project, or research activity that helps the relevant SETA to implement its Sector Skills Plan.

The first two grants for the submission of a Workplace Skills Plan, and for a subsequent implementation report on the training provided, **MUST** be paid by the relevant SETA as long as an employer submits the applications correctly on time, as assessed by the appropriate SETA. The Regulations refer to these as mandatory grants.

Discretionary grants **MAY** be disbursed by a SETA based on the extent to which providers are facilitating the implementation of the skills plan for the particular sector.

From Appendix B for the Skills Development Regulations Guidelines 25 February 2003, summarized in Criteria and Guidelines for Short Courses and Skills Programmes (SAQA, June 2004)

Employers or providers must apply to their SETA to find out the relevant details.

[Answer to FAQ 7, The NQF and Learnerships, the NQF Gateway]