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Strategic People Management Minute: 0008/2023

To: Deputy Directors-General, Chief Directors, Directors, Chief Education Specialists, Heads: Curriculum Support, Circuit Managers, Heads: Management and Governance, Deputy Chief Education Specialists, Assessment and Examination Coordinators, Subject Advisers, and Principals

Subject: District-based Funza Lushaka bursaries for students in the Western Cape for 2024

1. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) wishes to inform the beneficiaries of Phase IV of the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative (PYEI), Premier's Advancement of Youth (PAY) interns and learners from all schools who are interested in pursuing a formal teaching qualification, that 66 extraordinary district-based Funza Lushaka bursaries are available for the 2024 academic year.
2. The Department of Basic Education's (DBE's) Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme provides high-achieving learners with a full-cost bursary that covers tuition fees, accommodation with meals, a textbook allowance, notes and laboratory fees (where applicable), and a monthly stipend to cover basic living expenses.
3. Launched in 2007, the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme is a multi-year programme to promote teaching in public schools as the career of choice for able and committed South Africans. The programme is run locally at the University of the Western Cape, Stellenbosch University and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.
4. In 2012 the DBE introduced a district-based recruitment programme targeting learners from poor communities (learners at no-fee schools or learners who are exempted from the payment of school fees) to help them access the Funza Lushaka Bursary Scheme. **The 66 extraordinary bursaries will only be awarded to students who are willing to teach at schools in rural areas, taking into account the needs of rural districts.**

5. Awarding of a Funza Lushaka bursary is subject to the following conditions:
- a) The programme will fund students who wish to specialise in the following:
 - i) **BEd Foundation Phase, specialising** in Languages (Xhosa, Afrikaans, English), and special needs education;
 - ii) **BEd Intermediate Phase, specialising** in Languages (predominantly English), Mathematics, Natural Science, Technology, and special needs education;
 - iii) **BEd Senior Phase, specialising** in Languages (predominantly English), Mathematics, Natural Science, Technology, Arts (Dramatic, Visual, Dance, Music, Design), and special needs education; and
 - iv) **BEd Further Education and Training Phase, specialising** in Languages (predominantly Xhosa), Mathematics (including Technical Mathematics), Sciences (Agricultural, Natural, Physical, Life, Technical, Mathematical, excluding Social Sciences), Technology (Civil, Electrical, Mechanical, Computer Application Technology, and Coding), Arts (Dramatic, Visual, Dance, Music, Design), and special needs education.
 - b) The bursary is awarded for one academic year at a time and, upon proof of academic success, may be renewed each year until the recipient of the bursary has qualified as an educator. The bursary holder will be required to reapply by the end of October each year for the following year.
 - c) On completion of the course of study, the bursary holder will be required to teach at a school, in a rural area, for a period of one year for every year for which they have received a bursary.
6. Furthermore, prospective applicants must have applied for admission with the respective higher education institutions (HEIs), taking the closing date of **28 July 2023** into consideration, and must meet the admission requirements of the various HEIs named in paragraph 3. The bursaries will be recommended on merit by the selection committee at the WCED's Head Office, based on the following minimum academic criteria:
- a) A Bachelor's pass in Grade 12;
 - b) The applicant must have applied to be accepted into an approved BEd degree programme to specialise in two or more of the priority areas;
 - c) Pass their Home Language with 60% or more, First Additional Language with 50% or more and the other four subjects with 50%;
 - d) Students who wish to specialise in the Foundation Phase must achieve a pass in Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy at Grade 12 level; and
 - e) Students who wish to specialise in the teaching of technical subjects must achieve a pass in Mathematics/Technical Mathematics and Physical Sciences/Technical Sciences.

The closing date for applications is **28 July 2023**. Applicants must apply by completing the online application form using the following link: [2024 FUNZA APPLICATION](#) and submit all the supporting documents to Ms Masivelane Jita, tel. no. 021 467 2224 or email:

Masivelane.Jita@westerncape.gov.za

7. The following supporting documents must be submitted:
 - Certified copy of identity document;
 - Certified copy of National Senior Certificate **OR** Grade 12 June report;
 - Motivation why you want to become an educator;
 - Proof of application or acceptance at an HEI in the Western Cape.

8. The following persons may apply:
 - Phase IV PYEI assistants;
 - PAY interns;
 - Grade 12 learners;
 - South African citizens;
 - Students under 30 years of age;
 - Applicants demonstrating good academic abilities; and
 - Applicants who reside in the Western Cape.

9. Kindly bring the contents of this minute to the attention of all Phase IV PYEI assistants, PAY interns and learners at all schools.

SIGNED: LJ ELY

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CORPORATE SERVICES

DATE: 2023-05-23