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Strategic People Management Minute: 0009/2024

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 2025

1. The Western Cape Education Department (WCED) wishes to inform Grade 12 learners, 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 2025 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 abled 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 bursaries will only be awarded to students who are willing to teach at schools in rural areas, considering the needs of rural districts within the Western Cape.**

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, Sesotho, Afrikaans), Coding and Robotics, Braille, South African Sign Language (SASL), and Neurodevelopmental needs.
 - ii) **BEd Intermediate Phase, specialising** in Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology, Braille, Coding and Robotics, SASL, and Neurodevelopmental needs.
 - iii) **BEd Senior and Further Education and Training Phase, specialising** in Mathematics, Technical Mathematics and Science, Physical Sciences, Agricultural Sciences, Marine Sciences, Agricultural Technology, Civil Technology, Electrical Technology, Computer Applications Technology, Information Technology, Mechanical Technology, Engineering Graphics and Design, Maritime Economics, Coding and Robotics, Braille, SASL, and Neurodevelopmental needs.
 - (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 **27 September 2024** 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 at least 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.
7. The closing date for applications is **Friday, 27 September 2024**. Applicants must apply by completing the online application form using the following e-cubed link provided by DBE. Additionally, please find the link below for teacher recruitment screening form

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/funzalushaka> and upload all the supporting documents using the link.

8. 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; and
 - Affidavit or proof of residence.

9. The following persons may apply:
 - Grade 12 learners;
 - PAY interns;
 - Unemployed South African youth under 30 years of age;
 - Applicants demonstrating good academic abilities; and
 - Applicants who reside in the Western Cape.

10. Kindly bring the contents of this minute to the attention of all Grade 12 Learners, PAY interns and learners at all schools within the Western Cape Province only.

SIGNED: LJ ELY

DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL: CORPORATE SERVICES

DATE: 2024-08-01