
GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 1769 OF 2007

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACT, 2000 (ACT NO. 52 OF 2000)

NATIONAL NORMS AND STANDARDS FOR FUNDING ADULT LEARNING CENTRES (NSF-ALC)

I, Grace Naledi Mandisa Pandor, Minister of Education, after consulting with the Council of Ministers and with the concurrence of the Minister of Finance, hereby publish the National Norms and Standards for Funding of Public Adult Learning Centres in terms of section 22 and 29 of the Adult Basic Education and Training Act, 2000 (Act No. 52 of 2000), set out in Schedule.


GNM PANDOR, MP

MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Date: 6 December 2007

SCHEDULE

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DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

- ABET Adult Basic Education and Training
- Adult Basic Education and Training means all learning and training programmes for adults from level 1 to 4 where level 4 is equivalent to –
- grade 9 in public schools; or
- national qualifications framework level 1 as contemplated in the South African Qualifications Authority Act, 1995 (Act No. 58 of 1995);
- “ALC” Adult Learning Centre
- “CE” Centre Evaluation
- Certification of public adult learning centre means that a centre is deemed capable of managing and accounting for public funds in line with the ABET Act and the Public Finance Management Act
- “Department of Education” the national Department of Education
- “fund” the fund of the PALC contemplated in section 23 of the Act
- “governing body” a governing body for a PALC contemplated in section 8 of the Act
- Head of Department..... head of a provincial department of education

- "IQMS" Integrated Quality Management System as per Collective Agreement Number 8 of 2003 at the Education Labour Relations Council
- "Minister" the Minister of Education
- NSF-ALC Norms and Standards for the Funding of Adult Learning Centres
- NSSSF National Norms and Standards for School Funding (in terms of the South African Schools Act, 1996 (Act 84 of 1996))
- PALC(s) Public Adult Learning Centre(s) as per the Act's "public centre" (section 3)
- PED(s) Provincial Education Department(s), the department established in terms of section 7(2) of the Public Service Act, 1994 (Proclamation No. 103 of 1994), which is responsible for education in a province
- PFMA Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999)
- "private centre" a private centre contemplated in section 1 of the Act
- "public centre" a public centre contemplated in section 1 of the Act
- "the Act" Adult Basic Education and Training Act, 2000 (Act No. 52 of 2000)
- "the Policy Document" Policy for Adult Basic Education and Training, Department of Education, 1997

PART 1

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the document is to provide national norms and standards for funding public adult learning centres and the granting of subsidies to private centres.

2. INTRODUCTION

Legal and Policy Background

1. The ABET delivery sub-system is being progressively put in place as part of the broader transformation process in the education system. The institutionalisation of the delivery system is being implemented through the setting up of governance structures, the professionalisation of ABET educators, the development of curriculum and standards, the establishment of quality assurance mechanism and the setting up of an ABET assessment system. These components are now consolidated by the development of these Norms and Standards for Funding of Adult Learning Centres ("NSF-ALC").
2. Section 29 of the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 establishes the right to education in these terms:
 “(1) Everyone has the right-
 (a) to a basic education, including adult basic education; and
 (b) to further education, which the state, through reasonable measures, must make progressively available and accessible”
 (section 29 (1)). ”
3. The ABET Act, 2000 (Act No. 52 of 2000) ("the Act") lays the basis for the development of norms and standards for funding. Section 22 places an obligation on the Minister to develop norms and standards specifically for the funding of public Adult Learning Centres (ALCs).
4. Section 29 of the Act gives the Minister the prerogative to develop norms and standards or conditions for granting subsidies to private ALCs.
5. The Act aims at establishing "a national co-ordinated adult basic education and training system which promotes co-operative governance and provides for programme-based adult basic education and training" (Preamble to the Act).

Funding Challenges

6. The Provincial Education Departments (PEDs) are the primary funders of ABET. PEDs are themselves financed largely through shares of the national Equitable Share Fund. This fund is distributed as general grants.