



Bojanala Platinum

District Municipality

MAYORAL BURSARY SCHEME

**Bojanala Platinum District Municipality:
Policy on Bursary schemes**

Preamble

1. **Whereas** the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality aims at identifying income-generating opportunities for the unemployed South African youths within its area of jurisdiction through its comprehensive bursary scheme for skills development.
2. **Whereas** Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is desirous of contributing to acquisition of skills necessary for economic growth and development
3. **Whereas** Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is aware of the challenges faced by the communities, young people in particular to access institutions of higher learning. Further realizing that the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality can make a meaningful contribution with regard to access to educational skills acquisition.
4. **Realizing** that Bojanala Platinum District Municipality is in need of high quality professional and self employed people, who will venture in the vibrant economic sphere of our district and uplift the standard of living of the people of South Africa in general and the district in particular.

Noting that the Bursary scheme is not only a means of compensating for the shortage of professional skills within the district, it is also designed in such a way that it unleashes our communities from a historically disadvantaged premise and thus creating opportunities for them in a sustainable manner.

As part of its social responsibilities towards the communities that it serves, and closing the skill development gaps that exists in the district, Bojanala Platinum District Municipality will annually make available bursaries to members of the public who are South African citizens and residing within the Municipality's area of jurisdiction.

Thus, satisfying the mandate as entrenched in both the Skills Development Act (SDA) and the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

DEFINITIONS

In this policy, unless the context indicates otherwise.

“Employee”

Any person appointed in the services of and includes those appointed as fixed term contract employees

“Conditional Donation” means when the student is required to refund a bursary under certain circumstances included herein

“Council” means the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality Council

“Course duration” means the number of years allowed for completion of the course as provided for in the rules and regulations of the institution or stipulated in any law of the Republic of South Africa

“Bursary” means money given to an employee to help him/her pay for his/her studies

“Institution” means a University / Technikon or FET institution registered and approved by South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

“Examination” a final testing of the proficiency of knowledge of a student (oral or written) in a particular subject/module prescribed by the institution, towards the completion of a module or subject.

“Qualifications” means a Diploma, Junior Degree,

“JIPSA” Means a Government Policy on Joint Initiative on Priority Skills Acquisition

“Neighbouring Institution” means institutions within the North West Province and Gauteng Province.

1. Establishment of the BPDM Bursary Scheme

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality, hereafter referred to as the Municipality, hereby establishes a Bursary Scheme known as Bojanala Platinum District Municipality Bursary Scheme (herein after referred "BPDM Bursary Scheme")

This will be achieved through:

- Investment in the communities within the district by the Municipality to ensure sustainable development, and measurable service delivery.
- Good working relationship between members of the community within the Municipality's area jurisdiction
- Ensures that Bursars utilize life skills to improve the quality of life for themselves and their communities.

2. What the Bursary Covers

The BPDM Bursary Scheme is a comprehensive bursary that meets the financial needs of the holder of the bursary (Bursar), the bursary therefore covers the following:

- a. Learnership and skills development programme which contribute towards the qualification registered in terms of the National Qualification Framework(NQF)
- b. Funding of short courses which are not registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), but which addresses high priority skills development where there is no equivalent registered course
- c. Full tuition fees at a Registered University, Technikon, Further Education and Training Institutions and Colleges
- d. Residence Fees
- e. Books and Stationary allowances

3. Criteria for granting of bursary

To be eligible for selection for the BPDM Bursary Scheme, the following Minimum requirements must be met by the applicant:

- 3.1. Unemployed South African with particular preference to designated groups and previously disadvantaged persons (PDIs) who are ordinary residents within the BPDM's jurisdiction;

3.2. The skills/Qualifications required should be in line with objectives as included in the District Growth and Development Strategy as well as the Joint Initiative for Acquisition of Scarce Skills (JIPSA), and shall target exclusively the following fields of study:

- 3.2.1. Engineering;
- 3.2.2. Health;
- 3.2.3. Agricultural Sciences;
- 3.2.4. Finance;
- 3.2.5. Information and communication Technology, and
- 3.2.6. Tourism and hospitality.

3.3. Academic Potential/Performance;

3.4. Financial Need, in the following manner:

- 3.4.1. Indigence
- 3.4.2. Total monthly household income not exceeding R3500;
- 3.4.3. Rural Origins (Farms, Villages etc)

4. Exclusions

4.1. Children, spouses and next of kin of employees and elected office bearers of the BPDM and its constituent municipalities shall not be legible

5. Completion of studies

- 5.1. Upon completion of studies the Bursar shall endeavour to avail his/her acquired skills for services within the district, should it be required.
- 5.2. Arrangement shall endure for a period not exceeding two years (24 Months).

6. Commitment by the Bursar

Upon receiving a bursary from BPDM Bursary Scheme a bursar commits him/herself that:

He/She will not receive any Bursary or Funding from other bursary schemes, unless by prior consent/arrangement is given or entered into;

Where there is demonstrable evidence from the Institution of higher learning where the bursar is registered as a student/learner that the funding of the student/learner by the BPDM Bursary scheme is insufficient.

7. Obligations of the Bursary Holder

7.1. The Scheme shall be open to all residents within the jurisdiction of the BPDM, where:

7.1.1. Such residents shall be liable to apply at each period open for such applications;

7.1.2. Bursary holders are obligated to tender their applications for renewal of the already existing grants;

7.1.3. Such applicants/existing holder shall ensure that s/he is familiar with the terms and conditions applicable to the scheme;

7.1.4. A bursar/holder shall be obligated to provide the BPDM Bursary Committee with evidence of progress at a reasonable time before further grants can be extended, in line with the terms and conditions of the scheme

7.1.5. Bursary shall be granted to an employee for any course, which is relevant employee's functions and /or his specific role description in the municipality, promoting the JIPSA objectives and addressing priorities as indicated in the District Growth and Development Strategy.

7.1.6. The payment shall be made directly to the institution on behalf of the employee, and the following shall be conditions of the bursary provided to the institution;

7.1.7. That no refund shall be paid by the institution to the employee;

7.1.8. All balances in the student account at the end of the academic year shall be paid back to the Municipality;

7.1.9. That the institution shall inform the Municipality in instances where the employee has more than one bursary or another source of funding except for BPDM bursary.

7.1.10. Have registered with the “institution neighbouring” the District, the Municipal Manager shall apply his/her discretion where an employee has registered with an institution outside those referred to as “neighbouring institutions” but within the Republic of South Africa.

8. Administration of Scheme

The Administration of this Bursary Scheme shall rest with the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

To the extent possible, the coffers of the Scheme shall be solely from the funds allocated by the BPDM from its Treasury,

However, the prescription of 6.2. above does not derogate from the municipal leadership of Council from soliciting further funds from any other institution that may be amenable to contributing to the scheme. This may be through direct contributions, or off-take agreements between the BPDM and the prospective donor(s).

The prospective beneficiaries of the scheme shall upon opening of the window for application for bursaries, be responsible for tendering of applications to the Scheme.

9. Bursary Committee

A Bursary Committee, consisting of members as shall be determined by the Executive Mayor, shall be responsible for the allocations and management of scheme within the applicable municipal regulations,

such a committee shall report directly to, and act on advisory basis to the Executive Mayor,

Such a committee shall submit reports or cause reports to be submitted to the Executive Mayor and Council at least twice a year. Where such reports shall endeavour to clarify the following matters:

the number of beneficiaries each year;

the number of beneficiaries who have made satisfactory progress in line with the terms and conditions of the scheme;

the number of beneficiaries who may have not made satisfactory progress;

the measures to correct the above situation;

Recommend to the Executive Mayor & Council the necessary increases that may be required on an annual basis, to the Scheme and its funds.