



## **INFORMATION GUIDE**

### **REGISTRATION ON DEPARTMENTAL DATABASE FOR UNEMPLOYED SOCIAL WORKERS AND SOCIAL AUXILIARY WORKERS**

#### **Background**

In response to social work being declared a scarce skills, and subsequent development of the Recruitment and Retention Strategy for Social Workers the Department implemented the scholarship programme to provide full funding to selected social work students. These scholarship students would be selected by provincial departments of social development who would keep contracts and maintain student files for the duration of their training and benefit from the scholarship. In addition to scholarship funded students, many young South Africans would study social work through various source of funding. Ultimately, universities would produce social work graduates who are all qualified for employment within the social welfare service delivery system. Social Auxiliary Workers are essential practitioners within the social work profession. In this regard, most young people were recruited to training for Social Auxiliary Work through the departmental learnership programme funded by the Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority. Some would devise own means to access their training through other accredited service provider.

Both Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers are required in order for the department and sector partners to reach a target of 55 000 social service practitioners employed by 2030.

#### **Problem**

Since 2013 provincial Departments of Social Development were unable to employ scholarship graduates due to unavailability of funded posts. The department therefore recognise the backlog of unemployed graduates who have benefited from the scholarship programme and increasing number of those who have equally qualified through other source of funding. The decrease in funds for Compensation of Employees (COE) across the Public Service negatively impacted on capacity of government to employ social work graduates. Majority of Social Auxiliary Workers are employed by provincial departments of social development and sector non-governmental organisation partners. Problems affecting employment of Social Workers are also applicable for the Social Auxiliary Workers.

#### **Proposed solution**

The Department of Social Development leads the implementation of Social Protection, Outcome 13 indicators developed in line with government outcomes based performance management. In this regard Cabinet recognised slow absorption rate of Social Work graduates and mandated the department and other relevant sector departments to develop an interdepartmental strategy for recruitment of these graduates in the Public Service.



## social development

Department:  
Social Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The demand for services is increasing as evidenced by need for both generic and specialist social work services. Quantification of current capacity of social workers employed by other departments and the NGO sector pose a serious challenge for effective management of social work professionals employed by other departments and the non- governmental organisations.

Addressing youth unemployment among social work professionals is central to the development of interdepartmental strategy. Initially it is critical to create a common pool (database) from which all potential unemployed can be recruited.

### **Database for unemployed Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers**

The Department of Social Development calls upon all unemployed Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers to register on departmental database not later than 29 March 2019.

#### **Purpose**

To create a database of all qualified Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers for potential recruitment into the social work profession in the country.

#### **Target**

All unemployed Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers fall into these categories:

- a. Unemployed – currently staying at home and not earning a salary
- b. Non – practicing - qualified but employed in any other jobs, except social work or social auxiliary work practice

#### **Exclusions**

The following are excluded from registering in the database

- a. Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers currently employed in NGO, public or any other sector who may want to move out for any reason.
- b. Qualified Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers, who have studied through any government bursary and currently employed by such departments in posts other than Social Workers and Social Auxiliary Workers posts
- c. Student social workers
- d. Student Social Auxiliary Workers
- e. Any other person not a Social Worker or Social Auxiliary Worker as defined by the Social Service Professions Act, Act 110 of 1078 as amended.



## social development

Department:  
Social Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### Submission of Forms

- a. All forms are accessed through [www.dsd.gov.za](http://www.dsd.gov.za) / unemployed database registration and DSD Facebook page.
- b. Download and complete exclusive forms for each target group as follows
  - ✓ Form "A" - Social Workers
  - ✓ Form "B" – Social Auxiliary Workers
- c. The relevant form must be completed in CAPITAL LETTERS (UPPERCASE )
- d. No attachments are required, only correctly completed form must be submitted.
- e. Submit to nearest provincial Department of Social Development service office, regional/ district office (as indicated by the provincial office).
- f. All forms will be captured and recorded according to provinces. It is therefore important that forms are submitted to the correct province.
- g. Only one form per person per province. This implies that one should not register in two or three provinces. If that can be detected then the department reserves the right to remove the name from the respective provincial list and the database.

NB: Absolutely no electronic submissions will be accepted.

### Process

The Department is committed to update the database on a quarterly basis. The initial registration process closes on **29 March 2019**. The public will be informed about follow up notice to register so that the process is managed in a meaningful and effective manner.

For inquiries, kindly contact the following officials

Mr Kgalalelo Nku: 012 312 7584

Ms Kefiloe Fokase: 012 312 7223

### **Disclaimer:**

*Registration on the database is not an application for employment and therefore does not guarantee employment by the Department of Social Development, other government departments or any sector. Any advertisement and subsequent applications for employment of unemployed social workers and social auxiliary workers will follow prescribed recruitment and selection processes as determined by DPSSA and other employers in other sector.*