



public works

Department:
Public Works
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MEDIA STATEMENT

The Department of Public Works awards bursaries to boost careers in the built environment industry

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has awarded full bursaries to 50 learners (Matric Class of 2013) who will study for careers in the built environment industry, as part of the government's priorities to build a skilled and capable workforce.

The bursary beneficiaries were selected from 15 schools that are part of the Department of Public Works' Schools Programme that seeks to promote the teaching of Maths and Science and the Built Environment professions.

The DPW adopted the 15 schools from across the country and had pilots in 5 DPW regional offices including, Polokwane, Mmabatho, Kimberly, Mthatha, and Port Elizabeth. The head office (Pretoria) was also a pilot site.

The schools were recommended by the Department of Basic Education through District Offices. The selection criteria included schools with 65% performance average; learners with more than 65% in maths and Physical Science; less resourced schools in rural farms and townships.

Each bursary is valued at R120 000 and includes tuition, residential fees, textbooks, academic projects and a monthly allowance.

Below is the breakdown of the careers the learners will pursue::

Study field	Females	Males	Total
Analytical Chemistry	0	2	2
Architecture	0	1	1
Chemical Engineering	1	0	1
Civil Engineering	6	6	12
Construction Management	4	3	7
Electrical Engineering	1	2	3
Landscape Architecture	2	3	5
Mechanical Engineering	4	5	9
Property Valuation	2	0	2
Quantity Surveying	2	3	5
Town Planning	0	3	3
Total	22	28	50

The Department's bursary programme is part of an array of initiatives undertaken by the public works sector to build a sustainable national skills pipeline, targeting pertinent fields in the construction and property industries. These two sectors are regulated by DPW.

Another initiative is the Young Professional Programme that recruits and hires graduates in these fields to mentor them until they gain their professional registration.

In November 2013 the Minister of Public Works, Mr. T.W Nxesi handed over certificates to 26 young Professionals who successfully attained professional registration status after participating in the Department's Young Professionals Programme.

The young professionals programme aims to accelerate registration of built environment professionals through significant mentorship and structured training. It also provides structured mentorship support, exposes candidates to national and international projects covering training areas in the following fields; Engineering (Structural, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical), Quantity Surveying, Construction Project Management, Architecture, Landscape Architecture , Town Planning, Property Valuation and Interior Design.

ENDS

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