2026/2027 CYCLE 1 ADVERT: DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

OPENING DATE: 12 NOVEMBER 2025

CLOSING DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2025

The CHIETA Discretionary Grant is designed for employers and enterprises in the chemical sector, aiming to address the specific needs identified in the CHIETA Sector Skills Plan. It aligns with the DHET Strategic Plan, the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan (ERRP), and the priorities outlined in the National Skills Development Plan 2030.

CHIETA invites applications from chemical sector employers and enterprises for the 2026/27 Cycle 1 Discretionary Grants to support its Annual Performance Plan. The application period will be open for one month only. All grant applications must pertain to training activities scheduled between April 2026 and March 2027.

Feedback on applications submitted for this Discretionary Grant (DG) funding window will be communicated in **April 2026.** This is aligned to the 2026/27 financial year, which commences on 1 April 2026.

WHO IS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY?

- Chemical sector companies who are eligible and have submitted the ATR-WSP to the CHIETA.
- Non-levy paying companies, CHIETA accredited training providers, SMME's, CBO's CBC's, NPO's, NGO's and Co-Ops that are within the chemical sector can apply.
- Government institutions.
- Municipalities.
- TVET and CET Colleges.
- Higher Education Institutions.

APPLICATION PROTOCOLS:

All new Discretionary Grant (DG) applicants/Sector Development Facilitators (SDFs) are required to present a signed appointment letter from the company they represent. This letter must be printed on the company's letterhead and must be obtained prior to linking with a company in the online application system.

- All applications should be submitted online and signed by the appropriate individuals.

- Late, manual, and emailed applications will not be accepted or considered.
- The submission deadline will remain firm and will not be extended.

MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

Mandatory compliance documents must be uploaded online, including:

- Proof of company registration (CIPC documents for companies; registration proof from Social Development for NPOs).
- A valid Tax compliance documentation.
- A BBBEE Certificate.

Additionally, a declaration of interest from Directors regarding any potential relationships with CHIETA Board members and management of the CHIETA must be provided on signed company letterhead.

NOTE: If any of the required documents are not applicable, applicants may submit an affidavit signed by a Commissioner of Oaths. For a complete list, please refer to the application system.

Please be aware that failure to submit any of the above documents, where applicable, will result in disqualification of the application.

DISCLAIMER

The allocation of the Discretionary Grants is entirely at the discretion of the CHIETA.

NOTE: Applications for PIVOTAL programmes (Legacy/historical qualifications) are only applicable for continuing learners. No new applications will be considered.

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR APPLICATION:

STRATEGIC PROJECTS		
1.	**Career Guidance Project**	**1.1. Post Matric** **The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Post-matric youth who are not in employment, education or training (NEET). It seeks to bridge the gap by providing industry-relevant, future-focussed digital skills, innovation and AI-aligned training that enhance employability and entrepreneurial potential.

		1.2. Green Hydrogen **The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Grade 8-12 learners as well as post matric learners to gain awareness of the Green Hydrogen Economy, potential career and job opportunities in the field and qualifications already registered and in the pipeline in South Africa. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, Bursaries and Occupational qualifications
2.	**Qualifications Design and Development Projects** ***NB: Please obtain the QDD DG Projects Background Document for more details, it is a must.**	**2.1 Development and Moderation of External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA) Tools and MEMOs which are on-line ready or suitable for on-line platforms for the qualifications listed below (approved rates for this work are obtained through contact details provided hereunder:** A. Quality Controller - 4 sets and memos and a report B. Quality Inspector - 4 sets and memos and a report C. Chemical Plant Controller - 4 sets and memos and a report D. MEMU Controller – 4 sets and memos and a report E. Automated Packaging – 4 sets and memos and a report F. Chemical Laboratory Analyst-4 sets and memos and a report G. Chemical Plant Operator, - 4 sets and memos and a report H. Maintenance Planner-4 sets and memos and a report I. Chemical Production Machine Operator -4 sets and memos and a report J. Liquid Bulk Facility Manager and 4 Part Qualifications: 4 sets and memos and reports **2.2 Development and Moderation/ quality assurance of Learning Materials that are online-ready or suitable for online platforms for the qualifications listed below. The learning materials deliverables must include the following guides:** Facilitator Guide (FG), Assessor Guide (AG), Learner Guide (LG) and Alignment Matrix (AM) and are for: A. Liquid Bulk Facility Manager, NQF Level 6, Credits 196 B. Chemical Plant Controller NQF Level, 5 Credits 180 **For more information including approved rates on EISA Tools development and/or moderation, you are applying for, please contact lgeldart-schwarp@chieta.org.za**

3.	**Small Business/Entrepreneurial support**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** **3.1. FuturePreneur Internship Programme** The FuturePreneur Internship Programme is designed to empower unemployed individuals with the skills, experience, and confidence to become successful entrepreneurs. By fostering mentorship, practical business training, and innovation, the programme will contribute to sustainable economic growth and job creation. The programme is targeted at Entrepreneurs who are willing to act as mentors by providing practical business guidance and support. **3.2. Small businesses provided with innovative skills solutions for growth and development** The programme is targeted for training programmes linked to either Product innovation, process innovation, and/or marketing innovation. **3.3. Chemical Start-ups** The programmes targeted for new Chemical sector companies whose businesses will be registered in the 2026/2027 financial year. **3.4. Green Entrepreneurship** The programme is aimed at empowering current and aspiring entrepreneurs to drive impactful, green solutions that address both environmental sustainability and economic growth advancing Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13): Climate Action. **3.5. Artisan entrepreneurship** The programme is targeted at offering entrepreneurship training to individuals who have qualified as artisans in the following trades: • Welding. • Electrical. • Mechanical Fitting • Boilermaker. • Instrumentation **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, WIL, occupational qualifications, ARPL and Bursaries.

4.	**Trade Union Support**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** • Empower trade unions by providing resources and training opportunities that strengthen their ability to advocate for workers, enhance workplace engagement, and support fair labour practices. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, ARPL and Bursaries.
5.	**Centres of Specialization (CoS)**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Develop Specialized Skills by equipping learners with advanced, industry-relevant skills and knowledge, helping to address critical skill shortages. **You can apply for:** Occupational qualifications- Artisan Related.
6.	**Community Education and Training (CET) Support**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** • CET lecturers by equipping them with the skills and resources needed to provide effective lifelong learning opportunities for underserved communities. • CET Leaners with AET training. **You can apply for:** AET, Skills Programmes for CET lecturers.
7.	**Candidacy programmes**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Learners to acquire the necessary qualifications, skills, and practical experience to achieve professional certification and enhance their employability. **You can apply for:** Candidacy programmes.
8.	**Support to NGOs, NPOs CBOs and CBCs**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** NGOs, NPOs CBOs and CBCs to help their staff gain formal qualifications and skills training, empowering them to improve and grow their operations. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, Bursaries, Occupational qualifications, AET Programmes, WIL, and Incubation Programmes.

9.	**Support to Cooperatives**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Cooperatives to help their staff gain formal qualifications and skills training, empowering them to improve and grow their operations. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, Bursaries, Occupational qualifications, AET Programmes, WIL, and Incubation Programmes.
10.	**STEM Projects**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** • Maths and Science learners and teachers to enhance educational outcomes. • Initiatives to promote Women in STEM fields. • Bio-Innovation for Industry & Environment: Providing skills in emerging areas like biorefining and biomanufacturing, while empowering science and engineering students with hands-on experience through industry-related projects. **You can apply for:** Bursaries and Skills programmes
11.	**Institutional-Industry Partnerships**	**11.1 Institutional-Industry Partnerships** **The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Institutional-Industry Partnerships to promote collaboration between educational institutions and the chemical industry to develop relevant skills and enhance workforce readiness. **You can apply for:** Bursaries, WIL, Skills programmes, 4IR projects. **11.2 Innovation Project –Artificial Intelligence (AI) Powered Skills Forecasting** **The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and TVET Colleges to partner with CHIETA in the development of an AI-powered Skills Forecasting tool. The tool will provide predictive analysis capabilities for forecasting, risk management, and operational efficiency across CHIETA's programmes. Under this partnership, students from collaborating institutions will lead the system development, applying their technical and analytical skills in a real-world environment while gaining hands-on experience in artificial intelligence, data modelling, and systems integration. Funding is available for Learners who require workplace experience to achieve a formal qualification and Graduates seeking opportunities to gain practical workplace experience.

		11.3 Innovation Project – Data Lab and Data Science The funding is aimed at providing support to: HEIs and TVET Colleges to collaborate with CHIETA in establishing a Data Lab – a designated Data Science System that promotes data experimentation, analysis, and innovation. The system will serve as a central platform for exploring CHIETA's data assets, supporting evidence-based decision-making, and enhancing research and innovation capabilities. Students from collaborating institutions will design and develop the system, gaining practical experience in data engineering, analytics, and visualisation while contributing to CHIETA's broader digital transformation objectives. Funding is available for Learners who require workplace experience to achieve a formal qualification and Graduates seeking opportunities to gain practical workplace experience.
12.	**Learners with Disability Project**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Learners with disabilities in the chemical sector to ensure equitable access to quality education and provide the resources needed for their development, enabling them to reach their full potential and succeed academically and socially. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, Bursaries, WIL, Learnerships (Continuing Legacy Qualification), AET Programmes, Incubation Programmes
13.	**Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Support.**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** TVET Lecturers to enhance their professional development and teaching capabilities, ensuring they are well-equipped to deliver high-quality vocational training that meets industry standards and effectively prepares students for the workforce. **You can apply for:** Bursaries and Skills Programmes.
14.	**Rural Development Projects**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Enhance the quality of life and economic opportunities in rural areas by supporting initiatives that promote sustainable development and increase access to education.

		You can apply for: Skills Programmes, Bursaries, WIL, Learnerships (Continuing Legacy Qualification), AET Programmes, Incubation Programmes, Occupational Qualifications.
15.	**Public Sector Capacity building**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Public sector employees and institutions by enhancing their skills, knowledge, and effectiveness, enabling them to deliver better services, improve governance, and respond more effectively to the needs of the community. **You can apply for:** Skills Programmes, Bursaries, WIL, Learnerships (Continuing Legacy Qualification), AET Programmes, Incubation Programmes, Occupational Qualifications.
LEARNING PROJECTS		
1.	**Adult Education and Training (AET)**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Adult learners with little or no formal education, to enhance their literacy and skills, improving their employability and personal development.
2.	**Bursaries (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Students by providing financial assistance, making higher education more accessible and reducing barriers to academic achievement. This support aims to foster a skilled workforce and encourage diversity. Funding is designated for formal qualifications earned through structured educational or training programs, which are awarded by accredited educational institutions or professional organisations.
3.	**Work Integrated Learning (WIL)** • **Workplacement for Employment** ○ Learners in position of their post matric or NQF level 5 qualification	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** Programs that blend academic learning with practical work experience, enhancing participants' employability and ensuring their skills align with industry needs. Funding is available for Learners who require workplace experience to achieve a formal qualification and Graduates seeking opportunities to gain practical workplace experience.

	• **Workbased Learning** ○ Learner seeking in-service training to acquire the qualification	
4.	**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to:** • **RPL – non-artisan related** Non-Artisan related, allows learners with pre-existing knowledge and skills the opportunity to formalize their knowledge and skills into a full qualification or part qualification or a skills programme. That will be formally assessed by and accredited SDP and Assessment centre through EISA or FISA. • **RPL – Artisan related** A process to increase access to occupationally directed programmes- increase access for intermediate and high-level skills resulting in a trade test – trade related workplace experience that will be formally assessed through an accredited body or Trade Test Centre.
5.	**Occupational Certificate registered with the QCTO**	**The funding is aimed at providing support to**: Individuals in acquiring the necessary training and qualifications to gain recognised skills in specific occupations, thereby enhancing their employability and career prospects while ensuring that the training aligns with industry standards and labour market needs. • **Artisan Related -** Occupationally directed modular, simulation and work-based learning programmes for new and continuing learners • **Non-Artisan Related -** Includes all occupational certificate for new and continuing learners that are relevant for the chemical sector.
6.	**Learnerships** **ONLY APPLICABLE FOR CONTINUING LEARNERS ON LEGACY/ HISTORICAL QUALIFICATIONS**	• **Artisan related:** Occupationally directed instructional and work-based learning programme that requires a formal contract or an artisan learning programme agreement and resulting in a trade test. Formally assessed through an accredited body or a trade Test Centre. • **Non- Artisan related:** Occupationally directed instructional and work-based learning programme that requires a learning programme agreement.

		This Grant incentive includes chemical sector registered Learnerships and non-core chemical sector Learnerships used in the chemical sector.
7.	**Apprenticeships ONLY APPLICABLE FOR CONTINUING LEARNERS ON LEGACY/ HISTORICAL QUALIFICATIONS**	Occupationally directed instructional and work-based learning programme that requires a formal contract or an artisan learning programme agreement and resulting in a trade test – formally assessed through an accredited body or Trade Test Centre.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications for Strategic Projects and Learning Programmes, for the 2026/2027 Cycle 1 Discretionary Grants must be submitted online (CHIETA IMS and can be accessed on www.chieta.org.za or with a direct link https://ims.chieta.org.za to complete the 2026/2027 Cycle 3 DG Application.

The following supporting documents must also be uploaded onto the CHIETA IMS by the **12th of December 2025**:

- Proof of banking details
- Tax compliance documentation (CSD documents/ Tax pin)
- Declaration of interest
- Company registration (if applicable)
- B-BBEE Certificate (if applicable)
- Any other project supporting documents specified under the "File uploads" tab in the system.

Please click on the link below to apply:

ims.chieta.org.za

Late applications shall not be considered.
Final approval of grants will be at the discretion of the CHIETA Governing Board

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions about the advertisement or the application process, please reach out to the contact person listed below:

REGION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	EMAIL	PHONE
Gauteng	Brenda Ledwaba	bledwaba@Chieta.org.za	087 357 6608/ 011 628 7000
Western Cape	Faith Gcali	Fgcali@Chieta.org.za	087 357 6695/ 021 551 1113/4
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