

# Media Statement

Issued by the National Lotteries Commission, SARS, and DSD



## **National Lotteries Commission opens 2024/25 Call for Applications**

[Tshwane, 01 December 2024] The National Lotteries Commission (NLC) is excited to open the 2024/25 Call for Applications on Monday, 2 December 2024.

Following on the invitation for civil society organisations to register profiles on a new online platform from 1 November, the NLC also published the focus areas for funding during this month.

NLC Commissioner Jodi Scholtz has highlighted the significance of this call, which sees the NLC navigating a new, highly anticipated grant management system.

“This Call will be the first that we will be handling on a digital system with several automated features that will increase our efficiency and links us with other entities such as the South African Revenue Services (SARS) for verification of the compliance status of grant applicants”, said Scholtz.

While the NLC’s system is linked with other entities, applicants are encouraged to check their status with these organisations before applying to ensure a smooth process.

These include:

- NPO registration with the Department of Social Development (DSD)
- NPC registration with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC)
- Registration and tax compliance verification with South African Revenue Service (SARS)

- Registration with Relevant Authorities/Special services in the relevant sector and compliance with sector-specific Regulations
- Proof of a valid bank account in the name of the organisation with a South African bank.

“Non-profit organisations play a significant role in society by undertaking shared responsibility for the social and developmental needs of the country, thus relieving the financial burden that would otherwise fall on the state. Ensuring that the organisation is registered with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) as a taxpayer is essential. Furthermore, it is imperative for organisations that have a tax-exempt status to comply with the relevant exemption provisions and to maintain an overall tax compliant status. Tax compliance refers to the willingness and ability of taxpayers to comply with their tax obligations, i.e., register, file, report and pay all tax due on time. Failure to comply with any of these obligations constitute non-compliance” said SARS Commissioner Edward Kieswetter.

The NLC has also emphasised that applying organisations may access the platform remotely or receive support at NLC offices in all provinces.

“The Department of Social development (DSD) has the responsibility to ensure NPOs maintain adequate standards of governance, transparency, and accountability. The DSD is delighted to be part of NLC modernization project as both of institutions are striving to ensure adherence to the Non-profit Organizations Act (Act No.71 of 1997). NPOs are vital in uplifting vulnerable communities and creating employment, particularly for historically disadvantaged communities including people with disabilities, women and youth” said, Acting Director General, Mr. Peter Netshipale.

Adopting the whole of government approach and working with stakeholders such as SARS, CIPC, and DSD, will enhance transparency and accountability within the NPO sector.

The Call for Applications opens on 2 December 2024 and closes on 28 February 2025.

The registration portal does not have a closing date, and organisations may register or update their profiles at any point in time.

Ends.

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