

QUALIFYING CRITERIA

In order to obtain funding an SMME and its shareholders/members must

- a) Have a profit motive.
- b) Have a sustainable business or idea.
- c) Have its principal place of business operations in the EC Province.
- d) Be incorporated either as a limited liability company, close corporation, co-operative, partnership or professional incorporated company.
- e) Have 80% of its business owned by youth (18-35) who are Eastern Cape citizens by jurisdiction or other priority races according to BB-BEE.
- f) In cases where there have been recent changes in ownership / directorship prior to application for funding, the department reserves the right to request for written motivation which is satisfactory to the Department;
- g) The owners must demonstrate commitment to the business in the form of time (operational involvement), assets and/or cash. The extent of how much will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- h) Be a registered business entity with existing bank account
- i) Must have the relevant management experience and expertise with the ability to manage the business, or must be willing to go through a development programme geared for this purpose.

PRIORITISED SECTORS

Agriculture - Horticulture, pests control, livestock, Cotton, etc.
Green economy – wildlife and recycling
Franchises – fuel, food, clothing, etc.
Manufacturing – in line with the Provincial Economic Development Strategy
Transport - logistic, public transport and equipment
Mineral and chemical beneficiation- Aluminium, Coal, Iron and Steel, Phosphates and Mineral Sands
Tourism and Hospitality – hotels and accommodation, transport

Science, Technology & Innovation – ICT and Research
Blue Economy – Maritime and related fields
Education – Skills Transfer and Training
Arts and Culture - entertainment, creative industry; etc
Construction – Infrastructure; etc
Other Services- Catering, Security, financial and legal services etc.

FUNDING LEVELS

LEVEL OF FUNDING	TYPE OF BUSINESS	MAXIMUM FUNDING
Level 1	Pre-Start-up and development (Idea generation and conceptualisation)	From R10 000.00 Up to R500,000.00
Level 2	Start-up and early development	From R100 000.00 – R1 000 000.00
Level 3	Growth and Expansion Stage	From R1 100 000.00 to R3 000 000.00
Level 4	Franchise and Co-funding	Up to R3 000 000.00