

CIRCULAR No. 13 / 2024

FROM : LANCE JOEL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACTING)

TO: EXECUTIVE MAYORS
MAYORS
SPEAKERS OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILS
CHIEF WHIPS
CITY/MUNICIPAL MANAGERS

CC: MUNICIPAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FACILITATORS
SALGA PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS OF OPERATIONS

DATE: 18 JUNE 2024

RE: FORMAL CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FROM DESIGNATED MUNICIPAL DELEGATES TO ENROLL FOR THE– *BUILDING GOOD GOVERNANCE CAPABILITY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME OFFERED BY THE WITS SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE (WSG) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SALGA*

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this circular is to:

- 1.1 Formally invite designated municipalities and participants into ***the Building Good Governance Capability Programme in Local Government.***
- 1.2 Request each municipality to consider and identify a maximum of six (6) participants for enrolment into Leadership in Municipal Governance course subject to specified criteria.
- 1.3 Further request that upon their identification, the designated participants must individually submit applications via the designated link created by the **WITS School of Governance**, as contained in the body of this circular.
- 1.4 Request respective municipalities to participate in the Impact Analysis of the programme at an individual and institutional level.

2. BACKGROUND CONTEXT

SALGA has an established history and implementation footprint in support of municipal capacity building. It has done this across the various dimensions of individual, institutional, as well as sectoral capacity building. This is a very dynamic and evolving area of SALGA's work which continuously gets reviewed to respond to the fast changing and complex environment of municipal governance and service delivery. This is particularly so given that the current reality of local government is that of a system which is under severe strain and on a downward performance trajectory.

As capacity building is inherently a multi-dimensional series of continuous undertakings involving SALGA working together with a range of stakeholders such as Higher Education Institutions, Research Institutions, Professional Bodies to name but a few, the **Leadership in Municipal Governance Programme** as a learning and development intervention should be seen against this context.

As part of the formal relationship between **SALGA and WSG** established in 2017, various capacity building programmes have since been developed and implemented for the benefit of municipalities. The newest addition in this partnership portfolio is the **Building Good Governance Capability in Local Government Programme that is now moving into phase 2**. In contrast to the legacy programmes previously undertaken this programme involves an additional stakeholder in the form of **Absa**, a prominent commercial banking institution in South Africa which manages a significant share of municipal banking services. Apart from providing funding provision to the initiative, Absa has also undertaken to support the initiative through the sharing of knowledge and best practices towards governance improvement in municipalities. The key objective of phase 2 of the programme is to assess institutional impact. For continuity and to objectively measure institutional impact, it was agreed with Absa that priority enrolment for phase 2 be given to those municipalities who had majority representation in phase 1. This programme is also ideally positioned to contribute towards the delivery of the SALGA sub-programme in its **2022/23 Annual Performance Plan (APP)** that relates to **Municipal Governance Support**.

Importantly, the next phase will include the refinement of the indicators that shaped the theory of change, results framework, and monitoring & evaluation (M&E) plan followed by an implementation of the M&E plan. Senior municipal leadership and participants will be expected participate in focus sessions conducted by WSG experts about individual and institutional impact of the programme. The report will be shared with all participating municipalities for review before it is made public through WSG to contribute to capacity building in local government. The nominated participants will also be expected to meet with WSG experts to share their experiences on the course and individual impact and how it contributes to institutional impact.

3. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The Wits School of Governance and the South African Local Government Association, supported by Absa, have partnered to offer a programme on **Leadership in Municipal Governance** as part of the objective of building capacity and improving good governance in the municipal sector.

3.1 PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

- Enhance the vision establishment, strategic foresight and oversight engagement, capabilities of local development and municipal structures and entities.
- Advance the professional capabilities of public leaders as they build their value as political representatives and members of executive structures within municipalities.
- Overall executive members and councillors will improve their decision making and enable others in exco and council to do the same.

3.2 PROGRAMME TARGET AUDIENCE

Municipal Political and Administrative Leadership, preferably pitched at the levels of **Executive Mayor/Mayor, Speaker of Council, Chief Whip of Council, Mayoral Committee/EXCO member, Municipal/City Manager, CFO and/or any other designated direct report to the Municipal/City Manager.**

3.3 PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the programme, participants should be able to:

- Establish and articulate future-oriented perspectives, plans, policies and strategies in the context of markets, the economy, and state intervention.
- Appreciate the parameters for governance action and the way leadership is best exercised within specific local government contexts.
- Collate information on local developments and analyse and interpret such information to make judgements.
- Use appropriate and contextually relevant oversight strategies and tools to monitor and evaluate the implementation of plans and programmes.

3.4 PROGRAMME ENROLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Political Leadership – (min. 3 X councillors in the executive will be selected)

- Grade 12/ Matric certificate or equivalent
- {Minimum NQF level 6 qualification with 3 – 5 years' experience or 5 - 10 years' political leadership experience and Portfolio of Evidence (Amplified CV with evidence of political programs they have participated in, include reference letter)}

Administrative Leadership (min. 3 x Members of the executive will be selected)

- Grade 12/ Matric certificate or equivalent
- {Minimum NQF level 6 qualification with 3 – 5 years' experience
- Or 6 - 10 years' management experience and Portfolio of Evidence (Amplified CV with management duties in public sector including a reference letter)}

3.5 HIGH LEVEL PROGRAMME CONTENT

- **Module 1: GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT**

This module provides participants with the ability to use appropriate and contextually relevant oversight strategies and tools to monitor and evaluate the implementation of municipal plans and programmes.

- **Module 2: POLICY, STRATEGY AND PLANNING**

This module provides an exploration of future-oriented policies, plans strategies and practices. It incorporates an analysis of approaches that optimally establish a balance between current and future needs.

- **Module 3: LOCAL ECONOMICS AND FINANCE**

This module provides learners with the ability to collate economic and finance information on local developments and analyse and interpret the information to make judgements on local economic and finance strategies.

- **Module 4: LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC VALUE**

This module provides an assessment of leadership practices that facilitate the achievement of public value and specific results in complex local governance contexts, incorporating an analysis of leadership practices that enhance institutional performance. The module provides learners with the knowledge, skills and applied competence for the exercise of political leadership and assists in establishing the parameters for ethical leadership action at the local level.

3.6 MODE OF DELIVERY

The programme will be delivered face to face at the Wits School of Governance, Parktown, Johannesburg.

Travel and accommodation will be at the cost of the municipality.

Programme Length: 4 modules delivered over 4 weeks. You will be expected to attend a Face-to-Face class for 3 days a week, once a month, over a period of 4 months.

3.7 ASSESSMENT METHOD

- Individual and Group assessment = 25%
- Exam or exam equivalent = 75%

3.8 DISCLAIMER ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

- This short course does not carry credit towards a qualification on the HEQSF. As per the Council for Higher Education (CHE), a short course that does not carry credit towards a qualification on the HEQSF cannot be assigned & allocated NQF levels & credits.
- Short courses are short learning programmes offered by higher education institutions outside their formal structured undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and they, therefore, do not lead to qualifications on the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF). They serve a range of social and educational purposes, including improving or refreshing participants' knowledge and skills in a particular field, improving participants' readiness for specific formal higher education programmes, continuing professional development, learning to use technology, personal fulfilment, social development and good citizenship, to mention a few.

<https://www.che.ac.za/sites/default/files/publications/CHE%20Good%20Practice%20Guide%20September%202016%20PDF.pdf>.

3.9 APPLICATION SUBMISSIONS

Applications should be submitted by not later then **28 June 2024**, to:

Wits School of Governance

Name: Mbali Mbatha

Tel No: (011) 717 3147

Email (s): Mbali.Mbatha@wits.ac.za & Shortcourses.wsg@wits.ac.za

Your contribution to the success of this initiative is much appreciated.

For further information on the programme, kindly contact **Mr. Eric Ledwaba - Municipal Learning & Development Officer: Systems** on cell: 073 673 8207 or alternately via email on: eledwaba@salga.org.za.

Yours sincerely,



LANCE JOEL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (ACTING)

