

## MEDIA STATEMENT DPE TUITION SUPPORT FOR EMPLOYEES

**Pretoria 20 May 2023.** The Department of Public Enterprises announces that it has become aware of malicious and spurious allegations couched as part of a media inquiry by the Sunday Independent, a newspaper owned by Independent Media, whereby one of its journalists has approached the department with questions that seek to imply that the department did something wrong in awarding tuition support to some of its employees.

Providing tuition support is a standard practice in government departments as this forms part of building organizational capacity.

The Department issued a newsflash to invite applications for bursaries for the 2022/2023 financial year. The closing date to submit applications was 13 January 2023. Only applications submitted by the closing date were considered by the Human Resource Development Committee. Applications for bursaries include certificate, diploma or degree courses.

The Human Resource Development Committee, which include representatives from labour, convened on 25 and 26 January 2023 and assessed all bursary applications in terms of the Training and Development Policy of the Department of Public Enterprises. No application, received after the closing date, was considered by the Committee.

The Human Resource Development Committee, after careful consideration of all applications submitted, prepared a formal submission with its recommendations to the Acting Director-General for a decision in terms of her delegated authority. After approval by the Acting Director-General, applicants were duly informed of the outcome of their application.

For Media Enquiries contact Ellis Mnyandu: <u>Ellis.Mnyandu@dpe.gov.za</u> or 079 828 7779.

Issued by the Department of Public Enterprises 20 May 2023