INTRODUCTION

NYS and Building Maintenance is a government programme implemented by the National Dept of Public Works and it forms part of the Expanded Public Works Programme.

National Youth Service programme concept is built around the involvement of youth with in activities which provide benefits to the community whilst developing their abilities through service and learning. To ensure participation of initial 5000 youth from 2007/08 to be increased by 20% annually until a target of 20,000 is achieved.

BACKGROUND

Expanded public works, National Youth Service Programme is a the department initiative launched in April 2007 to engage young South Africans in service delivery in order to strengthen youth participation in service delivery, promote youth participation in building environment and to assist youth to gain work-related skills necessary to access sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The EPWP Youth Service Programme is a joint initiative with National Youth Development Agency formerly known as Umsobomvu Youth Fund and Department of Higher Education as the funder for training.
OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE PROGRAMME

- To create work and training opportunities for the unemployed youth while at the same time addressing the shortage of artisan skills in the building industry.
- Ensure participation of the youth in community service delivery and thereby instilling the spirit of patriotism in young South Africans.
- Ensure that youth develop skills, understanding and aspirations for working within the built environment.

Due to shortage of skilled artisan in the construction sector the department has committed its infrastructure expenditure budget through its capital and maintenance projects for creation of skills development in the building sector to contribute to job creation, the department as set aside Building Construction, Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project for National Youth Service Programme.
Minimum requirements for youth to participate in NYS programme are:

- A youth between ages of 18 to 35 years,
- Grade 12 preferably with Math’s and Science
- Must reside around the project area
- At least 80% must be coming from a previously disadvantaged background
- Should have a valid Green bar coded South African Identity Document
- 60 % females and 40 % males
**NYS IMPLEMENTATION PHASES**

The EPWP NYS is implemented through the following stages:

- Phase 1 - Initiation
- Phase 2 – Pre-implementation Phase
  - Phase 2 A - Recruitment
    - Phase 2 B - Induction training
    - Phase 2 C - Technical training
  - Phase 2 B - Construction
- Phase 3 – implementation
  - Phase 3 A - Tender process
  - Phase 3 B - Construction
- Phase 4 – beneficiary Exit workshops
Training is divided into two components which is 6 months theoretical training or on class training and 6 months on site training where the beneficiaries are placed with the contractor for gaining practical training experience.

- Technical Training is funded by Dept of Higher Education & Training
- EPWP Training unit submits training needs to Department of Higher Education and Training

**Technical training trades selected must meet the needs of the project within the build environment and construction e.g:**

- Bricklaying
- Painting
- Plastering
- Tiling
- Carpentry
- Electrical
- Other optional trades include:
  - Pipe-laying
  - Mechanical
  - Water reticulation
  - Air conditioning
Time frame for implementation of the Programme is:

- Placement of an Advertisement or community awareness takes 1 month and 1 week
- Briefing session takes 1 day
- Selection of youth (including SpEEx from Department of Labour) 3 weeks
- Notify/ mobilise selected youth – 1 week
- Induction training – 5 days
- Life skills training -5 days

This above process takes about 3 months

- Computer Skills Training (NEW) – 2 weeks
- Driver’s Learners programme (NEW) – 2 weeks
- Technical skills training – 8-12 weeks (depends on the trade)
- On-site built environment exposure – 6 months
- Project Status – must be from 4 (design stage onwards)

EPWP NYS BENEFICIARIES CAN EXIT INTO THREE DIFFERENT PATHWAYS:

- Further learning and training through institutions of higher learning e.g. FET Colleges.
- Through employment by the Department, contractor or private company.
- And Small micro medium enterprise development
- All exited learners are kept on Departmental database for future opportunities.
For more information on EPWP Programme visit our website on www.epwp.gov.za or call 012 337 3000