



Province of the
EASTERN CAPE
EDUCATION

NATIONAL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMME NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY UPDATE OCTOBER 2023

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LAYOUT

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a briefing guide on delays, and the corrective processes undertaken to disburse the National School Nutrition Programme grant resources, to benefitting schools in the Province and share the performance of the programme to date.

NSNP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The National School Nutrition Programme is funded through a conditional grant and the output activities are aligned to the Division of Revenue Bill which are gazetted in the annual conditional grant framework.

The three pillars of the Programme include:

1. Provision of a nutritious meal to learners (Main meal and/or Breakfast)
2. Nutrition Education and Advocacy (Deworming, Hygiene)
3. Promoting Sustainable Food Gardens

The National School Nutrition Programme is implemented using a decentralized model and provides resources to schools for the purpose of employing Volunteer Food Handlers, Procuring Food Items and Equipment, Procuring Gas/ Fuel.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Feeding cost variables	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Budget Allocation	R 1 421 415 000	R 1 494 648 000	R 1 647 454 000
Feeding days	199	203	197
Learner Numbers	1 637 267	1 648 826	1 639 208
Primary and Special Schools	R 2.77	R 2.91	R 3.05
Secondary Schools	R 3.44	R 3.54	R 3.65
small schools (<50)	R 6.00	R 7.00	R7.35
Food Handler Stipend	R 1 600 p/m	R 1 700	R1 710
Fuel	1-4 (R 850) 5< (R 4 250)	1-4 (R 900) 5< (R 4 500)	1-4 (R 900) 5< (R 3 600)
UIF	R 32	R 34	R 34.20

EC PROCUREMENT MODEL: DECENTRALIZED



- The Eastern Cape Department uses a decentralized funding system to implement the National School Nutrition Programme.
- The funds are received by the Department of Basic Education (DBE) after compliance with the business planning framework and processes.
- A compliance certificate is issued by DBE following adherence to all pre-requisites such as the feeding cost, number of feeding days, volunteer food handler stipends, submission of a menu and a monitoring plan.
- Further to this the compliance to the EC 4.1, gazette for transfer of funds and cash flow projections submissions are collated by the Department to enable Provincial Treasury to issue correspondence permitting the commencement of expenditure

BACKGROUND TO DELAYS

- The National School Nutrition Programme, develops and circulates the disbursement schedule each budget year to commit the Department to earmarked dates throughout the budget year.
- The schedule indicates the date of the expected run, and 24 April 2023 was the scheduled date.
- Prior to the run, several activities have to be concluded for the process to comply with the required financial and administrative requirements.
- First is the database of operational schools, updated and verified learners
- Second is the inclusion of any new schools that were gazetted after the business plan has been approved.
- In the beginning of each new financial year a database formulated from the EMIS data is utilized to align funding to learners.
- 2023.

DATA CHALLENGES

- The departmental Education Management Information Systems ,EMIS, Unit experienced a delay in finalizing the collection of this data during the onset of the 2023 academic year.
- Some schools struggled submitting data due to challenges with the network, that were perpetuated by load-shedding in some areas.
- There was a certain number of schools that experienced challenges with databases that could not meet the set validation criteria and were rejected due to this.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

- During the commencement of the financial year there were delays in the conclusion of the input process by schools.
- The Department mobilized the support of District Based EMIS officers to consolidate the information as accurately as possible. All schools received their allocated funding by 09 May.

NPI -FEEDING : PERFORMANCE

VARIABLE	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3
LEARNER NUMBERS (MAIN MEAL)	1 608 397	1 359 419	1603246
LEARNER NUMBERS (BREAKFAST)	1 060 473	1 057 831	1 061 335
TRANSFER TOTALS	R 390 380 747. 87	R 408 331 283, 81	R 328 413 141
NUMBER OF VFH	12 545	12 526	12488

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: PROCESSED CHICKEN LIVERS

FEEDING VARIABLE	BUSINESS PLAN INPUTS		QUARTER 1	
CANNED CHICKEN LIVERS LEARNERS (30 DAYS)	173 739 (1079)	R 6 046 117	1 674 02 (802) schools	R 5 825 589.60

PROCESSED LIVERS

All schools identified for the phasing in has been included in the first tranche for the year.

TRANCHE PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR 2023

QUARTERLY TRANCHES	COSTING	COMPILATION	SUBMISSION	SCHOOLS RE-OPEN DATE	TRANSFER DATE
1 ST Tranche	06 April	17 April	19 April	12 April	24 April Concluded
2 ND Tranche	29 June	07 July	10 July	18 July	13 July Concluded
3 RD Tranche	22 September	29 September	02 October	10 October	05 October Concluded
4 TH Tranche	30 November	08 December	14 December	17 January	11 January

CONCLUSION

- NSNP operates in a highly regulated environment and therefore commitment required to ensure successful, credible and verified transfers requires a multidisciplinary approach.
- The database provided from the consolidation of the school-based learner reports allows government to link funding to a beneficiary.
- It is a continued requirement to ensure that funds are appropriated and utilized for the intended purpose of feeding learners.
- Following the delays experienced during quarter 1, 23/24 **ALL DATA** was received timeously, and funds disbursed accordingly.
- There have been **NO FURTHER DELAYS** in the disbursement of funds.

THANK YOU

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