



DIE VERANDERING IN ONDERWYS  
THE CHANGE IN EDUCATION



## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

### EXEMPTION FROM THE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES



# DEFENITIONS



- **“Exemption”** - the total, partial or conditional exemption of parents who are unable to pay school fees from the payment of such fees (Government Gazette 29311 of 18 October 2006).
- **“Combined annual gross income of parents”** - the annual gross income of the parents, calculated together, or, if a learner has only one parent, the total annual gross income of that parent.
- **“Income”** – gross salary or wages; money received from investments; profit from any form of business undertaking.
- **“Parent”** –
  - (a) the biological or adoptive *parent* or legal guardian of a *learner*;
  - (b) the person legally entitled to custody of a *learner*; or
  - (c) the person who undertakes to fulfil the obligations of a person referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) towards the *learner’s* education at *school* (SASA)

## DEFENITIONS



- **“Automatic exemption”** – the total exemption available to
  - A person who has the responsibility of a parent in respect of a child placed in a foster home, a youth care centre, a place of safety or an orphanage
  - A person who is a kinship caregiver of an orphan of a child who has been abandoned by his/her parents; and is without any visible means of support
  - A person who receives a social grant on behalf of a child
  - A child who heads a household

## DEFENITIONS



- **“Conditional exemption”** – the exemption granted to a parent who qualifies for partial exemption but, owing to personal circumstances beyond his/her control, cannot pay even the reduced amount or does not qualify for exemption but supplies information indicating his/her inability to pay school fees owing to personal circumstances beyond his/her control, which exemption the SGB grants with the provision that the parent agrees to certain conditions for the payment of the school fees.
- **“Partial exemption”** – the financial concession granted to a parent in terms of which he/she is liable for the payment of only a portion of the school fees.

## EXEMPTION OF EDUCATORS FROM PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES



- In accordance with **The Employment of Educators Act and the Public Service Act**, civil servants (both educators and non-educators) may receive no financial benefits or benefits in kind without the permission of their employer.
- Educators and non-educators who received such “benefits” without their employer’s permission have therefore already violated the provisions of these acts. SARS would probably also regard these benefits as taxable fringe benefits.

**Note:** SGBs that provide “fringe benefits” to educators (excluding subsistence and transport allowances) without the employer’s permission expose themselves to personal liability for the repayment thereof.

## OBLIGATIONS OF SGB & PRINCIPAL



- When a learner is admitted to a public school a parent must be notified of:
  - The amount of the annual school fees to be paid and procedures for applying for exemption
  - The fact that the parent is liable for the payment of school fees unless he/she has been exempted
  - If a parent is in arrears by one month or more, the SGB will investigate whether the parent qualifies for exemption before acting (Sec 41(1) SASA) to collect the outstanding fees

## OBLIGATIONS OF PARENTS



- A parent who wishes to be exempted must apply annually to the chairperson of the SGB. In writing. (prescribed form)
- Applicant must furnish such further relevant particulars as the SGB may request
- A parent qualifies for automatic exemption if he / she submits to the SGB sufficient proof of eligibility for such exemption (e.g. affidavit, confirmation from social worker or other authority, court order)

## TAKE NOTE



- **Exemptions** must be calculated retrospectively from the beginning of the year, if the parent qualifies. Parents who cannot afford to pay **school fees** must apply to the SGB for –
  - conditional,
  - Partial, or
  - full **exemption** from paying **school fees**.
- Application forms can be obtained from the SGB through the principal of a **school**.
- Formula to be used (see next slide) The annual fees of only one child should be used in the formula

## FORMULA TO BE USED



$$E = 100 \left( \frac{F + A}{C} \right)$$

where -

E = school fees as a proportion of the income of a parent.

F = annual school fees, for one child, that a school charges in terms of section 39 of the Act.

A = additional monetary contributions paid by a parent in relation to a learner's attendance of, or participation in any programme of, a public school.

C = combined annual gross income of parents.

100 = the number by which the answer arrived at in the brackets is multiplied so as to convert it into a percentage.

## BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



“If a man empties his purse into his head,  
no man can take it away from him.”

An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest

## REFERENCES



- RSA. Regulations relating to the exemption of parents from payment of school fees in public schools. Government Gazette Vol. 496. No 29311. 18 October 2006.
- Republiek van Suid-Afrika. 1996. *Suid-Afrikaanse Skolewet*, no. 84 van 1996 (soos gewysig). Pretoria: Staatsdrukker.
- Republiek van Suid-Afrika . 2006. *Regulasies vir die Vrystelling van Ouers van die Betaling van Skoolgeld*. Staatskoerant 29392 van 17 November 2006. Pretoria: Staatsdrukker.
- <https://www.education.gov.za/Informationfor/ParentsandGuardians/SchoolFees.aspx>
- MSM – Chapter 6
- MSM - School fees exemption [6.3.2 \(b\)](#)



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Dankie  
Thank you

