

Ekurhuleni North District Science Engagement and Career Awareness day

A. Purpose of the event:

1. **To expose high school learners to careers in STEM:** On many undergraduate prospectus, a course information is often followed by few lines of careers one can follow by doing that particular course. This has limitations as often learners use that to gauge their careers. Having a session dedicated just to careers in STEM will expose the learners to many different fields they can follow and a question and answer session on these will be something they missing in their respective prospectus.

Outcomes: Knowledge transfer/interchange.

2. **Showcase STEM Experiments:** Many schools in the townships do not have a working laboratory, and for many students, unfortunately a science experiment is what they can only imagine. This will provide a great opportunity for learners to experience live science experiments.

Outcomes: Establish interest in STEM.

3. **To nurture talent amongst learners to produce the next generation of Scientists:** Some learners are not confident of what they are capable of. Some fear Science careers because they believe these are for a certain class of people. The aim of this objective is to assure learners that it is possible to take a STEM career irrespective of who you are.

Outcomes: Positive attitude towards STEM.

4. **Role-modelling from Scientists:** The main purpose of this objective is to get learners to interact with role models in the field, who will take them through their journey from as young as the learners age, to becoming experts in their fields. This will feature not only a prominent scientist but the one whom the learners can relate with. Since this is more likely for township schools, an ideal candidate would be someone with the similar up-bringing so that learners can relate.

Outcomes: Motivation.

5. **Bursaries and Tertiary applications:** Through this objectives we wish to educate learners on a range of bursaries and scholarships available, and most importantly to highlight the significance of sending in a timely application for admission at a tertiary institution.

Outcome: Awareness

B. Targeted audience

Our target audience are high school learners, in particular, Grade 10 and 11. Twelve schools have been identified under Ekurhuleni North District of The Gauteng Department of Basic Education:

- a. Ikusasa Comprehensive School
- b. Boitumelong Secondary School
- c. Masisebenze Secondary School
- d. Charolette Maxeke Secondary School
- e. Phomolong Secondary School
- f. Bokamoso Secondary School
- g. Tswelopele Secondary School
- h. Zitikeni Secondary School
- i. Inqayizivele Secondary School

- j. Jiyana Secondary School
- k. Thuto-ke-Maatla Secondary School
- l. Masiqhakaze Secondary School

Due to other logistical aspects, unfortunately we are only able to accommodate a maximum of **500 learners** (this number excludes accompanying educators). We thus request that educators decide on which learners should attend.

C. Program Details

(i) **Planned Activities:** This will be a one-day event starting as follows:

08:30 – 09:00:	Arrival and registrations of the represented schools
09:00 – 09:15:	Opening and Welcome
09:15 – 09:30:	Representative from Gauteng DoBE (Ekurhuleni North)
09:30 – 10:30:	Keynote address by a prominent Scientist (plus Q&A)
10:30 – 10:45:	A day in a life of a Scientist
10:45 – 11:00:	I am a first year Science Student
11:00 – 12:00:	Science demonstration I and II
12:00 – 13:30:	Lunch (pre-packed) and Exhibition (By various Departments and Industry)
13:30 – 14:00:	Motivational Speaker
14:00 – 14:30:	Career guidance
14:30 – 15:00:	Science demonstration III
15:00:	Remarks and departure