

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: WORLD YOUTH AND STUDENT TRAVEL CONFERENCE 22-25 SEPTEMBER 2015, CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

The World Youth and Student Travel Conference (WYSTC) is hosted on a rotational basis in a different country every year by the World Youth, Student and Educational (WYSE) Travel Confederation. It is a specialised international tourism trade and marketing platform for the global youth, student and educational tourism markets. The 2015 edition of WYSTC will be held in South Africa, Cape Town on the 22 – 25 September 2015.

Being hosted in Africa for the first time and attracting more than 600 international and specialised industry professionals from a 120 countries, WYSTC 2015 offers a unique opportunity to South African inbound operators to engage and trade with key international buyers of youth accommodation and travel packages, educational travel and exchange programmes, adventure and activity travel packages as well as volunteer and internship travel programmes. In addition to pre-scheduled meetings with potential buyers, the event also offers participants a series of workshops and seminars on the latest research, trends and innovation in the fast growing global youth, student and educational travel market.

In line with efforts to open and facilitate access to new markets and with consideration to the cost of participation in international tourism trade platforms, the National Department of Tourism invites eligible tourism enterprises to apply for support under the International Market Access Support Programme to participate at the WYSTC 2015 to be held in Cape Town from 22 to 25 September 2015. For WYSTC 2015, a limited number of enterprises that specialise in offering the above mentioned travel packages and programmes will be supported. Particular focus will be placed on assisting small- and medium-size tourism enterprises with some experience in packaging, negotiating and selling relevant packages to international buyers.

The guidelines for the International Market Access Support Programme are available on the Department's website (www.tourism.gov.za) and outlines the eligibility criteria and application process. The Department will **only** offer financial assistance towards the cost of registration and the cost of exhibition space that has been incurred by prospective applicants between 1 May 2015 (when registration for WYSTC 2015 opened) and 31 July 2015 (when applications for support under the International Market Access Support Programme will close). Since the event is hosted in South Africa, **no** financial assistance towards the cost of airfare and accommodation (which is normally offered for international events under the programme) will be available for WYSTC 2015.

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In line with programme guidelines, reimbursement of costs incurred for registration and exhibition space at WYSTC 2015 will be on the following capped amounts:

- the amount, up to a maximum of R28 000 for registration fees invoiced and paid to the WYSE Travel Confederation as the host for WYSTC 2015; and
- the amount, up to a maximum of R11 000 for either individual exhibition space (shell scheme booths) invoiced by and paid to the WYSE Travel Confederation, or for shared exhibition space (SAYTC member stand) invoiced and paid to South African Youth Travel Confederation(as the host association)

The guidelines and application form for the International Market Access Support Programme are available to download and complete on the Department's website or by clicking on the following link: **Tourism Incentive Programme.** All applications received will be acknowledged and qualifying applicants will be notified upon approval and required to sign a contract with the Department.

Please note that for this particular event, the support offered deviates slightly from the standard offering in that the cost of transport and accommodation are not supported.

or

Closing date of application forms: 31 July 2015

Submission of Application Forms

E-mail: tipapplications@tourism.gov.za

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