



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**  
**Ministry of Finance**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday, 05 May 2020

**UPDATE ON THE PAYMENT OF THE EMERGENCY INCOME GRANT – COVID 19**

The Ministry of Finance wishes to inform the public that application for the Emergency Income Grant ended midnight on 30 April 2020. From now on, no new application will be accepted.

Since the opening of the SMS line on 14 April 2020, a total of 970, 720 applications were received of which 576, 104 applicants were approved for payment to the tune of N\$432, 078 million. The payments to over half a million Namibians have been made and the remaining payments for approved applicants are in the process of disbursement. A large number of applicants were rejected for various reasons that included ID number belonging to the deceased persons, mismatch of names and ID numbers with official records, names found in NSFAP record of active recipients, Social Grant records and the Taxpayers register. The majority of the rejected applicants are those with the names not matching with those in the records of the Ministry of Home Affairs, totalling 127, 696, followed by those rejected on the basis of appearing on the taxpayers register totalling at 124, 623 applications.

Some applications were put on hold because more than two applicants have indicated to receive their grants on the same mobile number. Other applications put on hold are those where one ID Number is used in more than one different applications. To avert potential fraud and also allow individuals to abide by social distancing, the Ministry has to day communicated, through MTC, to the following categories of applicants to reapply during the period of 05 – 08 May 2020:-

- those whose IDs might have been used more than once, and



- those whose details are rejected because of incorrect ID Number or surname.

The Ministry appeals to all applicants who were rejected on the basis of appearing on the taxpayers' register to remain patient as the Ministry is carrying out a data reconciliation process. Once finalised such applicants will be notified on the status of their applications. These applicants are advised to remain home, while this temporary problem is being resolved.

In the case of more than two applicants who have used one cell phone to apply or to be paid, the modalities for self-verification will be communicated to the applicants as to how such verification could be made so that large gatherings are avoided.

Close to 120-thousand applicants that were approved for payment towards the end of last week are expected to continue receiving their grants between today and tomorrow. Although the Ministry of Finance has set 08<sup>th</sup> May 2020 as the due date for verification, applicants are informed not to panic as no applicant will be left out without being considered. The verification and data reconciliations are tedious processes that will require time as the Ministry wants to ensure that the grant goes to the right people and also that it does not go to the wrong people. We would therefore like to request for patience and understanding in this regard.

Those with queries are encouraged to contact the Call Center at Tel 061 209 2467/62 or Email: [eig@mof.gov.na](mailto:eig@mof.gov.na)

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