

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA commends Health Department decision to bolster healthcare workforce with absorption of 1 650 new healthcare professionals
DATE	14 April 2025
EMBARGO	None
ENQUIRIES	communication@psa.co.za

The Public Servants Association (PSA) commends the Department of Health's decisive action to bolster the healthcare workforce with the absorption of 1 650 new medical personnel following the R1 780 billion budget boost.

The step will enhance the capacity and efficiency of healthcare services across South Africa. The PSA recognises the critical importance of this investment in addressing the growing demands on the healthcare system. The addition of skilled medical professionals will significantly improve patient care, reduce waiting times, and ensure that healthcare facilities are better equipped to manage emergencies and routine medical needs.

According to the breakdown, the Department would hire 1 200 doctors, 200 nurses and 250 healthcare workers. It is, however, clear that the estimated number will not be sufficient as it was estimated two years ago that more than 10 000 employees are needed to meet the needs of growing communities. This initiative is expected to alleviate some of the pressures faced by overworked healthcare staff, thereby improving their working conditions and overall job satisfaction. It will further provide much-needed employment opportunities for medical graduates and professionals.

The PSA urges the Department of Health to maintain transparency and accountability in the implementation of this budget allocation. Regular updates on the progress and impact of this initiative will be crucial in building public trust and ensuring that the intended benefits are realised. The Department is further urged to also prioritise the absorption of Community Healthcare Workers, as this category of workers is often ignored despite being critical in the provision of health services.

END