

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

SARS ADMINISTERED INCENTIVES WEBINAR.

1. How do clearing agents get accredited for incentives?

The only accreditation available is under the Authorized Economic Operator (AEO), and this accreditation is available for any qualifying person who is in the trade facilitation value chain and is recognised so by SARS. Clearing agents can also be accredited under the AEO. There is no other accreditation outside of this programme. The respective incentives are available to anyone who qualifies, as long as the user or applicant qualifies and supporting documents can be provided.

2. How do you get a refund for ETI?

If there is no employees' tax to set off against the ETI amount, the employer is entitled to a refund of the total ETI amount available as at the end of each PAYE reconciliation period. A refund will not be paid if the employer has failed to submit any returns or has any outstanding tax debt. If a taxpayer becomes tax compliant within the next PAYE reconciliation period, a refund will be paid out. If not, the ETI amount will be deemed nil at the end of the PAYE reconciliation period.

3. For Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) / Small Enterprise Finance Agency (SEFA) purposes how do we apply for funding?

Please visit the SEFA webpage on www.sefa.org.za for more information on their funding.

SEDA provides non-financial assistance. You may visit your nearest SEDA branch for guidance on how to apply for SEFA funding and advise on SEDA opportunities.,

4. Where can I find the recorded session of the webinar?

Please visit and subscribe to SARS TV on YouTube

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/sarstax>

5. Who can claim the Solar panel incentive for individuals?

In the 2023 Budget Speech, National Treasury announced the Solar Panel Tax Incentive for Individuals. However, this has not been legislated yet.

Individuals will be able to claim a rebate to the value of 25% of the cost of new and unused solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, up to a maximum of R15 000 per individual.

For example, a person buys 10 solar PV panels at a cost of R4000 per panel (a total cost of R40 000). That person would be able to claim 25% of the cost up to R15 000, so R10 000.

A different person is able to buy 20 panels at a cost of R4000 per panel (a total cost of R80 000). The calculation of 25% adds up to R20 000, but they can only claim R15 000.

6. Where can we find a list of urban/industrial development zones in RSA? is there a link to share?

The list of SEZ's/IDZ's can be found on the DTIC website: <http://www.thedtic.gov.za/sectors-and-services-2/industrial-development/special-economic-zones/>

7. Are there any incentives to apply for a customs deferment based on gender or ethnicity?

No, the application for customs deferment does not have incentives based on gender or ethnicity but is a general incentive open and available to anyone who qualifies.

- Customs duties and VAT are payable in accordance with Section 39(1)(b) at the time of importation. Existing registered or licensed Customs clients may apply to defer the payment of Customs duty and VAT for a period of up to thirty (30) days and up to a maximum amount of duty.
- Deferment is not a client type; it is a facility granted to existing registered or licensed Customs clients to defer payment of duty for a period and up to a maximum amount of duty. The registrant or licensee must complete the DA 650 and DA 652 to apply for the deferment facility. For more information, please visit <https://www.sars.gov.za/customs-and-excise/registration-licensing-and-accreditation/deferments/>

8. Is there a time limit for SMMEs to benefit from Turnover Tax and SBC tax? Or can they remain on those incentive schemes until their businesses reach certain turnover/revenue thresholds?

There is no time limit for businesses to benefit from Turnover Tax or Small Business Corporative, the incentives are limited by meeting the specified requirements which are mainly turnover based. For more information:

- For the Turnover Tax leaflet [click here](#)
- For a guide on Small Business Corporation [click here](#)

9. What distinguishes the AEO and Preferred Trader Program?

The Preferred Trader Programme was launched in 2017, and 28 traders were accredited during the launching period. With the changes in legislation and the re-alignment of the program with the World Customs Organisation, the Preferred Trader was rebranded into an Authorised Economic Operator, and we have since accredited 151 traders. We are continuously engaging with our internal stakeholders to build solid relationships that support the objectives of the AEO programme as legislated. The legislated benefits create a platform for the traders to express interest in the programme.

Can an importer and manufacturer supply to an Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in the SEZ, who then exports, and still be able to qualify for duty and VAT free?

Yes, the original importer can still qualify as section 21A(9A) provides:

- “The liability for duty in respect of any imported goods that have been used in the manufacture or production of goods as referred to in paragraph (a) (iv) of subsection (9), that ceased as contemplated in that paragraph in respect of a CCA enterprise, shall –
 - a) be assumed by the receiving licensee or registrant referred to in paragraph (a) (iv) of that subsection; and
 - b) cease in accordance with any relevant provision of this Act pertaining to such licensee or registrant.

The basic requirement is that both the OEM and the component manufacturer must be SARS Customs rebate registrant. This means that goods can be moved from a fourth to a third schedule rebate registrant.

11. What documentary requirements would the original importer have to meet to prove OEM export?

Automotive components, as defined in Note 8 to Chapter 98, on which duty has been paid and which have been supplied to a motor vehicle manufacturer for use as original equipment components, as defined in Note 3 to Chapter 98, in the manufacture of specified motor vehicles as defined in rebate item 317.04 or which have been incorporated in original equipment components supplied to motor vehicle manufacturers provided:

- (i) such component manufacturer or supplier can produce proof by means of copies of the bills of materials reflecting the actual number of imported automotive components used in the manufacture of a specific original equipment component supplied;
- (ii) proof of the quantity of each original equipment component supplied to a motor vehicle manufacturer substantiated by a statement from the motor vehicle manufacturer to whom such components were supplied with specific reference to the part number, description and quantity received, is produced;
- (iii) the statement by the motor vehicle manufacturer is certified by a customs and excise officer; and
- (iv) the imported component value has been declared on a Form C2 and it can be produced on request.

The original importer need not prove export by the OEM, since the latter assumes liability as per section 21A(9A). The original importer would however need to maintain all relevant customs records proving the sale and movement of the components to the OEM.

12. How do you register for imports code, is it online or do we make an appointment?

For self-registration, follow the link below:

<https://www.sars.gov.za/customs-and-excise/registration-licensing-and-accreditation/>

For more queries on licensing and registration, you can email: rlaregistrations@sars.gov.za.

Watch video on [How to navigate the RLA system](#) on YouTube

13. What re the contact details for Authorised Economic Operator (AEO)?

AuthorisedEconomicOperator@sars.gov.za you may also contact Teboho Chalane tchalale@sars.gov.za | 072 630 3939.