

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**2021 PUBLIC ECONOMICS WINTER SCHOOL**

**Public Economics Winter School paves a way forward in finding solutions to SA's problems**

Aspirant policy makers and economists will get an opportunity to learn from some of the most brilliant minds on the African continent during the 2021 edition of the Public Economic Winter School hosted by Government Technical Advisory Centre (GTAC), National Treasury and the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (DPME) on 17 to 19 August 2021. The Winter School comes at a crucial time, as South Africa like other nations across the globe battle to contain the spread of COVID-19, while striving to protect the livelihoods of citizens.

The core focus of this initiative is to educate post-graduate students wishing to pursue a career in public economics or policy analysis. The Winter School will also serve to foster solution-driven discussions that tackle South Africa's socio-economic issues. Participants will get an opportunity to engage with senior public sector officials and university academics.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accentuated the notion that health and wealth are intertwined. Therefore, GTAC has gathered a lineup of thought leaders who will speak to issues of public health and economic progress. Experts like Dr Glenda Gray, Dr Noluthando Nematswerani, Prof Haroon Borat, Prof Imraan Valodia and Prof Steven Friedman are amongst those who will be speaking at the 3-day event.

The devastating effects of COVID-19 on our economy and the tragic loss of lives warrants continued efforts from all sectors of society to find viable solutions. Many businesses have had to shut down, while more than 7 million people lost their jobs since the advent of the pandemic in 2020.

As a think tank that provides advisory support to National Treasury and other departments, GTAC believes in the importance of skills development to increase the level of expertise in the country. The aim is to inspire innovative thinking that will help our country move forward. Alumni, public servants, renowned speakers, young economists and academics will also be joining the 2021 event. In this way, they can share their experiences and continue contributing towards this network of change makers that we seek to grow.

Visit the GTAC website on [www.gtac.gov.za](http://www.gtac.gov.za) to register and the Winter School Page 2021 for more information.

**Distributed on behalf of GTAC**