

Equity Group hosts the 2nd Annual Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Convention

The convention equips the scholars with soft skills, sensitizes them on the TVET courses available and supports them in their application for further financing

Friday 10th August, 2018...Equity Group Foundation is hosting 588 *Wings to Fly* alumni at Pangani Girls High School for the 2nd Annual Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Convention.

The three –day convention that kicked off on Wednesday 8th August, will serve as an induction and sensitization session for the scholars who will be joining TVET institutions during the September 2018 intake, after placement by Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Services (KUCCPS).

During the convention, the scholars will also be offered career guidance & counseling through insights from TVET trainees as well as soft skills in the workplace. They will also be sensitized on the various TVET courses available and the need to pursue Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Agriculture, and Fisheries (STEMAF) courses.

TVET is steadily gaining popularity among government priorities for education and national development agendas. The TVET ACT 2013 was designed to address the job skills gap with a view of availing more employment opportunities for the youth that are in line with the needs of our growing economy.

The convention comes on the backdrop of a bilateral agreement between the Governments of Kenya and Germany, where Equity Group has been identified to administer scholarship funds on behalf of the Ministry of Education and KfW. These funds are directed towards providing *Wings to Fly* alumni with access to partial scholarships for training in TVET Institutions. Equity Group will offer support to the scholars for their application for further financing from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB). Speaking during the opening of the convention, Equity Group Managing Director and CEO and EGF Executive Chairman Dr. James Mwangi said: “This is your chance to be part of the change makers in the community. You have been given a chance to pursue careers of your choice. Take advantage of the opportunities you have before you and build your networks. Be an inspiration to other scholars who will come after you. The world is yours to conquer.”

Senior Assistant Director of Education at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Edith Wekesa advised the scholars to exhibit digital age literacy as well as embracing technology. “Due to the evolving changes in the workplace and the world in general, the soft skills that were needed 10 years ago are not the same soft skills needed today. Workers in the workplace need to be competitive and continuously improve on their soft skills,” she added.

The annual event is part of the leadership, mentoring, social transformation and career guidance programs run by Equity Group Foundation under its Education Pillar.

Among the speakers invited are; Communications and Customer Experience Manager-HELB, Wavinya Muigai who will talk on financial aid and HELB opportunities, PS for TVET, Dr. Kevit Desai who will speak on the role of TVET in the Big Four Agenda and Director-MoE, Darius Mogaka who will speak on soft skills in the workplace.

Equity Group Foundation TVET programme provides the *Wings to Fly* Programme alumni with enterprise skills to gain life and employable skills. As of last year, 3000 beneficiaries of the *Wings to Fly* Scholarship Programme had successfully transitioned into TVET institutions countrywide.

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About Equity Group Foundation

Equity Group Foundation was established by Equity Group to create the financial and operational infrastructure for its social programs aimed at the low-income population. This innovative and creative vehicle has fully transformed the concept of philanthropy and corporate social responsibility. While Equity Group Foundation champions the social economic transformation of the people of Africa and seeks partnership along seven cluster thematic areas, Equity Group provides the infrastructure of delivery hence reducing the operational cost of the Foundation and increasing the rate of return on any social investment. The seven key social thematic areas are Education and Leadership development, Financial Literacy, Financial Inclusion, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Agriculture, Health, and Environment.

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