

MEDIA RELEASE

**ATTENTION: Editors and Social Security Writers
For Immediate Release
DATE : 10 July 2013**

Noncompliant SASSA grants to lapse end of July 2013

South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) started a process to biometrically register social grants beneficiaries with the aim of rooting out fraud and corruption and cleaning its database in order to improve service delivery. The closing date for re-registration was 31 March 2013, and was then extended by the Minister of Social Development Ms. Bathabile Dlamini to the end of April 2013.

SASSA is aware that, for many beneficiaries, social grants are the only source of income and that was the reason why non-compliant beneficiaries were sent letters and given an additional 90 days which expires at the end of July 2013. SASSA would like to inform beneficiaries that the *90 days* grace period for re-registration is ending in July 2013 and all grants not captured by then will be lapsed.

As a result of unregulated deductions that were previously withdrawn from the beneficiaries' accounts, SASSA wishes to notify beneficiaries that only one deduction for funeral policies will be allowed and the deduction will not exceed 10% of the value of the social grants amount as permissible by the Social Assistance Act.

SASSA has received complaints from beneficiaries about deductions equivalent to the value of their grants. Such illegal deductions are unlawful and constitute a criminal offence. The public is urged to report illegal behaviour by loan sharks to SASSA, the SAPS or the National Credit Regulator

SASSA services are free and enquiries can be directed toll-free to 0800 60 10 11 or SASSA Customer Care 012 400 2322

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Released by South African Social Security Agency (SASSA)
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[*paying the right social grant, to the right person,
at the right time and place. NJALO!*