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PROPOSED N. W. T.
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM
BASIC PRINCIPLES

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
MARCH 2, 1982

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM - BASIC PRINCIPLES

A. DEFINITIONS

Native student - is an applicant who is of Inuit, Dene or Metis status.

Non-native student - is an applicant who is not of Inuit, Dene or Metis status.

Basic Grant - is a grant of money to cover the cost of tuition, transportation for two trips from the home community to the nearest post-secondary institution, and the actual cost of prescribed books and materials up to a maximum of \$250.00. See Section E-1 for details.

Supplementary Grant - is a grant of money to cover anticipated costs in addition to those covered by the basic grant. See Appendix I for details.

N.W.T. Student Loan Plan - is a loan program intended to provide additional assistance to applicants who are eligible for the basic grant only, and to provide assistance to applicants who are not eligible for any grant. See Section E-5 for details.

Mature Student - is an applicant who is at least 21 years of age; who has reached an academic achievement level normally associated with successful completion of a vocational grade ten (10) program or G.E.D. (General Education Development) at the grade 12 level; and who has been accepted by a postsecondary institution of his choice, for a particular course of studies selected by the applicant.

Special Grant - is a grant of money to cover some or all of the costs of postsecondary education in such amounts and in such study or training areas as are designated by the Minister of Education.

B. PREAMBLE

Residents of the Northwest Territories require access to postsecondary institutions in order to complete, or further, their education and training. The Government of the Northwest Territories is prepared to provide financial assistance to eligible students who choose to enroll in a program at an approved postsecondary institution.

Both the form - grant or loan - and the amount of assistance will vary from one category of students to another.

The categories of eligible students for assistance purposes will be:

1. - Native;
2. - Non-native who meet prescribed N.W.T. schooling and residency requirements; and
3. - Non-native who meet minimum residency requirements.

The form of assistance available to eligible students will be:

Category 1 - All assistance in the form of a grant.

Category 2 - Assistance in the form of a basic grant and an N.W.T. Student Loan.

Category 3 - Assistance in the form of an N.W.T. Student Loan only.

Categories of assistance and funding levels established for approved programs will be the same for all native students.

C. OBJECTIVES

1. To make postsecondary education available to all eligible residents of the N.W.T. by providing financial assistance to cover all, or part, of the costs of such education or training.
2. For native students, assistance will be in such form and in such amounts so as:
 - (a) To make postsecondary education more accessible by providing adequate financial resources;
 - (b) To achieve a participation rate in postsecondary education at least equal to that of the non-native Canadian population;
 - (c) To improve the employment opportunities - especially for those in the 18-30 age group;
 - (d) To provide qualified native students to help meet the managerial and professional needs of communities and so serve the local-control process; and
 - (e) To increase the capability for self-development and self-realization.

D. ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

1. Eligibility for the basic grant will be based on:

- (a) residency in the N.W.T., and schooling taken within the N.W.T. education system;
- (b) acceptance of the student for registration at an approved post-secondary institution:
 - upon completion of a high school program
 - as a "mature student"; and
- (c) the demonstrated willingness of the student to meet the academic demands of the institution and the financial management requirements of the program.

2. (1) An applicant is eligible for a basic grant to cover four academic years if:

- (a) he has completed
 - (i) at least eight years of schooling in the Territories of which at least four were completed between grade levels seven and and twelve, or
 - (ii) at least five years of schooling in the Territories of which at least three were completed between grade levels seven and twelve plus such further number of years of schooling completed outside the Territories and at no expense to the Territories as brings the aggregate to at least eight years;
- (b) his parents, if any, during the whole of the years of schooling referred to in paragraph (a), were resident in the Territories; and
- (c) he has not been resident outside the Territories since first becoming eligible to receive a grant, except for periods spent in the service of the Canadian Armed Forces or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or as a student pursuing a course of studies not covered by a grant, for a period of or periods aggregating three years or more.

(2) An applicant is eligible for a basic grant to cover three academic years if:

- (a) he has completed;
 - (i) at least six years of schooling in the Territories, or
 - (ii) at least three years of schooling in the Territories plus such further number of years of schooling, being his final years of schooling, completed outside the Territories and at no expense to the Territories as brings the aggregate to at least six years

- (b) subject to subparagraph (2)(a)(11), the last four years of his schooling were completed at a school in the Territories;
 - (c) his parents, if any, during the whole of the years of schooling referred to in paragraph (a), were resident in the Territories;
 - (d) he commences the course of studies to which the grant relates at or before the fourth academic year after finishing his schooling;
 - (e) he has not been absent from the Territories since finishing his schooling, other than for reasons of health or pursuing a course of studies not covered by a grant, for a period of or periods aggregating two years or more; and
 - (f) his parents, if any, remain resident in the Territories throughout the period from the termination of his schooling until the end of the first academic year covered by the grant or the earlier marriage of the student.
- (3) An applicant is eligible for a basic grant to cover two academic years if:
- (a) he has completed at least four years of schooling in the Territories;
 - (b) the last three years of his schooling were completed at a school in the Territories;
 - (c) his parents, if any, during the whole of the years of schooling referred to in paragraph (a), were resident in the Territories;
 - (d) he commences the course of studies to which the grant relates at or before the fourth academic year after finishing his schooling;
 - (e) he has not been absent from the Territories since finishing his schooling, other than for reasons of health or pursuing a course of studies not covered by a grant, for a period of or periods aggregating one year or more; and
 - (f) his parents, if any, remain resident in the Territories throughout the whole of the period from the termination of his schooling until the end of the period covered by the grant or the earlier marriage of the student.
- (4) An applicant is eligible for a basic grant to cover one academic year if:
- (a) the last two years of his schooling were completed at a school in the Territories;

- (b) his parents, if any, during both those years of schooling, were resident in the N.W.T.;
 - (c) he commences the course of study to which the grant relates at or before the fourth academic year after finishing his schooling;
 - (d) he has not been absent from the Territories since finishing his schooling, other than for reasons of health or pursuing periods aggregating one year or more; and
 - (e) his parents, if any, remain resident in the Territories throughout the whole of the period from the termination of his schooling until the end of the period covered by the grant or the earlier marriage of the student.
3. No person is eligible for a basic grant to cover more than four academic years.
4. Eligibility for N.W.T. loan assistance will be based on:
- (a) residency in the N.W.T.-minimum two years;
 - (b) acceptance of the student for registration at an approved post-secondary institution:
 - upon completion of a high school program
 - as a "mature student";
 - (c) the demonstrated willingness of the student to meet the academic demands of the institution and the financial management requirements of the program; and
 - (d) satisfactory progress at the institution. Loans will be approved on a year-to-year basis.

E. FORM OF ASSISTANCE

1. Basic Grant
2. Supplementary Grant - See Appendix I
3. Special Grants
4. Merit Scholarship
5. N.W.T. Student Loan Plan

1. Basic Grant - This grant is available to those students who meet the residency and schooling requirements.
 - (a) Travel - To cover the cost of two return trips for the student - and his dependents if applicable - from his place of residency to the nearest postsecondary institution at which the approved course is available.
 - (b) Tuition Fees - to cover the full cost of the tuition fees.
 - (c) Books and Supplies - To cover the actual costs up to a maximum of \$250.00 per year.
2. Supplementary Grant - This grant is available to native students in keeping with the Federal policy with respect to postsecondary student aid to native students in Canada. Where it is applicable, the supplementary grant will provide additional assistance to cover such costs as:
 - (i) a living allowance
 - (ii) a child care allowance
 - (iii) a special tutorial allowance
 - (iv) a special equipment allowance
 - (v) a special services and contingencies allowance
 - (vi) a special shelter allowance
 - (vii) a special local transportation allowance

The supplementary grant will consist of amounts in one or more of these categories of assistance and the scale of allowances for each category will be guided by those amounts as determined, from time to time, by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs for its postsecondary Education Assistance Program.

3. Special Grants

- (a) Priority Occupations - To encourage students to enter into training in occupational categories for which there is an immediate or long-term need. The categories of occupations and the amount and form of assistance for each will be determined by the Minister of Education from time to time and the assistance may include the basic grant and some, or all, of the supplementary grant.
- (b) Native Language/Second Language Study Programs - To encourage students to enter study programs to increase fluency in that language or a second language, or to extend the ability of the student to teach, or to teach in, that native language or a second language.

- (c) Postgraduate studies - To encourage students who are capable to enter programs leading to an advanced degree or a professional licence. The areas of study eligible for assistance and the amount and form of assistance will be determined from time to time by the Minister of Education.
- (d) "Mature Student" Grants - To recognize, and to make provision for, the needs of those students who have gained acceptance to an approved institution, but who do not qualify for assistance under the provisions of the normal categories of grants. The eligible programs and the amount and form of assistance will be determined, from time to time, by the Minister of Education, and assistance may include the basic grant and some, or all of the supplementary grant.
- (e) Special Aid Grants - To provide assistance for special programs as identified, from time to time, by the Student Aid Review Board of by the Minister of Education. The amount of assistance may include the basic grant and some, or all, of the supplementary grant.

4. Merit Scholarships and Postgraduate Incentives

(a) High school graduation scholarship -

A \$500.00 merit scholarship awarded to eligible graduates of N.W.T. high schools who obtain - in approved Grade XII subjects - first class standing (80% or over) and who attend an approved postsecondary institution.

(b) Postgraduate Incentives Scholarship

An annual scholarship of \$1000.00 for a Master Degree and \$1500.00 for a Doctoral Degree awarded to eligible students to recognize the extra financial demands on postgraduate students and to encourage those capable of obtaining advanced degrees and professional licences to proceed to further studies.

5. N.W.T. Student Loan Plan

Eligible students may apply for an N.W.T. Student Loan to help cover costs incurred while attending a postsecondary institution. The details of the proposed plan would be as follows:

(a) Legislation and funding:

- There will be a Student Loan Ordinance separate from the Student Grants Ordinance.

- The Ordinance will establish a revolving fund to be known as the Students Loan Fund.
- Funds for loans will come from appropriations by the Legislative Assembly.
- All approved loans to eligible persons will be made from this Fund.
- All repayments of principal on loans made will be credited to this Fund.
- Remissions or write-offs of all or part of outstanding loans will be charged against the Fund.

(b) Terms and conditions of loan:

- There will be a limit on the maximum loan amount available to a student per year.
- Parental or student contribution will not be required.
- A loan will be interest-free for the duration of the training program and for up to six months after the completion of the program.
- One year of loan funds will be forgiven for every two years of service in the N.W.T. after graduation.
- The interest on a student loan will be at a preferential rate.
- For a student who receives the basic grant the maximum yearly loan will be:

Student with no dependents	\$3200.00
Student with one dependent	4000.00
Each additional dependent	500.00

- For a student who does not receive the basic grant the maximum yearly loan will be:

Student with no dependents	\$4400.00
Student with one dependent	5200.00
Each additional dependent	500.00

- For each student there shall be a limit to the total amount of loan in force at any one time. That amount shall be the sum of the loan approved for each year of the program plus the appropriate amount for one additional semester.
- A student who is eligible to receive both the basic and the supplementary grant is not eligible for an N.W.T. Student Loan.

(c) Eligibility for a loan

- A minimum of two years residency in the N.W.T. will be required.
- The applicant must be accepted for registration at an approved post - secondary institution.
- The applicant must be a full-time student and take a full course load.
- The work of each academic year must be successfully completed.

(d) Cost indicators

The cost categories for the Student Loan Plan will be:

- Loss of interest on funds loaned;
- Administration costs for processing loans;
- Administration costs for processing remissions and collections; and
- Costs for write-off of loans deemed to be non-collectible.

F. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

There will be -

1. Four Regional Student Aid Boards
2. One Student Aid Review Board
3. An Administration Unit

1. Regional Student Aid Boards

(a) Location - There shall be four Regional Student Aid Boards, one for each of the following areas and located as indicated:

- Eastern Arctic Student Aid Board which would serve Baffin and Keewatin Regions and which would meet in Frobisher Bay.
- South Mackenzie Student Aid Board which would serve Fort Smith Region and which would meet in Fort Smith.
- Mackenzie Delta Student Aid Board which would serve Inuvik Region and would meet in Inuvik.
- Yellowknife Student Aid Board which would serve the Yellowknife area and the Central Arctic Region and which would meet in Yellowknife.

(b) Membership

- Eastern Arctic Student Aid Board - 3 members. One member to represent the Baffin Region and to be recommended by the Local Education Authorities of that Region. One member to represent the Keewatin Region and to be recommended by the Local Education Authorities of that Region. One Superintendent of Education.
- South Mackenzie Student Aid Board - 5 members. One member from each of the Fort Smith, Hay River, Fort Simpson, Rae-Edzo areas to be recommended by the Local Education Authorities in those areas. One Superintendent of Education.
- Mackenzie Delta Student Aid Board - 3 members. Two members to be recommended by the Local Education Authorities. One Superintendent of Education.
- Yellowknife Student Aid Board - 4 members. One member to be recommended by the Community Education Committee, Sir John Franklin School. One member to be recommended by the Local Education Authorities of the Central Arctic Region. One member to be jointly recommended by the Yellowknife Boards of Education. One Superintendent of Education.

(c) Functions

- (i) To receive all applications for financial assistance from applicants resident in that Region.
- (ii) To determine the eligibility of applicants for financial assistance in accordance with the Regulations.
- (iii) To recommend approval in principle of those applications that are deemed to be eligible, including the form of the assistance and the duration of the entitlement, pending submission of the required documentation to the Secretary, Student Financial Aid Review Board.
- (iv) To submit all applications - including those which it considers to be ineligible - to the Student Financial Aid Review Board.

2. Student Financial Aid Review Board

- (a) Location - Yellowknife. To meet as required.
- (b) Membership - Five members, consisting of Chairman of each Regional Board plus the Deputy Minister of Education.

(c) Function - To review all applications - new or renewal - which are submitted to it by the Regional Boards and to approve those which meet the eligibility requirements.

- To submit to the Minister of Education any application which has been ruled ineligible for assistance, or any application for which the applicant disputes the form or duration of the assistance awarded, provided that in each case the Board has received an appeal on such a ruling by the applicant.

- To interpret the Regulations and to establish guidelines and policies as required from time to time.

- To conduct an annual review of levels of student aid and to recommend new levels of aid to the Minister of Education.

3. Administration Unit

Location - Student Services Section
Support Services Branch
Dept. of Education,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Function - To receive applications from Regional Student Aid Boards and to prepare these applications for presentation to the Student Financial Aid Review Board.

- To process grant applications approved by the Student Financial Aid Review Board.

- To process the applications for N.W.T. Student Loans and for Canada Student Loans.

- To monitor the disbursement of funds to students in accordance with approved requirements.

- To supervise the counselling service provided to the students.

- To maintain records and statistics relating to financial aid to students.

G. FUNDING

All funds for grants, loans, and scholarships will be included in the budget estimates of the Department of Education and provided by way of the annual appropriations by the Legislative Assembly.

H. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Students presently receiving assistance under the provisions of the Student Grants and Bursaries Ordinance, 1979, or prior legislation, will continue to receive such assistance in the same form and amount until 30 June 1983.

I. INUIT - DENE - METIS

(Inuit) Inuk means a person who is a direct descendant of a person who is or was of the race of aborigines - resident in the N.W.T. - commonly referred to as Eskimo and who possesses at least one-quarter Inuk blood.

Dene (Indian) has the same meaning as it has in the Indian Act insofar as that Act is applicable to the N.W.T. See Appendix II.

Metis is a person a) who was born of or adopted by parents, one or both of whom were of Indian descent, resident in the N.W.T. through birth, adoption or marriage, or

b) who is related to a person of Indian descent, resident in the N.W.T. through birth, adoption or marriage..

Department of Education
Northwest Territories.

APPENDIX I

Details of the Supplementary Grant

1. Living Allowance

To cover normal daily living costs of food, lodging, local travel, recreation, etc. Current rates are consistent with those paid by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission.

Single student	\$100.00
Student with 1 dependant	126.00
Student with 2 dependants	136.00
Student with 3 dependants	144.00
Student with 4 dependants	153.00

2. Child Care Allowance

To defray the costs of child care for single parent families or where both parents are enrolled in a program.

3. Special Tutorial Allowance

Upon the written recommendation of a student's dean, the cost of tutorial assistance to overcome special areas of academic weakness may be paid.

4. Special Equipment and Clothing Allowance

To cover the costs of special clothing and or equipment required to follow the program of studies (i.e., survival gear, surveying equipment, microscopes, stethoscopes, etc.). These items approved for purchase or rental only when certified as necessary by the institution.

5. Special Services and Contingencies Allowance

If required, to meet student emergencies such as travel costs for emergency trips home for a family funeral, etc.

6. Special Shelter Allowance

To provide relief from excessively high rental costs where the accommodation approved is the only available acceptable rental accommodation.

7. Special Local Transportation Allowance

To meet daily transportation costs when the approved location of accommodation in relation to the training institution requires extra ordinary travel costs to attend classes.

APPENDIX II

Excerpt from the Indian Act

11. Subject to section 12, a person is entitled to be registered if Persons entitled to be registered.
that person
- (a) on the 26th day of May, 1874, was, for the purposes of An Act providing for the organization of the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, and for the management of Indian and Ordnance Lands, chapter 42 of the statutes of 1868, as amended by section 6 of chapter 6 of the statutes of 1869, and section 8 of chapter 21 of the statutes of 1874, considered to be entitled to hold, use or enjoy the lands and other immovable property belonging to or appropriated to the use of the various tribes, bands or bodies of Indians in Canada;
- (b) is a member of a band
- (i) for whose use and benefit, in common, lands have been set apart or since the 26th day of May, 1874, have been agreed by treaty to be set apart, or
- (ii) that has been declared by the Governor in Council to be a band for the purposes of this Act;
- (c) is a male person who is a direct descendant in the male line of a male person described in paragraph (a) or (b);
- (d) is the legitimate child of
- (i) a male person described in paragraph (a) or (b), or
- (ii) a person described in paragraph (c);
- (e) is the illegitimate child of a female person described in paragraph (a), (b) or (d); or
- (f) is the wife or widow of a person who is entitled to be registered by virtue of paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e). Rep. and New. 1956, c. 40, s. 3 (1).

