



Post-Secondary Education Accountability Framework

2024-25

Government of
Northwest Territories

K'áhshó got'jne xadā k'é hederı ɔedjht'é yerıııwę nı dé dúle.
Dene Kádá

ʔerıht'ıs Dēne Sų́ıné yatı t'a huts'elkēr xa beyáyatı theɔɔ ɔat'e, nuwe ts'ēn yóftı.
Dēne Sų́ıné

Edı gondı dehgáh got'je zhatıé k'éé edat'éh enahddhę nıde naxets'é edahıfı.
Dene Zhatıé

Jii gwandak izhıı ginjık vat'atr'ıjáhch'uu zhit yınohthan jı', dııts'át ginohkhıı.
Dınjıı Zhu' Ginjık

Uvanıttuaq ilıchurısukupku Inuvıaluktun, ququaqłuta.
Inuvıaluktun

Ć'đđ nŋ'ḃΔċ ʌʎLJΔʎċ Δ.ḃ'ŋɔċ-ḃ'ʎLɔŋ'ı, ɔ-ēċŋ-ḃċ ɔ-ḃċʎ'ḃ-ḃ'ɔŋċ.
Inuktitut

Hapkua titıqqat pijumagupkit Inuınnaqtun, uvaptınnut hıvajarłutıt.
Inuınnaqtun

kıspin kı nitawıhtın ē nıhıyawıhk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsınān.
nēhıyawēwin

Tıjchɔ yatı k'éè. Dı wegodı newɔ dè, gots'o gonede.
Tıjchɔ

Indigenous Languages
request_indigenous_languages@gov.nt.ca

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Post-Secondary Education Accountability Framework

This Post-Secondary Accountability Framework (Framework) is the structure to provide monitoring and evaluation of the NWT post-secondary education system. The NWT's [Post-Secondary Education Act](#) (Act) created the need for a reporting structure to ensure the quality and development of the Northwest Territories (NWT) post-secondary education system.

Historically, NWT post-secondary institutions entered into a contribution agreement with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) and provided annual reporting according to the [Financial Administration Act](#). This Framework outlines the information that NWT post-secondary institutions are required to report on annually. They may choose to incorporate the data required within their existing annual reporting structure or develop a separate report.

ECE post-secondary education vision is “Every resident of the Northwest Territories has an equitable opportunity to reach their full potential by obtaining a post-secondary education from institutions that are student-centered, accessible, high quality, relevant and accountable.”

To reach this vision, the following objectives have been developed:

- Consumer protection for students and employers
- Process of recognition that ensures effective governance and quality assurance
- Establish a role for the Minister and GNWT to guide and support development of the post-secondary system
- Growth of the NWT post-secondary education system reviewed through the lens of increased number of transfer agreements, students attending NWT institutions from other jurisdictions, programs developed in the NWT, research projects lead by NWT institutions and research projects partnered with NWT institutions, indicating that other jurisdictions have confidence in the education being provided in the NWT
- Greater collaboration and integration

All post-secondary institutions accredited under the Act are required to provide annual reports by:

- The date set out in a contribution agreement; or
- October 31st of the reporting year (for institutions which do not have a contribution agreement with the GNWT).

Reporting Required

For definitions see [Appendix A](#).

Application Data

- Total number of applications
- Applications by NWT high school students
- Applicants of Indigenous descent
- Applications by NWT residents
- Applications by non-NWT residents
- Applicants who identify as having a disability
- Applicants who identify as female
- Applicants who identify as gender diverse or unspecified
- Applicants who identify as male
- Yield rates
 - Number of program applications received
 - Number of program applications approved by the institution

Student Acceptance Data

- Total number of acceptances for admission
- Total number of acceptances for admission directly from NWT high schools
- Total number of acceptances for admission by applicants of Indigenous descent
- Total number of acceptances for admission into a French-language program
- Total number of acceptances for admission to students who identify as having a disability
- Total number of acceptances for admission to students who identify as female
- Total number of acceptances for admission to students who identify as gender diverse or unspecified
- Total number of acceptances for admission to students who identify as male
- Yield rates
 - Number of offers of admission accepted by a student where the student attends

Enrolment Data

- New and returning credit students full and part-time student headcount by program area
 - University transfer
 - Degree and post-graduate programs
 - Certificates
 - Diplomas
 - Professional Development, continuing education, and courses of interest
 - Academic upgrading, skill development and language proficiency
 - Trades

- Pre-Trades
- Industrial Training
- Open Studies
- International student enrolment
 - University transfer
 - Degree and post-graduate programs
 - Certificates
 - Diplomas
 - Professional Development, continuing education, and courses of interest
 - Academic upgrading, skill development and language proficiency
 - Trades
 - Pre-trades
 - Industrial Training
 - Open Studies

Student Outcome Data

- Number of University Level Programs
 - Certificates
 - Diplomas
 - Degrees
 - Trades
 - Pre-trades
 - Industrial training
 - Academic upgrading, skill development and language proficiency
 - Open Studies
- Number of Professional Development, Continuing Education, and Courses of Interest Programs
 - Certificates
 - Diplomas
 - Degrees
 - Trades
 - Pre-trades
 - Industrial Training
 - Academic upgrading, skill development and language proficiency
 - Open Studies
- Number of Academic and Skill Development Programs
 - Certificates
 - Diplomas
 - Degrees
 - Trades
 - Academic upgrading, skill development and language proficiency
 - Open Studies

Quality Assurance Data

This data is to ensure there is continuous quality improvement between external quality assurance reviews which can be between three and ten years apart.

- Number of post-secondary education institutional internal quality assurance program reviews completed within the reporting period.
- Results of faculty satisfaction survey
- Results of staff satisfaction survey
- Number of responses from faculty on quality improvement initiatives
- Number of quality improvement initiatives tabled by faculty
- Number of responses from staff on quality improvement initiatives
- Number of quality improvement initiatives tabled by staff
- Number of faculty that sit on committees
- Number of staff that sit on committees
- Number of seats on committees, boards, projects etc. designated for students
- Number of seats on committees, boards, projects etc. designated for students that are filled

Consumer Protection

Employer/Student Surveys (to be jointly administered by the Department and PSE partners)

- Employer surveys
 - Reporting on preparedness of their new hires from post-secondary programming for their area of work
- Student surveys
 - Number of graduates working directly or indirectly in a field related to their studies
 - Student satisfaction six months after graduation
 - Is the student working in their field of study
 - Is the student satisfied that they were provided with the necessary skills and knowledge in their program of study
- Number of student complaints
- Number of student complaints resolved

Faculty

- Total number of faculty
- Number of faculty who identify as NWT Indigenous
- Number of faculty who identify as Indigenous, not an NWT Indigenous Aboriginal
- Number of faculty who delivers programming in French
- Programs offered in languages other than English:
 - French
 - Indigenous (not limited to official languages)
 - Other

Program Partnership Reporting Letter of Authorization Data

NWT post-secondary institutions that are offering a program in partnership with another post-secondary institution from another jurisdiction will report on the program data specific to NWT students.

- Data reported is specific to the program being run in the NWT

Post-secondary institutions from another jurisdiction authorized through the letter of authorization process offering a program or programs in the NWT will report on the part of their program being provided in the NWT

- There is no requirement for a post-secondary institution from another jurisdiction to provide an audited financial statement
- There is a requirement to provide financial information specific to the program being offered in the NWT

Format of programs being offered (requested by PSE partners)

- Number of programs offered in-person
- Number of programs offered as a hybrid
- Number of programs offered online

Financial - This information is being collected for internal use only and will not be rolled up in the public report. As per the *Post-Secondary Education Act* sec. 30 (2), this information will be used for financial stability calculations on an ongoing basis between quality assurance reviews.

- Audited Financial Statement

Appendix A: Definitions

Academic upgrading skill development and language proficiency

- Talents and habits that benefit academic pursuits such as learning, research, report writing, time management, studying etc. (ESL, Older Worker Programs, University Access Pathways)
- Includes adult upgrading courses and programs
- Includes literacy and essential skills development
- Includes programs and courses designed to academically prepare students for further study
- Includes programs designed to enhance life skills
- Includes language proficiency courses that are not part of a post-secondary credit program

Applications

- Completed applications received from students for each program
 - The reporting is to be broken down into completed applications submitted by international applicants and Canadian applicants
- Accepted
 - It is understood that individuals may apply for more than one program

Board

- Governing body of a post-secondary institution

Certificate that can lead to a degree (must have articulated transferability)

- Program provide an introduction to the discipline or occupation through essential workplace skills and knowledge development.
- Students are exposed to foundational concepts within a framework of academic, personal management and teamwork skills
- Programs are typically applied and practical
- Duration is typically 1 year or less (1 – 2 semesters)

Certificate of Registration

- A certificate issued under section 28 or renewed under section 28.1 of the Act giving a person permission to provide a program in the NWT
- An institution approved to operate in the NWT by the Minister

Completion

- When a student completes a program (program as defined in this document)

Quality Assurance Committee

- A post-secondary education advisory committee established under section 7 of the Act

- The Minister may, in accordance with the regulations and by order, establish one or more post-secondary education advisory committees to:
 - Review matters relating to quality assurance referred to it by the Minister in accordance with the Act
 - Advise the Minister, at the Minister's request, on matters of quality assurance in post-secondary education in the NWT
 - Perform other duties with respect to matters of quality assurance in post-secondary education in the NWT as directed by the Minister
- Quality assurance body
 - A body that is responsible for the review of post-secondary quality assurance matters
- Advisory committee
- The Quality Assurance Review Advisory Committee
- The Campus Alberta Quality Council

Complaint

- An expression of dissatisfaction and/or objection of something that is unfair, unacceptable or otherwise not up to normal standards
 - Could relate, for example but not limited too, to services, processes, structures, standards or interactions
- Reporting is on formal complaint reporting as set out in the post-secondary institutions complaint policy

Consumer Protection

- Evaluating and monitoring institutions/organizations that provide post-secondary education to ensure NWT standards are being met and the quality of the education is what is necessary for a student to be successful in their field of study
- Students should receive clear, accurate and timely information about their program
- Student contracts must be in writing and agreed to via signature between the institution and student
- Students should have easy access to a mechanism for dealing with complaints that is easy to understand

Degree

- As described in section 1 (2) of the Act:
 - For the purposes of the Act, a degree means one or both of the following:
 - A document of academic achievement granted or conferred by an educational institution that includes terms or nomenclature or any derivation of them that, regardless of the specific academic or professional discipline in which it is awarded, would be reasonably understood as an undergraduate or graduate degree, including, but not limited to, a document including the terms bachelor,

bachelor's baccalaureate, master, master's, doctor, doctoral, doctorate, B.A., B.Comm, B.Sc., B.Ed., M.A., M.B.A., M.Sc., Med.D or Ph.D.

- A diploma, certificate, document or other thing that implies or would be reasonably understood as the granting or conferring of a degree, including, without limiting the foregoing, a diploma, certificate, document or other thing that includes a reference to bachelor, bachelor's baccalaureate, master, master's doctor, doctoral or doctorate
 - Referring to an actual item which would be given to the student upon graduation, not the conceptual idea of a certificate or diploma.
- Credential or document of recognition
 - Bachelor and applied degree
 - Masters
 - Doctoral

Diploma

- Program provides the skills/knowledge and attitudes required to allow individuals to work in a broad range of technical, administrative, professionally oriented occupations
- Graduates exercise professional responsibility in a field of practice
- Programs may ladder to a bachelor's degree or a post-diploma certificate (must have articulated transferability or be part of a degree admission requirement)
- Comprised of primarily post-secondary credit based courses
- May include post-degree or advanced diploma programs that require advanced post-secondary admission requirements
- 60 – 80 credits

Disability

- Persistent or prolonged disability that is expected to last for a period of at least 12 months
 - An impairment, including a physical, mental intellectual, cognitive, learning, communication or sensory impairment
 - A functional limitation that restricts the ability of a person to perform the daily activities necessary to participate in studies at a post-secondary level

Enrolment

- Full Time - means a person who is enrolled as a student in a program of studies at an approved institution for a semester during which the person will be attending and taking at least:
 - 40% of a full course load of studies at a post-secondary level in the case of a person who has a permanent disability and elects to be considered as a full-time student,
 - 60% of a full course load of studies at a post-secondary level in the case of a semester
- Part Time
 - Students enrolled in a program taking less than full-time requirements
 - Is not open studies

- Open Studies
 - Post-secondary education courses without program admission.
 - Credits earned may be considered toward a future degree or diploma.

Faculty

- A body of educators, whose aim is to impart knowledge to the students
- Individuals hired with a purpose of providing education to students
- Academic staff such as professors, researchers, scholars, and lecturers

Hybrid

- Means combination of online and in person delivery

Indigenous Aboriginal

- According to the GNWT [Affirmative Action Policy](#), Indigenous Aboriginal refers to persons who are descendants of the Dene, Inuit or Metis people, indigenous to the present boundaries of the Northwest Territories and includes any Aboriginal person resident at birth pursuant to Section 23 of the [Vital Statistics Act](#)

Indigenous Student (as defined in the Student Financial Assistance handbook)

- Indigenous student means coming from the Northwest Territories:
 - Member or, or eligible to become a member of, an NWT Dene Band
 - Person, or a descendant of a person who, on or before December 31, 1921, resided in that part of Canada that on April 1, 1999 comprised the NWT and is of indigenous descent
 - A descendant of a person described above
 - Person, or a descendant of a person who is enrolled, or eligible to be enrolled, as a beneficiary under section 5 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement
 - A descendant of a person described above
 - Person who is enrolled, or eligible to be enrolled, as a Tłıchǫ citizen under Chapter 3 of the Land Claims and Self-Government Agreement among the Tłıchǫ, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada signed on August 25, 2003
 - Person who is enrolled, or eligible to be enrolled, according to the Deline Agreement under Chapter 5 of the Deline Agreement as defined in section 2 of the *Deline Final Self-Government Agreement Act (Canada)*
 - Holds a registered treaty number, land claim beneficiary or Metis number

Industrial Training

- Programs of practical courses targeted towards skilled work

Institution

- Designated learning institution (DLI) is a school that admits international students

- Appears on the Government of Canada's DLI list of approved post-secondary education institutions
- Post-secondary Institution
 - A public post-secondary institution
 - provides a program of study
 - is established under an Act of the Legislative Assembly
 - receives regular and ongoing public funding
 - is a public agency under the *Financial Administration Act*
 - A private college
 - A university that does not receive regular and ongoing public funding and is not a public agency
 - A private training institution
 - A school, or place in the Northwest Territories
 - That provides a program of instruction, by classroom instruction or distance education, and
 - That has been issued a certificate of registration under section 28 of the Act
 - Any other institution or class of institution prescribed by the Minister
- Partner Institution
 - Where an agreement has been set between two institutions to provide a program in the NWT
 - Can be institutions within the NWT or across jurisdictions

Letter of Authorization

- A process where the Minister gives a post-secondary education institution from another jurisdiction permission to provide post-secondary education in the NWT
- A process where the Minister gives an NWT post-secondary institution authority to provide a program, in the NWT, from another jurisdiction

Professional Development, continuing education, and courses of interest

- Enhance employability and career advancement
- Occupational small c certificate or micro-credential
- Courses taken for student interest and do not lead to a credential
- Is formal learning activities that are not focused on a post-secondary education certification outcome
- Support professional licensing requirements to ensure individuals stay current with the necessary knowledge and skills

Program

- Program of study
 - A group of courses that, on completion, leads to the granting of a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Program of instruction
 - A course or series of courses of instruction which, when successfully completed, results in the student receiving a certificate, diploma or degree from a post-secondary institution
- Vocational training program
 - A program that provides training in the skill and knowledge required for employment in a vocation as prescribed by the Minister PVT regulations section 2 (1) and (2)), by classroom instruction or distance education
- Degree program
 - A program of study that leads to the granting of a degree
- Certificate or diploma program
 - A program of study that leads to the granting of a certificate or diploma
- Grouping of courses that does not lead to certificate, diploma or degree but to the completion of assembled courses by the post-secondary institution for the specific development of a set of skills and knowledge such as, trades, upgrading, or continued education

Quality Assurance

- A process to ensure that post secondary institutions meet standards set by the Minister.
- A process to ensure public confidence in the Northwest Territories post-secondary education system.
- A process to ensure student and employer protection
- A process of recognition

Staff

- Individuals who work at a post-secondary institution or organization that are not faculty.
- Staff administer, keep the institution/organization functional, presentable and safe
- Support functions such as secretaries' , assistants, registrar, clerks, dean, president, librarians

Student

- A person who is enrolled in a program delivered under a certificate of registration
- A person who is enrolled in a program

Surveys

- Student surveys are carried out
 - Overall, your program is giving you knowledge and skills that will be useful in your future career
 - Overall quality of the learning experiences in this program
 - The overall quality of the services in the institution
 - The overall quality of the facilities/resources in the institution
- Employer/Industry surveys
 - Was the individual prepared with the right skills and knowledge to carry out the tasks/duties of the position hired

Trades

- The Minister, under section 3 of the [Apprenticeship, Trade, and Occupation Certification Act](#) and every enabling power, makes a Designated Trades Order
 - The trades set out in the Schedule of the Designated Order, established by regulation number R-006-2010, and amended by R-106-2018, are designated trades appropriate for apprenticeship or for the issuing of certificates of qualification.
- For the purposes of this reporting, data will be reported on the time that the post-secondary institution spends with the student.
- Pre-trades program
- Credential
 - Apprenticeship

Transfer Agreement

- An agreement between two institutions (a sender and a receiver) that specifies how the sending institution's course or program will be accepted for (transfer) credit at the receiving institution.
 - Courses designed to transfer from one institution to another institution

Tuition

- All mandatory instructional and non-instructional fees to be paid by students enrolled in a program and includes:
 - Registration fee
 - The cost of textbooks, lesson materials supplies and equipment that students are required to purchase when enrolled in a program
- All mandatory instructional fees to be paid by students enrolled in a program at a post-secondary institution

University Transfer

- The movement of students among post-secondary institutions on the basis of their having transfer credit
 - Transfer credit is credit earned at one post-secondary institution that is accepted for credit at another post-secondary institution
- When a student transfers from one post-secondary institution to another
- When credits are used to enter the program of the second institution

Yield Rate

- The number of students that applied, the number accepted and the number that attended