

# ELIGIBILITY FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

### To be eligible you must:

- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident (landed immigrant), or Protected Person.
- be a Manitoba resident (You are a resident if you lived in Manitoba for the 12 consecutive months before your study period, not including time spent in post-secondary studies.)
- study at an approved institution designated for Manitoba Student Aid (Check our Web site at [www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca](http://www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca) for a list of eligible institutions and programs. All public universities and colleges in Manitoba and many private schools in the province are included.)
- study in an approved program that is at least 12 weeks long, within a period of 15 consecutive weeks, and leads to a certificate, diploma, or degree
- maintain satisfactory progress and attendance
- not be in default of previous federal or provincial student aid
- not have a poor credit history
- have financial need as determined by Student Aid.

## COURSE-LOAD REQUIREMENTS FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Full-time students must maintain the minimum required course load for the entire academic year. This means you must satisfactorily complete at least 60% of a full course load (30% in each term) over the entire academic period to stay eligible for assistance through the full-time program. The required course load for students in a private/vocational school is 100% of the program.

## COURSE-LOAD REQUIREMENTS FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

Part-time students need to maintain between 20% and 59% of a full course load in a program leading to a degree, diploma or certificate. Loans are available to part-time students who lack the resources to pay their immediate educational expenses, including tuition, books and supplies and local transportation. Part-time students must apply to the provincial student aid office in the province where they are studying.

## LIMITS OF ASSISTANCE

There are limits to the financial assistance available from federal and provincial programs:

**Number of degrees, diplomas, and certificates** - Students may be eligible for assistance for one certificate, diploma or degree. Funding is generally not provided for a second certificate, diploma or degree, unless the first is a prerequisite for a second program.

**Limit to years of eligibility** - The maximum number of years of eligibility for assistance is normally the number of years in a program of study, plus one extra year.

**Course load** - The assistance you receive reflects the course load you are taking. If your course load falls below the amount indicated on your application, your application will be re-assessed and your financial need will be recalculated. If you reduce your course load below 60% (30% in each term) (100% for private vocational institutions), you will no longer be eligible for full-time assistance. If you complete less than 100% of a course load in each year, you may also run out of years of eligibility for assistance before you have completed your program.

**Lifetime limit to weeks of eligibility** - The maximum number of weeks for financial assistance is 340. This number refers to full-time studies only and includes the weeks you are eligible to receive assistance. There are some exceptions to Canada Student Loan weeks of eligibility for students who applied before August 1, 1995, and for students with permanent disabilities.

Web site: [www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca](http://www.studentaid.gov.mb.ca)