

Fall 2007 Edition

NWT Student Financial Assistance Program

Department of Education, Culture and Employment
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Rumour Has It...

Winter 2008 Student Enrolment Forms



With Christmas holidays fast approaching, it's time to start thinking about your funding for the upcoming winter semester. Once again, the NWT SFA office will begin accepting Student Enrolment Forms (SEF's) on December 1st for semesters that begin January 1st to 16th.

Please ensure that your SEF is fully completed to avoid any delays with the processing of your payments. This is a busy time of year, so please keep in mind that it may take your institution a few days to complete the form.

Your SEF must be received by NWT SFA no later than **DECEMBER 10th**. This will ensure that your funding is deposited into your account (or mailed to your permanent address) by January 1st.

Please note: Grants deposited before January 2008 will be included on your 2007 T4A for taxation reporting. If you do not want to be taxed on this money in 2007, please clearly indicate this fact on your SEF. In those cases, payment will be made after January 1st.

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The NWT SFA office will be closed over the holidays beginning Friday, December 21, 2007 at 5:00pm and reopening Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 8:30am. If you have questions or concerns, please call before our office closes for the holidays.

I have questions... Who should I contact?

STUDENT CASE OFFICERS (SCO)

Your SCO can be reached by email or telephone. Please note your SCO from the list below, as sorted by the first letter of your surname:

A—C Kathy Monkman
Email: Kathy_Monkman@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)920-6987

D—K Jolene Russell
Email: Jolene_Russell@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)873-7195

L—P Mike Soloy
Email: Mike_Soloy@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)920-6217

Q—Z Jeanette Goldney
Email: Jeanette_Goldney@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)920-6973

FINANCE OFFICERS

If you have questions regarding the repayment and/or remission of your student loan, contact your Finance Officer as outlined below, as sorted by the first letter of your surname:

A—L Joyce Pittman
Email: Joyce_Pittman@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)873-7102

M—Z Corrie Bernard
Email: Corrie_Bernard@gov.nt.ca
Phone: (867)920-6224

A word from finance...

Repaying Your Student Loans

It is important that you keep track of the amount of money you borrow as you are obligated to repay a student loan just as you would a loan from a bank. Repayment obligations are not to be taken lightly. If you are unable to meet your obligations you must contact NWTsfa immediately in order to avoid having your credit rating jeopardized.

- You are not required to make payments on your student loan if you are attending full-time studies at an approved institution and your previous loan payments are up-to-date. You must provide a **Form D - Student Enrolment Form** to NWTsfa in order to suspend your payments.
- Once you stop full-time studies for a period of six months or longer, you must either start making payments and/or qualify for remission.
- It is up to you to contact our office to arrange a loan repayment or remission schedule before the six-month period is finished.

Audits

From time to time, NWTsfa will conduct audits on student files and you may receive a letter requesting further documentation to support information you have provided. If you have a loan with NWTsfa, statements will be sent to you updating the status of your loan and detailing any possible arrears. Your cooperation will be appreciated in order to complete the audit.

Program Review

The Interest Relief and Reduced Payment Programs are being reviewed. All students currently under these programs will be receiving letters requesting additional documentation to support information that was provided. Your cooperation will be appreciated in order to complete the review.



NWTSFA APPLICATION DEADLINES

If your academic year starts: Your deadline is:

January 1—31

November 15

August 16—September 30

July 15

In other months

One calendar month prior

REMEMBER, YOU MUST APPLY EACH YEAR!!!

JUST A REMINDER...

T4A's are issued to students who receive Basic Grant(s), Supplementary Grant(s) and/or NWTsfa Scholarships. Please make sure NWTsfa has your correct permanent mailing address, since this document will not be mailed to your school address.

TRAVELING??

For the most up-to-date travel information and for travel agency contact information, please visit our website at nwtfsa.gov.nt.ca

INTERSESSION TRAVEL

If you are single, or do not claim your dependants, you may be eligible to receive a travel benefit to return to your permanent NWT residence between semesters once during your academic year. If your intersession takes place other than the Christmas or New Year break, you may be eligible to use this benefit during that time. Please ensure that you book a return ticket for your intersession travel to avoid any delays or disappointments.

REMEMBER: Keep all of your travel receipts as you may be required to provide them now or at a later date.

COURSE LOAD FOR POSTSECONDARY STUDENTS

Keep in mind that you must maintain your full-time student status at a minimum of 60% of a 100% full course load throughout each semester.

EXAMPLE: If a student is attending an institution where 15 credits is a 100% course load, they must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credits for the entire semester.

Should you withdraw from a course while attending a minimum course load, you may be suspended from the NWTsfa Program and required to repay that portion of funding.



NORTHERN GRADUATES

Are you currently a northern student in a postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree program? Are you graduating in 2008? Will you be looking for work in the NWT? If you answered YES, we would like to hear from you.

The GNWT is committed to helping northern graduates find work experience related to their field of study. Our **Northern Graduate Employment Program** provides possible employment with the Government, as well as the private sector. There are also special supports for graduates of nursing, social work and teaching positions.

An application form and Information about Northern Graduate Programs can be found on the Department of Human Resources website at:

www.hr.gov.nt.ca/employment

Application Deadline for GNWT Internships, Nursing and Social Work positions:

December 31, 2007.

Application Deadline for Teaching positions:

February 28, 2008.

Please submit your resume and application form as soon as possible to:

E-mail: chrs@gov.nt.ca

NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

...at your institution

The postsecondary institution you are attending has trained counselors available who can provide help with such things as budgeting, study tips, career or educational and personal counseling.

...in the Edmonton area

Nona German is the Northern Student Initiative's Student Advisor who assists students by organizing and utilizing resources available on campuses and in the community.

She can be contacted at (780)491-1363.

...NWTSA

If you have questions regarding your student financial assistance, please contact our office directly to ensure you receive accurate information about our program.

NWTSFA SCHOLARSHIPS


Please be advised that effective immediately, only students that qualify for the NWTSFA Scholarship will be notified. Letters will be mailed in the near future. Students who are not eligible to receive the scholarship will not be contacted. Please refer to our website for eligibility criteria and if you have questions, please contact our office.



Canada Millennium General Awards and Access Bursary

A list of eligible students has been forwarded to the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF). The CMSF will contact those students who will receive the bursaries via mail. Students eligible for the bursaries are required to submit a Winter 2008 SEF on or before **February 1, 2008**. Students who are not eligible to receive the bursary will not be contacted.

Jobsnorth offers a comprehensive list of employment opportunities in the Northwest Territories. The website allows you to browse through available jobs and apply for jobs online. You can even post your resume online and allow jobs to find you! Visit this helpful website at: www.jobsnorth.ca.

If you have, or see any changes in your situation that may affect your funding, please contact your Student Case Officer.

STUDENT CHILD CARE USER SUBSIDY

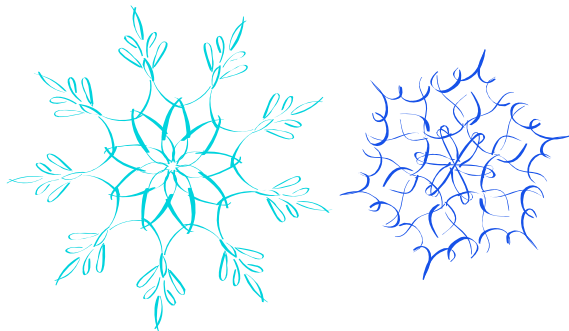
If you are a full-time student receiving NWTSFA while attending studies in the NWT, you may qualify for a child care user subsidy. To apply, or for more information, contact your local Client Services Officer or phone 1-866-973-7252 toll free.

THANK YOU!!!

NWTSFA would like to extend a huge thank you to our magnificent 2007 summer students:

Cailan Ferguson
Vanessa Gagnon
Moses Hernandez
Siku Allooloo
Jordee James-McQueen
Kim Theil
Terry Gitersos
Grant White

Thanks again for all your hard work and dedication!



The staff of the NWT Student Financial Assistance Program would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and all the best in 2008!

Deal yourself in! NORTHWEST TERRITORIES Alberta Centennial Scholarships

\$2,005 Scholarship for Trades and Occupations

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment will award 25 scholarships, each worth \$2,005, to students entering or currently registered in trades and occupations.

You are eligible if you:

- are a resident of the Northwest Territories;
- have recently completed an education program, for example – high school or pre-employment programs, and must provide transcript of same; and
- can demonstrate that you are continuing your formal education by pursuing or attending skilled trades and occupations training, in a form recognized by the Department of Education, Culture and Employment and Municipal and Community Affairs School of Community Government leading to certification.

Preference will be given to women in trades or occupations.

Deadline for Applications: December 14, 2007

Call your Career Development Centre
1-866-532-9240
email: certification@gov.nt.ca
or visit www.ece.gov.nt.ca



NWT Health Care

If you are planning on studying outside the NWT for a period of 90 days or more, and plan to return to the NWT when you complete your studies, you are not required to transfer your health care coverage unless the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) considers you to be a minor and your parent(s) do not reside in the NWT.

It is in your best interest to keep your NWT Health Care Card active by informing HSS, toll-free at 1-800-661-0830.

PLEASE NOTE: Your residency requirements for NWT Student Financial Assistance (NWTSFA) is not determined by your NWT Health Care Plan (NWT HCP). NWTSFA and NWT HCP are two completely separate programs with different criteria.