

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Sections 6(3)a and (4)b of the *Students Financial Assistance Act*,

POLICY:

The legislation states in order to be eligible for Student Financial Assistance:

- **An Independent Student:** Completed any 2 years of secondary school, between Grades 8 and 12, in the Yukon school system (This can also include home schooling as long as the home schooling has been registered with the Department of Education) **OR** have previously received financial assistance as a dependent student defined above and have resided in the continuously for a period of 2 years immediately preceding the start of post-secondary classes. A person can qualify as an independent student no matter his or her age at the time of application.
- **A New Resident Student:** less than 19 years of age on the day your post-secondary classes start, you and at least one of your parents have taken up residency in the Yukon, and you are a dependant of that parent at that time. You have completed 1 year of secondary school, between Grades 8 and 12, in the Yukon school system (This can also include home schooling as long as the home schooling has been registered with the Department of Education). Your parent(s) must reside in the Territory while you are attending post-secondary studies and you must complete your post-secondary education before you reach the age of 24.

This policy clarifies **completion** of secondary education in the Yukon school system.

The definition of “Yukon school system” as outlined in the *Students Financial Assistance Act* means that system of schools governed by the *Education Act*. Secondary school is defined by the Public Schools Branch as grades from eight to twelve inclusive.

GUIDELINES:

1. Completion

Students do not necessarily have to attend a full year of school in order to be considered eligible because students only need to ‘complete’ a year of high school in the Yukon school system. For example, if a student moves to Yukon and starts a year of high school part way through a year and the student finishes that year, he/she would have been considered to have completed one year of education in the Yukon school system.

SECTION: YG 4A	SUBJECT: Completion of High School
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2. Duration

Students who are required to complete two years, must complete two distinct years of education in the Yukon school system. For example, a student who takes two years to complete grade 8 will not be eligible. However, if the same student also completes Grade 9, they would be eligible.

APPEALS:

The Students Financial Assistance Committee will hear all appeals that do not conform to this policy.

APPROVED:

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Gordon McDevitt

June 28, 2007

Deputy Minister of Education