

Private Career Colleges Eligible for Wage Gap Action Plan Scholarship Program

The Executive of the NBACC is pleased to advise you that the Government of New Brunswick has agreed to open the Wage Gap Action Plan Scholarship Program to students in private career colleges. Your Executive has had correspondence with Hon. Margaret-Ann Blaney, Minister Responsible for Status of Women, and has met with her officials on this issue. The Minister and her staff were very interested to have private career colleges as eligible training providers under this program.

The Wage Gap Action Plan Scholarship Program encourages women and men entering their first year of study in a NBCC, CCNB, or Private Career College, to seek a non-traditional career where participation to date by women and men in these fields has been limited. Designated occupations in which women or men make up less than 25% of the total workforce is considered as non-traditional. Scholarships of equal value to a maximum of \$2,600 will be awarded per year.

Two rounds of applications are accepted each year. Application deadline is May 31 for fall sessions and November 30 for winter sessions. Representation from the NBACC will be added to the Scholarship Selection Committee.

Currently the Government of New Brunswick website where information on the Scholarship is featured, is being updated to reflect the addition of Private Career Colleges as training providers. The list of eligible programs of study for 2011-12 can be found on the website. To assist in determining this list for next year, the NBACC will be asked to provide gender break downs of enrollment by program in member colleges. This is one factor that is considered in determining non-traditional occupations to be included in the list. Member colleges will be asked to provide this information to the NBACC, so we can aggregate it and provide it to Government toward developing the list of eligible programs next year.

Nicole McCarty, Director of Wage Gap Reduction Initiatives, will attend the NBACC conference April 28-29 and will speak on this Program the morning of April 29.

For further information, please contact the NBACC or visit the Government of New Brunswick website at www.gnb.ca/wagegap.