Draft Regulation

An Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses (chapter A-13.3)

Financial assistance for education expenses — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation adjusts certain amounts allocated as exemptions or expenses allowable for the purpose of computing the financial assistance for education expenses and the maximum amount of a loan that may be granted for a year of allocation.

It also improves certain parameters to take into account the increase in the compensation received from the federal government for monthly living expenses, the threshold to be eligible for the loans program for part-time studies, air transportation expenses and the income considered to determine whether a borrower is in a precarious financial situation.

The draft Regulation makes it impossible for a student to simultaneously benefit from another program of financial assistance for education expenses, specifies the number of months of eligibility for college-level studies, the criteria to apply certain allowable expenses and supplements and the nature of the earnings used to compute the income, and provides a minimum amount for a bursary.

Lastly, the draft Regulation specifies the criteria to be met to be recognized as a resident of Québec or to be deemed to reside in Québec and sets a time limit for sending an application for financial assistance for education expenses and the documents required.

The draft Regulation has no impact on the public or on enterprises, including small and medium-sized businesses.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Simon Boucher-Doddridge, acting director, Direction de la planification et des programmes et bureau des recours de l'aide financière aux études, Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, 1035, rue De La Chevrotière, 20^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5; tel. 418 643-6276, extension 6085; email: simon.boucher-doddridge@ education.gouv.qc.ca Any person wishing to comment on the matter is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to the Minister responsible for Higher Education, 1035, rue De La Chevrotière, 16° étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5.

HÉLÈNE DAVID, Minister responsible for Higher Education

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses

An Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses (chapter A-13.3, s. 57)

1. The Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses (chapter A-13.3, r. 1) is amended in section 2 by replacing "\$1,134" in the second paragraph by "\$1,142".

2. Section 9 is amended by replacing "\$1,134" in sub-paragraph 2 by "\$1,142".

- **3.** Section 17 is amended
 - (1) by replacing "\$3,020" in paragraph 1 by "\$3,042";
 - (2) by replacing "\$2,563" in paragraph 2 by "\$2,582".

4. Section 18 is amended by replacing "\$2,563" by "\$2,582".

5. Section 26 is amended

(1) by inserting the following after subparagraph 1:

"(1.1) receives financial assistance granted under a program of financial assistance for education expenses offered by a government department or body;";

(2) by replacing "\$188" in the second paragraph by "\$278".

6. Section 29 is amended by replacing the amounts in subparagraphs 1 to 6 of the third paragraph by the following amounts:

- (1) "\$189";
- (2) "\$189";

- (3) "\$214";
- (4) "\$409";
- (5) "\$467";
- (6) "\$214".
- **7.** Section 32 is amended

(1) by replacing "\$392" and "\$837" in the first paragraph by "\$424" and "\$906";

(2) by replacing "\$175", "\$217", "\$620" and "\$217" in the second paragraph by "\$190", "\$234", "\$672" and "\$234".

8. Section 33 is amended

(1) by replacing "\$68" in the first paragraph by "\$172";

(2) by replacing "\$189" in the second paragraph by "\$475".

9. Section 34 is amended by replacing "\$277" and "\$1,287" in the first paragraph by "\$279" and "\$1,297".

10. Section 35 is amended by replacing "\$95" in the second paragraph by "\$96".

11. Section 36 is amended by replacing "1 return trip" in the second paragraph by "2 return trips".

12. Section 37 is amended by replacing "\$252" in the fifth paragraph by "\$254".

13. Section 40 is amended

(1) by replacing "\$73" and "\$584" in the first paragraph by "\$74" and "\$592";

(2) by adding "who attends an educational institution in Québec" in the second paragraph after "to the student".

14. Section 41 is amended by replacing "\$187" by "\$188".

15. Section 45 is amended by adding "and the student was eligible for financial assistance in the form of a bursary during the preceding year of allocation" at the end of the first paragraph.

16. Section 46 is amended by striking out "until the child, if he or she is pursuing studies, has reached the age of 21".

17. Section 50 is amended

(1) by replacing the amounts in subparagraphs 1 to 3 of the first paragraph by the following amounts, respectively:

- (1) "\$14,719";
- (2) "\$14,719";
- (3) "\$17,746";

(2) by replacing the amounts in subparagraphs 1 to 3 of the third paragraph by the following amounts, respectively:

- (1) "\$3,966";
- (2) "\$5,020";
- (3) "\$6,079".

18. Section 51 is amended

(1) by replacing the amounts in subparagraphs 1 to 5 of the first paragraph by the following amounts, respectively:

- (1) "\$206";
- (2) "\$226";
- (3) "\$313";
- (4) "\$416";
- (5) "\$416";
- (2) by replacing "\$321 in the third paragraph by "\$323".

19. Section 52 is amended by replacing "\$970" by "\$977".

20. Section 54 is amended by adding the following paragraph at the end:

"Despite the foregoing, where the amount of bursary computed in accordance with the first paragraph is less than \$25, assistance is paid in the form of a loan only.".

21. Section 56 is amended by replacing the third paragraph by the following:

"In addition, the student may not receive financial assistance in the form of a loan for more than 63 months if the student pursues studies at the college level, for more than 88 months if the student pursues studies at the university level and for more than 8 months in each cycle if the student is not enrolled in a university course of study."

22. Section 74 is amended

(1) by replacing "income referred to in Schedules I and II is less, on a monthly basis, than the amount obtained by multiplying the minimum wage set out in section 3 of the Regulation respecting labour standards (chapter N-1.1, r. 3)" in the first paragraph by "monthly income is less than the amount obtained by adding \$1.75 to the minimum wage set out in section 3 of the Regulation respecting labour standards (chapter N-1.1, r. 3) and by multiplying that sum";

(2) by replacing "\$252" and "\$125" in the second paragraph by "\$254" and "\$126".

23. Section 74.1 is amended by striking out "referred to in Schedules I and II" in the introductory part of the second paragraph, in subparagraph 1 of the second paragraph and in the third paragraph.

24. The following is added after section 74.1:

"74.2. For the purposes of sections 74 and 74.1, the borrower's monthly income is established by adding up the borrower's income referred to in Schedules I and II and all the amounts received as bursaries from a public or private organization, except for education savings plans."

25. Section 82 is amended by replacing "\$35,000", "\$50,000", "\$3,020" and "\$2,261" in the second paragraph by "\$43,575", "\$62,250", "\$3,042" and "\$2,278".

26. Section 86 is amended

(1) by replacing the amounts in subparagraphs 1 to 3 of the first paragraph by the following amounts, respectively:

- (1) "\$2.25";
- (2) "\$3.36";
- (3) "\$118.11";

(2) by replacing "\$11.18" in the second paragraph by "\$11.26".

27. Section 87.1 is amended by replacing "\$382" by "\$385".

28. Section 93 is amended

(1) by striking out "full-time" in subparagraph 5;

(2) by replacing "any of the preceding paragraphs" in paragraph 9 by "paragraph 1, 5, 6, 7 or 8".

29. Section 94 is replaced by the following:

"94. A student who has been outside Québec for less than 3 years and who, at the time of departure, had been residing in Québec for at least 2 years and was in one of the situations set out in paragraph 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 of section 93 is deemed to reside in Québec.

Moreover, the student must be pursuing studies outside Québec and be in one of the following situations:

(1) the student's parents or sponsor have their residence in Québec;

(2) the student's parents or sponsor had their residence in Québec before their departure from Québec, if they have been outside Québec for less than 3 years;

(3) the student has not interrupted full-time studies for more than 12 consecutive months since the date of the student's departure.".

30. Section 95 is replaced by the following:

"95. No application for financial assistance is accepted more than 30 days after the last month in the year of allocation during which the student is pursuing studies according to the applicable program of financial assistance.".

31. The following is added after section 95:

"95.1. All documents required as part of an application for financial assistance for education expenses must be received not later than 29 December following the end of the year of allocation.".

32. Schedule II is amended by adding the following at the end of paragraph 5: ", as a child assistance payment under the Taxation Act (chapter I-3) or as a Canada child benefit under the Income Tax Act (R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.));".

33. This Regulation applies as of the 2017-2018 year of allocation, except for paragraph 2 of section 13, sections 28, 29, 30 and 31, which apply as of the 2018-2019 year of allocation.

34. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

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