

Reduced Family Income for the Upcoming Tax Year

A Parental Contribution is what we assess as the amount the parents are expected to contribute to their child's education based on their financial ability to help. That contribution can vary according to the family's size, total family income, the number of dependants attending post-secondary school and the length of their study period.

Parental Contributions are calculated based on the gross family income less actual Income Tax, Canada Pension and Employment Insurance Premiums payable.

Applications are assessed using the previous year's Income Tax Returns, however if your parent(s) current yearly income is reduced, we may be able to issue an additional or partial award.

Before an additional or partial award can be considered, the following information will be required to assist our office in assessing the Reduced Family Income:

- (1) An explanation as to why the income will be reduced.
- (2) Verification of the household income. This can include one of the following:
 - A most recent paystub.
 - A letter from an employer stating the gross income from January 1 to present with a projection of the income until December 31.
 - A copy of a cheque stub showing the monthly amount of pension, proof of EI benefits, etc.
 - If RRSPs were withdrawn, proof of the amount is required. (A letter from the financial institution will be accepted).

Note: Since we require verification of household income, parents who have earnings generated through self employment, commission, irregular hourly pays, or pays which include overtime, double-time, etc. cannot be reassessed for Reduced Family Income.

If you apply for assistance the following year and Income Tax Return(s) confirm a higher income than what your parent(s) have projected, overawards may be assessed. Overawards, if not repaid, are deducted from future funding if approved.

It is important to also note, that information received late in the study period may not leave enough time to be reviewed and assessed. Please send in your documentation no later than 4 weeks prior to your study period end date.

If you have any questions, you can contact our office by using the ASK US QUESTIONS feature in MyPATH, or you can call our office at 424-8420 or 1-800-565-8420. Our office hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.