

The E-12 Guidelines state that the program was available to students enrolled in university, college, CEGEP or technological institute programs (or courses) normally requiring completion of secondary school as a pre-requisite. There was apparently no restriction on the length of eligible programs so long as they involved a course of study at a post-secondary education institution.

Under the 1989 policy, post-secondary education is defined as "a program of studies, offered by a post-secondary institution, for which completion of secondary school studies or equivalent is a pre-requisite". Two other definitions provide new restrictions on programs eligible for funding.

First, "program of studies" is limited to post-secondary programs greater than one academic year in duration and leading to a certificate, diploma or degree. Second, the definition of "post-secondary institutions" is limited to degree, diploma or certificate-granting institutions which are recognized by a province, including affiliated institutions or institutions delivering accredited post-secondary programs by arrangement with a post-secondary institution.

(Note that the Department currently offers a University and College Entrance Preparation program (UCEP) under a separate policy.)

9. PROGRAM BUDGET

The E-12 Guidelines referred to a need for fair and reasonable student performance standards "to ensure that the maximum possible number of Indian students are able to achieve their academic and vocational goals through the funds available for this program". This could be interpreted as suggesting that the program was normally expected to remain within the amount allocated for the program in the Main Estimates. However this statement is rather ambiguous. Until 1987 as a matter of practice, Supplementary Estimates were routinely sought and received by the Department when forecasts of eligible students were inaccurate.

The new policy statement indicates that assistance will be limited to the funds voted by Parliament and that applications that cannot be accommodated within the budget will be deferred according to the rules to be set out in each administering organization's operating guidelines. This