

undergraduate level, through the Strategic Studies and Academic Scholarship Incentives.

Another notable aspect of the new policy is the higher level of grants available under the Strategic Studies program compared to the Academic Scholarship fund.

7. TIME LIMITATIONS

Under the new policy, as with the old, limits have been placed on the length of time students may take to complete their program of studies and still receive funding for travel and living expenses. In this regard, the new policy statement limits assistance for such expenses to the program length normally set by the institution. It also restricts assistance to one degree at each level, including the graduate level, meaning that travel and living expense assistance is available for either a Master's degree or Doctorate but not both.

Time restrictions for travel and living allowances may be extended under some circumstances under the new policy: 1) students enrolled in Levels I and II will be assisted for up to one additional academic year per level if such an extension is approved in writing by the institution; 2) students enrolled in Level III may be assisted for up to one additional year for medical or personal reasons.

Under the new policy, funding time limits for travel and living assistance are not extended in the case of students changing their program of studies.

However, there are no time limits applied under the new policy to tuition assistance, whereas under the E-12 Guidelines funding could not exceed a total time limit of 96 student "months" for any category of assistance. (A student month was defined as a full month in which a full-time student had received assistance under the program. In the case of part-time students, two student months were equivalent to each full credit course for which assistance was received.) The 96 month total under the E-12 Guidelines was subdivided into maximum permitted time periods for funding at each degree level.

As can be seen from the chart below comparing the time restrictions of the two policy statements, at each degree level a year or two above the normal period required to complete a program of studies was provided under the E-12 Guidelines. This apparently was intended to provide an allowance