SIKSIKA NATION

POST-SECONDARY STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM POLICIES

Effective: November 6, 2023

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

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Definitions

In this document,

1. "Treaty First Nation" is a person whose name has been entered in the Siksika Nation membership list.

2. "Post-secondary education" means a program of studies, offered by a Post-Secondary institution, for which completion of secondary school studies or its equivalent is a prerequisite.

3. "Program of Studies" includes all Post-Secondary programs, at least one academic year in duration, leading to a certificate, diploma or degree. Programs(i.e.: Indigenous Bridging/Pathway programs, pre-law, less than one academic year which are prerequisites to Post-Secondary programs of at least one academic year in duration are included.

4. "Post-Secondary Institutions" are degree, diploma and certificate granting Institutions, which are recognized by a province and include educational Institutions affiliated with, or delivering accredited Post-Secondary programs by arrangement with a Post-Secondary institution.

5. "Canadian public institution" is a Post-Secondary institution which receives the majority of its funding from federal and provincial governments.

6. "Private Post-Secondary institution" is a Canadian or United States Post-Secondary institution which receives the majority of its funding from sources other than governments.

7. "United States institution" is a Post-Secondary institution located in the United States of America which receives the majority of its funding from federal or state governments.

8. "Full-time students" and "Part-time students" as defined by the Post-Secondary institution.

9. "Academic year" is as defined by the Post-Secondary institution, but will not be less than eight months in duration.

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10. "Semester" refers to a part of the academic year, as defined by the Post-Secondary institution. Semester usually covers the periods from September to December, January to April, and May to August.

11. "Dependent Spouse" means a person who is married to the student or a person who has lived with the student as husband or wife and is unemployed.

12. "Dependent" means a person who is under 18 years of age and is dependent upon the student.

13. "Contingency funding" means partial financial support that may be provided to students for costs related to emergency situations. Emergency situations eligible for contingency funding include individual or family illness, accident or bereavement.

14. "University and College Entrance Preparation Program" means the student financial support program for students enrolled in an accepted University and/or College entrance preparation programs to enable them to attain the academic level required for entrance into degree and diploma credit programs.

15. SNPSSSP Committee consists of PSSSP Director, PSSSP Manager, Post Secondary Guidance Counsellor.

16. SNPSSSP Appeal Committee consists of PSSSP Director, PSSSP Manager, Post Secondary Guidance Counsellor and one Board member.

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The Siksika Nation Post-Secondary Student Support Program (SNPSSSP)

1. **Introduction**
   1. The objective of the Student Support Program is to support Siksika Nation members to gain access to Post-Secondary education and to graduate with the qualifications and skills needed to pursue individual careers.

   2. The Student Support Program provides financial support to eligible Siksika Nation members towards the costs of their Post-Secondary education.

   3. This document outlines:

      a) The criteria to be met by students in order to qualify for financial support;

      b) The types and levels of allowance available through the Student Support Program; and

      c) The maximum duration of support that may be provided with respect to various levels of Post-Secondary education.

   4. The March 2021 SNPSSSP Policies are now rescinded and replaced by the new policy effective November 6, 2023 and will apply to all student applications.

   5. The University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP) are administered under this policy (ANNEX II).

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Administrative Handbook

The purpose of the Administration Handbook is to provide guidelines to be used in the administration of the Siksika Nation Post-Secondary Student Support Program (SNPSSSP).

The use of the handbook is as follows:

1. It provides a statement of the Siksika Nation policy on the Post-Secondary Student Support Program.

2. Student conduct is governed by academic policy of all institutions.

3. It establishes three distinct components of policy implementation for each section and subsection of the policy.

Policy: Reference to the specific paragraph in the SNPSSSP Policy and statement of the particular policy element.

Application: How each policy element is to be interpreted and applied by the SNPSSSP.

Procedures: The procedures to be adopted by the SNPSSSP in processing applications and determining funding level.

1. It provides the terms and conditions of the University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP). (See ANNEX II)

Revisions to the Handbook

As required, revisions to the handbook will be made by the SNPSSSP Committee and approved by the OSCC Board of Governors.

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Limits of Support

a) University and College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP):

1 Academic Year (8 months or 12 months) as per semester system (to a maximum of 24 months as recommended by the Post-Secondary Career Guidance Counsellor and approved by SNPSSSP Committee).

b) LEVEL I – College (Certificate Diploma):

Certificate: 1 year 8 months (min)	8 months
Total Eligible months	12 months
Diploma: 2 years x 8 months	16 months
1 Additional year (8 months minimum extended)	8 months
Total Eligible months	24 months

c) LEVEL II – University (Undergraduate Degree):

4-year Degree x 8 months	32 months
1 Additional year (8 months minimum extended)	8 months
Total Eligible months	40 months
5-year Degree x 8 months	40 months
1 Additional year (8 months minimum extended)	8 months
Total Eligible months	48 months

d) LEVEL III – University (Masters or Doctorate):

Master's Degree: 2 Years x 8 months/12 months	16 months/24 months
1 Additional Year	8 months/12 months
Total Eligible months	24 months/36 months
Doctorate Degree: 2 Years x 8 months/12 months	16 months/12 months
1 Additional Year	8 months/12 months
Total Eligible months	24 months/12 months

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Professional Degree/Programs: 2 years x 8/12 months	16 months/24 months
1 Additional year	8 months/12 months
Total Eligible months	24 months/36 months

Note: Only one additional academic year of support for either program in Level III will be subject to Approval by SNPSSSP Committee.

Academic Year – Represents the months of September to April (8 months).

Programs under 8 months will be referred to Siksika Employment and Training Services.

e) Provision for Special Considerations - Approval Process

Unique exceptions will be granted to register in a second same level program upon successful completion of the first program and the student is in good academic standing, specifically for students returning to studies after ten (10) years and/or requiring specialization certification required by career requirements. Consideration will be a case by case and determined by the SNPSSSP Committee (i.e. Diploma and Certificate, Bachelor and 2nd Bachelor).

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SECTION I: STUDENT APPLICATIONS

The SNPSSSP provides financial support to eligible Siksika Nation members toward the costs of their Post-Secondary education.

Procedures:

1. **Receiving Applications**

APPLICATION DEADLINES: JUNE 15 FOR JULY-SEPTEMBER START DATES
OCTOBER 15 FOR JANUARY START DATE
MARCH 15 FOR SPRING/SUMMER START DATE

The completed application form must include the following:

a) Legal documentation for proof of Siksika Nation membership.

b) Letter of acceptance or conditional acceptance into a Post-Secondary program of study.

c) Registration

d) Tuition and mandatory fees

e) High school transcript or equivalent and High School diploma or equivalent

f) Post-Secondary transcript

g) Legal verification for dependants (i.e.: Court document, or Canada Revenue Agency documentation, or Commissioner of Oaths signed document)

h) Submit any additional documentation such as medical, disability, impairment, and/or reduced course load

i) A signed Memorandum of Understanding

All supporting documentation must be received prior to issuance of tuition and/or living allowance. All incomplete applications will be cancelled within 60 days of application deadline.

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Some exceptions may apply based on unique extenuating circumstances. Students are required to notify PSSSP if they are unable to submit documentation within 60 days.

2. Determining the Amount of Support

Calculations will be based on the following:

a) Books and mandatory supplies

b) Tuition support

c) Support for Living Expenses

3. Notification to Applicants

Applicants who are denied funding will be notified immediately in writing including the reason for denial. Approved applicants will be provided with a letter of acceptance outlining sponsorship details and/or limitations.

4. Funding

Funds will be provided to the students when the application is complete and all the documentation is provided, and;

a. The application is approved by the SNPSSSP Committee at a duly convened meeting called to review applications.

b. The SNPSSSP must require the continuing student to verify that he/she is continuing in the program of studies.

c. The SNPSSSP will suspend payments:

- If the student ceases to be a full-time student in accordance of the definition of the institution at which they are attending; or

- On notice from the student that he/she has dropped out of the program of studies; or

- If a student fails to maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0.

d. Prior to continuation of sponsorship, the SNPSSSP will take action to reclaim funds from the student in respect of any over payment for periods of support when the student withdrew from studies. Arrangements to recover overpayments must be determined and a financial recovery plan must be in place. Where fraudulent action is suspected, the SNPSSSP will report the details to the SNPSSSP Director with recommendations to seek legal redress where appropriate.

e. A signed Memorandum of Understanding form will be due upon acceptance of complete application.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION II: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1). Student Status

Policy: To be eligible to apply for support under the SNPSSSP, an applicant must be a Siksika Nation Member regardless of residency.

Application: Applicants must be registered under the Siksika Nation Membership Code and be eligible for post-secondary funding.

2) Acceptance by Institutions

Policy: To be eligible to apply for support under the SNPSSSP an applicant must have met University or College requirements and have been enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a Post-Secondary institution for a program of studies.

Application: For definitions of "Program of Studies" and "Post-Secondary Institutions", see Definitions (page 4).

Procedures: The applicant must provide a copy of the letter of acceptance or conditional acceptance for enrollment in the program of studies. Enrollment must be in a program of studies in a recognized or US institution.

If the program of studies is in a US institution, the applicant must provide evidence that the program is recognized in Canada as an acceptable and transferable Post-Secondary program of studies.

3) Probation and Suspension

Policy: Students who fail to meet the cumulative GPA requirement of 2.0 are automatically placed on probation for the remainder of the academic year. Students who fail to comply with this criterion are cancelled. A student on an academic probation with the institution for two consecutive semesters, or has been academically withdrawn by the institution, will be suspended from full sponsorship for a period of one calendar year.

Procedures: In order to qualify for future funding students must complete courses on their own and successfully complete them to be reconsidered for funding.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

4) Forged Documents

Policy: SNPSSSP will not tolerate any forged documents required for continued sponsorship.

Procedures: Students will be suspended from further sponsorship until full restitution has been made. This includes Duplicate Cheque Cashing.

- Duplicate cheque cashing:
  - It is noted OSCC will recover funds,
  - If not recovered, report to Police and may impact future sponsorship,
  - Listed as overpayment until returned by OSCC.

5) Persons with Health Conditions and/or Impairments

Policy: The PSSSP will consider special circumstances for any student with health conditions and/or impairments (including but not limited to physical, emotional, behavioral, learning, neuro diversity, deaf/blind dual sensory impairment).

Procedures: The student must provide supporting documentation from a recognized physician or learning resource counsellor.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION III: TUITION SUPPORT

1) Student Fees

Policy: Tuition support is based on documented rates as set out by the respective institution. The Governing body of the SNPSSSP has the flexibility to adjust tuition support to meet the needs of students based on their specific program requirements. Tuition support can include student fees for registration, tuition, initial professional certification, examination fees, books and mandatory supplies.

Policy: SNPSSSP minimum Institutional Academic requirements for sponsorship.

Application:

1) Support will be provided for the following:

- **a)** Regular tuition fees; tuition fees normally charged by a public institution to Canadian students.
- **b)** Mandatory registration fees as indicated by the institution's calendar, including student activity fees and special testing fees.
- **c)** Initial professional certification and examination fees (one time only).
  ie. Teachers Certificate, Nursing Registration, CPA, Engineering Certification

2) SNPSSSP will pay for a repeated course one time only. If a student has to repeat a course for a third time, he/she will be responsible for paying the tuition.

Procedures:

1) The tuition support is calculated using the tuition, registration rates and application fee published by the Canadian public institution for the applicable program of studies for the period of time for which the application is made.

2) In the case of a First Nation Post-Secondary institute or program, the tuition fees will be those normally charged to students for a comparable program offered at Old Sun Community College at Siksika.

3) The applicant will provide documentary evidence of tuition, registration, student activity fees, and other mandatory fees.

4) Tuition and book support may be paid directly to the applicant attending United States Post-Secondary institutions. Efforts will be made to first pay directly to the institution.

2) Books and Supplies

Policy: Tuition Support includes the cost of books and mandatory supplies listed by the Post-Secondary institution.

Application: Support for books and supplies will normally cover textbooks and supplies, including special equipment, as required by the university or college for a student's program of studies.

Procedures:

1) SNPSSSP will provide $300.00 per semester for books based on the student's course registration.

2) Special consideration is afforded to those programs with high book costs and/or include student special circumstances.

3) Receipts for costs exceeding $300.00 per semester must be submitted for reimbursement.

4) For mandatory supplies, students must submit copies of the required supply list and costs.

3) Tuition at Private and United States Institutes

Policy: For resource purposes tuition support is provided for:

1) Students attending private post secondary institutions at the same tuition rate, or the tuition rate that is the least amount, including compulsory student fees, charged by the public Canadian institution nearest to the Siksika Nation which offers the least expensive comparable program.

2) Students attending a United States Post Secondary Institution at the same rate charged by a Canadian public institution nearest to Siksika Nation at the time of application which offers a comparable program and then equivalent funds converted to US funds.

3) Unique exceptions will be considered by the SNPSSSP Committee on a case by case basis.

Application:

1) For support purposes, students may enroll in any private institution or in an acceptable accredited program of studies in a United States institution.

2) The SNPSSSP will apply the terms of the policy in providing tuition support for enrollment in accredited private and United States institutions.

Procedures:

1) A program of studies at an accredited private or United States institution is comparable to a program of studies at a Canadian public institution when the following conditions are met:

   a) The minimum academic prerequisites are equivalent; i.e., English 30-1, 65%

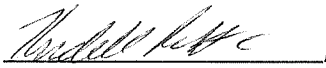
   b) The number of credits are equivalent i.e., a 15-credit program is equivalent to another program which has between 15 to 18 credits; and

   c) The course content generally covers the same subject matter.

2) An applicant enrolling in an accredited private or United States institution must provide documentation with the application that identifies the most comparable program in the nearest Canadian public institution to Siksika Nation. The documentation must include application, registration, tuition and mandatory student activity fees of Canadian public institutions.

3) An example of Calculating Tuition for United States Institutions:

A student living in Alberta and enrolling in an equivalent business administration program at Montana State University (Bozeman), must provide documentation of the application, registration, tuition and mandatory student activity fees for the business administration program at the Mount Royal University. Tuition is $1000 (U.S) and the Mount Royal University tuition is $700 (Canadian), therefore, the tuition support provided to the student will be $700 Canadian converted to $700 USD.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: , Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION IV: SUPPORT FOR LIVING EXPENSES AND TUITION

Calculations for Living Allowance

1) To be eligible for a living allowance a student must be in full-time studies; i.e., three or more courses or a minimum of 9 credits per term. The courses must be taken in an authorized educational institution as deemed by the SNPSSSP and must be taken within a fixed time of study that is comparable to an in-class course. Any virtual or internet studies will be considered on an individual basis.

2) A student may claim children as dependents only if the student has legal supporting documents of the children he/she applies to claim (i.e.: court documents, Canadian Child Tax Benefit, or Letter verified by Commissioner of Oaths).

3) A living allowance is available for students who are unemployed or deemed part-time employees (maximum 24 hrs/per week or 3 days per week and/or including paid leaves).

4) Please refer to Annex 1 for living allowance rates.

SECTION V: SUPPORT TO PART-TIME STUDENTS

Policy: Funding is provided for part-time studies.

Application: Part-time students may receive support for tuition and the cost of books and supplies as detailed in Section 3.

1) For definition of "part-time students" see Definitions on page 5.

2) Part-time students will be supported provided their program of studies is at least one academic year in duration and leads to a certificate, diploma or degree.

3) Continued support is based on successful completion of courses.

Amended January 18, 2024 /OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION VI: LIMITS OF SUPPORT

1) Levels of Post-Secondary Education

Policy: Support will be provided for one program of studies at each of the three levels of Post-Secondary education:

UCEPP – Adult upgrading programs.

Level I – Certificate or Diploma programs.

Level II – Undergraduate Degree programs including first year transitional programs.

Level III – Graduate Degree Programs.

Level IV - Doctoral Programs and Professional Degree programs such as Dentistry or Medicine.

Application:

1) A program of studies must be at least one academic year in duration.

2) Level I programs include:

- **a)** Post Secondary institutions of studies which have as a prerequisite completion of secondary school or equivalent and which result in the rewarding of a certificate or diploma. Meet minimum SNPSSSP academic standing and minimum requirement of Eng. 30-1 at 65%.

- **b)** Technical institute programs of studies which have as a prerequisite completion of secondary school or equivalent;

3) Level II Programs (i.e. Bachelor) include:

- **a)** Undergraduate degree programs that meet minimum SNPSSSP academic standing and minimum requirement of Eng. 30-1 at 65%. ; and

- **b)** Professional degree programs that have, as a prerequisite, an undergraduate degree.

4) Level III programs include all programs established as graduate degree programs by Post-Secondary institutions (i.e. Masters).

5) Level IV programs include advanced degrees (Doctorate) or professional degree programs (dentistry, medicine and law).

Procedures:

1. Applicants for support for Level I Programs must provide documentary evidence that the community college or technical institute program of studies has completion of secondary school or equivalent as prerequisite and that the program is at least one academic year in duration.

2. Applicants for support for Level II Programs must provide documentary evidence that they are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an undergraduate bachelor degree program.

3. Applicants for support for Level III Programs must provide documentary evidence that they are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a graduate studies program.

2) <u>Limited Tuition Support</u>

Policy: Tuition support as outlined in Section 3 will be provided to students for one program of studies at each level of studies provided that the student maintains the status of a student in good standing. Special consideration will be evaluated on a student by student basis. A student is eligible for tuition support (as outlined in Section 3) provided they are progressing in a program of study (as outlined in Section 7)

Application: Tuition Support will be provided to both part-time and full-time students with restrictions to the number of programs of studies at each Post-Secondary level.

Procedures: Tuition support will be provided in accordance with Section III,

3) Duration of Support

Policy: The duration of support in Section 6 will be in accordance with the official length of the program as defined by the Post-Secondary institution in which the student is enrolled.

Application: Support will be provided for the number of academic years of program of studies as officially defined by the institution offering the program. This will apply to Level I, Level II, and Level III programs of studies.

Procedures:

1) The SNPSSSP must verify the duration of the program. The duration of a program of study can be found in the Post-Secondary institution's calendar.

2) If the duration of the program of studies is not listed in the institution's calendar or any other official document, then the student must obtain a statement from the institution's registrar as to the duration of the program.

3) Support is provided only if the duration of the program is at least 8 months to 1 academic year.

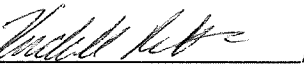
4) Additional Academic Year of Support

Policy: Students enrolled in Levels I and II will be supported for up to one additional academic year per level if such an extension is approved in writing by the institution's Dean or the head of the department. (Level I- Max. 24 months and Level II- Max 40 months) while a student may be supported to enroll in a professional degree, which has a prerequisite of an undergraduate degree, an additional two years will be provided for Level II-max. 48 months; i.e. Masters of Teaching a two-year degree requires a prerequisite of a minimum of a three-year degree.

Procedures:

All levels:

1) It is the student's responsibility to obtain a letter of explanation for the additional academic year from the Dean or head of department of the student's program of studies.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: , Kendall Panther Bone

5) Support After Dropping Out of a Level II Program

Students may be supported in Level I studies after dropping out of Level II studies. If a student resumes Level II studies, the previous time spent at Level II will be counted for support purposes.

Application:

1) This applies to students who drop out of their first undergraduate degree and enroll in a Level I program of studies. Students who drop out of a second undergraduate degree will not be supported for a Level I program.

2) Students who complete a Level I program and subsequently drop out of a Level II program will not be supported to take a Level I program.

Procedures:

1) In applying for support for a Level I program, a student must indicate on his/her application if he/she has dropped out of a level II program. The student must provide documentation to verify his/her academic record.

2) If a student resumes Level II studies the SNPSSSP must inform the student in writing of the period of support which will be counted towards Level II studies.

6) Restrictions on Level I, Level II and Level III Support

1. Students who have completed a Level I program, with support from the SNPSSSP are eligible to complete a second same level program and will apply the remaining Level 1 months of support to the second program based on Limits of Support Item B (pg.7).
2. Students who have completed a Level I program and are furthering studies into a diploma in the same area of study are eligible; i.e. Certificate in Management continues then to get a Diploma in Management equals a YES.
3. Students who have completed a Level II program, with support from this program, are ineligible for Level I and Level II support. Special circumstances will be considered if a Level I or Level II, if required for career specialization.
4. Students who have completed a Level III program, with support from this program, are ineligible for Level I, Level II, and Level III program support.

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5. Students who apply for a second Level I, Level II or Level III program can be approved for tuition and books only if, after 10 years of the first degree.

Application:

1) This refers to students who have already completed a Level I, Level II or Level III program with funding from the SNPSSSP and are applying for support for a Level I or Level II or Level III program respectively.

2) This also applies to students who are applying for support under this program for the first time and who have already completed a part of their Post-Secondary education. For example, a student who recently gained treaty status and who is applying for support for a Level I program but who already has an undergraduate degree will not be supported.

3) Notwithstanding 5(I) and 5(II) SNPSSSP shall have discretion with respect to funding in the case of professional degrees (medical, law, dental, veterinarian and chartered accountant).

7) Changing Program of Study

Policy: Where students change programs within one of the levels, the academic years used for each program within this level will be counted for support purposes.

Application: This applies to Level I, Level II and Level III program of studies. For example, if a student has completed two years of an undergraduate degree in Chemistry and transfers to a four-year undergraduate Economics program, the duration of support provided for the Economics program will be two years, i.e. the four years for Economics less the two years taken in Chemistry. The additional year of support of the policy may apply.

Procedures:

1) Students must inform the SNPSSSP of the program change and provide documentation of the program change.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: , Kendall Panther Bone

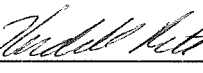
2) The SNPSSSP must inform the student in writing of the period of support already used for the first program of studies within the level and the remaining support the student has for the second program of studies within the same level.

SECTION VII: CRITERION FOR SPRING/SUMMER

Policy: The SNPSSSP will sponsor students in spring and summer session if they fall under the following criteria:

1) The student will be completing a certificate, diploma, or degree by the end of the next academic year (as defined by the Post-Secondary institution).
2) The courses needed are prerequisites to enter into a program of studies for the regular academic year and that the student is actively being sponsored.
3) Year 1 & 2 students may be considered if tuition supports are available and students are in good academic standing.
4) New Spring/Summer Stats - approvals subject to caveat for funds.

Procedure: The student will put his/her request for sponsorship for the spring and/or summer session in writing addressed to the SNPSSSP. This letter will be accompanied by a letter from their department or faculty confirming the reason(s) for attending spring and summer session applies to either 7 (1 or 2). Upon review of the information provided, the student will be notified in writing of the SNPSSSP decision. The student must be registered full-time as defined by the institution, to receive full sponsorship.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: , Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION VIII: LIMITED FUNDING FOR TUITION AND LIVING ALLOWANCE

Policy: If a student utilizes the maximum number of support months available in each level, continued support will be evaluated on a case by case basis to continue to pay tuition and books until the student completes his/her program of study. Unique exceptions apply on a case by case basis as long as the student completes his/her program of study and is in good standing with the institution and that the courses will go towards the student's program of study for completion. The student must present a course plan to the SNPSSSP outlining what they have left to complete. Continued sponsorship will be determined on a semester-to-semester basis.

Students are eligible for living allowance and books for 8 months of open studies and similar programs and must be accepted into a degree program.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: , Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION IX: OVERPAYMENTS

Policy: Students who have dropped out of a program or have withdrawn prior to the next pay period and who have not informed SNPSSSP and consequently receive an allowance cheque must return this cheque. Failure to return this cheque will constitute an overpayment. The SNPSSSP will inform the student, in writing, requesting the student to discuss a reasonable repayment plan. Failure to comply will jeopardize future sponsorship.

Procedure: Students who withdraw from a course(s) will be subject to repayment of the tuition fee charged by the institution. Students must obtain a letter of support recommending their withdrawal in order to waive the overpayment of living allowance or tuition.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

SECTION X: APPEAL PROCESS

Policy: To ensure fairness and equitable treatment the following appeal process has been established;

1) Students must submit a letter of appeal including all supporting documents outlining their grievance to the SNPSSSP Manager within 10 business days of receiving the letter/email informing them of a decision that has been made to which they want to appeal.

2) The SNPSSSP Manager will consult with the Post-Secondary Student Support Director to address the appeal with the OSCC Appeal Committee and may request an interview with the student.

3) The student will be informed in writing of the SNPSSSP OSCC Appeal Committee Decision; the decision is final.

4) An OSCC appeal committee is comprised of:

    a) OSCC President

    b) OSCC PSSSP Program Manager

    c) OSCC Post-Secondary Career Guidance Counsellor

    d) OSCC Board Member

5) The OSCC Appeal Committee will adjudicate all appeals.

NOTE: Harassment and abuse towards OSCC staff will not be tolerated.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Annex I

CATEGORY	LIVING ALLOWANCE RATES
Single	1,500
Married with Employed Spouse	1,500
1 dependant	1,840
2 dependants	2,258
3 dependants	2,770
$100 per additional dependant	
Married Student/Married Student without/with dependents	One student is designated as recipient and one student designated same as 'Married with Employed Spouse"
Married with Dependant Spouse	1,975
1 dependant	2,422
2 dependants	2,973
3 dependants	3,648
$100 per additional dependant	
Single Parent	
1 dependant	2,319
2 dependants	2,845
3 dependants	3,491
$100 per additional dependant	

Effective by Board motion on November 24, 2023

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Eligibility

1) To be eligible to apply for support under the SNPSSSP an applicant:

a) Must be a Siksika Nation member,

b) Must have met University or College entrance requirements and have been enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a Post-Secondary institution for a program of studies.

Types of Support – Full-time Students

1. Tuition Support: includes students' fees for registration, tuition, initial professional certification and examination fees, and the cost of books and supplies, which are listed as required by the Post-Secondary institution. SNPSSSP has the flexibility to adjust tuition support provided for:

   a) Students attending Canadian public institutions at the normal rate charged by the institution for a Canadian student.

   b) Students attending private or foreign Post-Secondary institutions at the same rate charged by the Canadian institution nearest to Siksika Nation at the time of application, which offers a comparable program.

   c) Students enrolled in a foreign institution where no comparable program is available at an institution in Canada.

2. Support for Living Expenses: The allowances are provided to cover such costs as food, shelter, daily transportation and child care.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Annex II

Terms and Conditions of the University/College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEPP)

Purpose

The purpose of the UCEPP program is to provide financial support to Siksika Nation Students who are able to attain the academic level required for entrance into College or University level programs.

Student Eligibility for Support

To be eligible to receive support as a UCEPP student, it is necessary that:

1. the applicant be a Siksika Nation Member and who has been accepted for enrollment in a UCEPP program at a recognized Post-Secondary institution and complies with the UCEPP guidelines, up to a maximum of 24 months.

2. the applicant qualifies under the mature student admission requirements of the Post-Secondary institution;

3. The student will be accepted as a student of a regular University or College credit program upon successful completion of the UCEPP program.

4. The student is completing requirements for their high school diploma or college or university equivalency requirements.

5. The applicant has not been financially supported previously by the Department of Indian Affairs for Post-Secondary programs. Exemptions to this condition may be made for medical reasons.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Types of Support

1. For all UCEPP students, the maximum time limit for financial support will be defined by the institution offering the program.
2. Continued financial support will be subject to SNPSSSP receiving a statement from the institution confirming successful progress.
3. Full sponsorship will include tuition, books, supplies (which are listed as required by the institution) and a monthly living allowance. Part-time students will receive only tuition, books and supplies (which are listed as required by the institution).

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Annex III

Siksika Nation Post Secondary
Student Support Program
Memorandum of Understanding

I, _____as a student of the Siksika Nation Post Secondary Student Support Program (SNPSSSP) understand and agree to the following conditions for sponsorship/continued sponsorship.

1. To provide a copy of the registration, schedule and fees for each semester of studies.

2. New applicants must submit a letter of acceptance into the program.

3. To provide a copy of the transcripts of all courses taken upon completion of each semester of studies.

4. To inform the SNPSSSP authority, any changes in marital status, academic registration of courses, or program of study. A change in application form must be submitted for changes to marital/dependant status.

5. To adhere to the Academic Policy of maintaining a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 or greater. Failing to do so will result in cancellation of sponsorship.

6. To understand that the SNPSSSP does not cover the Health and Dental fees and the student is required to submit an opt-out form to the institution that he/she is attending in accordance with their deadline. Students who choose not to opt out are responsible for paying on their own.

7. To understand that Old Sun Community Colleges strives to ensure a healthy and safe work and study environment where everyone is treated with decency and respect. Any form of harassment, bullying, violence or discrimination in any form will not be tolerated

8. To inform the Siksika Nation Post-Secondary Student Support Program Counsellor of any employment while attending classes. A **maximum of 24 hours or 3 days** employment per week still qualifies for a training allowance.

9. To understand that by signing this "Memorandum of Understanding" it is effective for the current academic year.

10. To note that failing to sign this document will result in the cancellation of sponsorship.

Signed:_____ Date: _____

Amended: January 18, 2024 /OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone
Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone

Annex IV

Siksika Chief & Council Motion- Academic Year 2021-2022

Office of Chief and Council

Memo

To:	Maurice Many Fingers/ OSCC President
From:	**Chief Crowfoot/March 2021 Chair**
CC:	**Richard Sparvier/Tribal Manager** **Chief and Council** **File**
Re:	**Motion**
Date:	**March 2, 2021**

Chief and Council passed a motion today in favour of funding all Siksika Post Secondary students effective April 1, 2021, based on the Treaty Right to Education, and based on the approved Siksika Post Secondary Program policies, to be completed by Old Sun Community College President and Staff.

Carried.

Approved: November 6, 2023 / OSCC Board Chair: _____, Kendall Panther Bone