

## **New Brunswick Tuition Rebate**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### **1. What is the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate?**

It is a rebate of Provincial income taxes paid, equal to 50% of the tuition costs you paid since January 1, 2005 to an eligible post-secondary institution, with a maximum lifetime rebate of \$20,000.

#### **2. Am I eligible for this rebate?**

You are eligible for the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate if you:

- ✓ graduated from an eligible post-secondary institution from anywhere in the world;
- ✓ paid tuition on, or after, January 1, 2005;
- ✓ are a resident of New Brunswick;
- ✓ file a New Brunswick personal income tax return; and
- ✓ have **New Brunswick income tax payable**.

#### **3. What is an eligible post-secondary institution?**

Eligible post-secondary institutions are those institutions recognized by the federal government for purposes of federal / provincial tuition income tax credits. These include universities, colleges and other post-secondary institutions from anywhere in the world. A list of these institutions can be found on the Human Resources and Skills Development Canada website. [ [www.hrsdc.gc.ca](http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca) ]

#### **4. Do I have to be in school full time to qualify?**

No, tuition costs incurred for part-time studies undertaken at eligible post-secondary institutions qualify as long as you graduate and meet all other eligibility requirements.

#### **5. What is New Brunswick income tax payable?**

New Brunswick income tax payable is the actual amount of income tax you have paid to the Government of New Brunswick in any given year. This amount is indicated on **line 428** of the Notice of Assessment issued by the Canada Revenue Agency following the processing of your yearly income tax return.

#### **6. What is the amount of rebate I can expect to receive?**

The total rebate for any given year will be equal to your New Brunswick income tax payable to a maximum of \$4,000. The total lifetime rebate that you are eligible to receive is 50% of your tuition costs to a maximum of \$20,000. You must have \$4,000 or more of New Brunswick income tax payable in order to receive the full rebate amount in any particular year. For example, if you have \$600 New Brunswick income tax payable, but have accumulated a credit of \$3,000, you will be eligible for a rebate of \$600 for that particular taxation year. You may carry the remaining credits (\$2,400) forward and claim them if you have New Brunswick tax payable in subsequent years.

### **7. What if I don't have any New Brunswick Income Tax Payable?**

It is important to remember that you have 20 years from the first year you paid tuition to apply for your rebate. Following your initial approval to the program, if your New Brunswick income tax payable in any given year is nil, it does not mean that you do not qualify for the rebate— it simply means that you do not qualify for a rebate in that particular year. All you have to do is re-apply in subsequent years in which your Notice of Assessment indicates that you have New Brunswick income tax payable.

### **8. When and how do I apply for the rebate?**

Application for the rebate is easy, just follow these steps:

1. Graduate from an eligible post-secondary institution.
2. File a personal income tax return with the Canada Revenue Agency and receive your Notice of Assessment, which confirms you have New Brunswick income tax payable on line 428.
3. Submit your initial application to the Department of Finance and attach:
  - a copy of your Notice of Assessment,
  - copies of all tuition certificates issued by your post-secondary institution,
  - a proof of graduation from the post-secondary program, and
  - proof of name change, if applicable.

Once your eligibility for the rebate is determined, you will receive your rebate directly from the Province of New Brunswick. You may choose to receive your rebate by mail or through direct deposit.

### **9. Do I have to graduate to be eligible?**

Yes.

### **10. What if I went to school outside the province or outside the country?**

You may be eligible as long as the federal government recognizes the institution at which you received your education for purposes of tuition credit claimed on your personal income tax return.

### **11. Is there a maximum I can claim?**

Yes, you can claim a maximum lifetime amount of \$20,000.

### **12. Can I transfer my credits to someone else?**

No, the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate is non-transferable.

### **13. How long do I have to claim my rebate?**

You have 20 years inclusive of the first year you earn credits. You may claim a maximum of \$4,000 per year. This means that it will take a minimum of 5 years to claim your lifetime maximum, assuming you have \$4,000 or more New Brunswick income tax payable in the years in which you apply.

**14. When do I begin to accumulate credits?**

You can accumulate credits respecting eligible tuition paid on or after January 1, 2005, if you were enrolled in an eligible institution and had eligible tuition costs.

**15. Does this program impact the current personal income tax tuition credit program that I claim when I file my personal income return with the federal government?**

No, they are two separate programs. You may apply for the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate after you have filed your personal income return. You will need the Notice of Assessment that the Canada Revenue Agency will send to you after it has processed your personal income tax return.

**16. I am attending school outside of New Brunswick. I file a New Brunswick income tax return, but I do not currently live in New Brunswick. Can I still apply for a rebate? (e.g. student living in Ontario)**

As long as you file a New Brunswick income tax return, and have income tax payable to New Brunswick, you may be eligible for a rebate.

**17. What if I graduate, then take more courses after I graduate? Can I claim those tuition amounts?**

You will receive credit for tuition paid up to the date you graduate. If you take courses after your graduation date, you may accumulate credit, but you will not be eligible for a rebate until you have completed another course of study and graduate for a second (or subsequent) time.

**18. Do I have to apply in consecutive years for my rebate?**

No, you may apply any time within 20 years of first claiming credit as long as you have New Brunswick income tax payable.

**19. What if I take a break from my studies?**

As long as you claim the rebate within 20 years of the first year you paid tuition, and incur the tuition costs prior to graduating from an eligible institution, you may be eligible for a rebate.

**20. What if my tuition costs do not reach the lifetime maximum?**

Your lifetime maximum credit must be earned and a rebate claimed within 20 years from the year you first earn a credit. In order to benefit from this program you must redeem your full allowable rebate within that time.

**21. If my employer reimburses me for my tuition costs or pays my tuition am I eligible for the rebate?**

You are eligible as long as you declare the reimbursement or payment by your employer on your personal income tax return as income.

**22. Are tuition costs for a GED or for academic upgrading eligible?**

No, the tuition must have been paid for post-secondary education.

**23. I am not a Canadian citizen, but I am living and working in New Brunswick.**

**Am I eligible?**

As long as you file a personal income tax return with the Canada Revenue Agency have New Brunswick personal income tax payable and meet all other eligibility requirements, you may be eligible.

**24. Is there a deadline to apply for the rebate?**

Yes, the deadline for applications is December 31 of the year following the applicable taxation year. For example, for rebates related to taxation year 2010, the application deadline date is December 31, 2011.

**25. Can I claim a rebate for past taxation years?**

No, rebates cannot be claimed for taxation years retroactively.

**26. Where can I call for information?**

You may call 1-800-669-7070 for information or to request an application form for the benefit.