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## Memorandum

Subject: Occupational Training programs 12 weeks or longer in duration

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Centrally Delivered Services  
Tuition-based Public and Private Training Providers  
Student Aid Alberta

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### MESSAGE:

Enterprise and Advanced Education (EAE) and Human Services both provide financial assistance to Albertans pursuing post-secondary credential programs.

Discussions between the two ministries have been ongoing for some time to resolve this overlap. Phase 1 was implemented in August 1, 2010 when *Alberta Works* funding was phased out for diploma programs and loans were no longer offered for pre-employment programs and post-secondary programs less than 12 weeks in duration.

The Ministers of EAE and Human Services have agreed to move forward with the next phase which will transition the responsibility to provide funding assistance for Occupational Training programs (12 weeks or longer) to *Student Aid Alberta*. This move will ensure that Albertans attending the same training program receive equitable access to funding from the Government of Alberta.

Beginning April 1, 2014 *Alberta Works* will no longer provide Alberta Works funding to individuals planning to attend Occupational Training programs 12 weeks or longer in duration. Albertans commencing programs on or after April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 may apply for full or part-time funding through EAE's *Student Aid Alberta*.

To support a smooth transition, information products have been created to ensure impacted Albertans, training providers and staff receive clear, concise and timely messages.

The following information products are attached:

- A [joint letter](#) that was mailed to training providers, via Canada Post, on Thursday, August 8, 2013. The distribution list included training providers who have delivered Occupational Training programs to *Alberta Works* learners in the past three years.
- [Question and Answer](#) document including questions written from three perspectives: staff, training provider and prospective/ongoing learners.
- [A Fact Sheet](#).

We will continue to work together with representatives from EAE, over the coming months, to implement changes that will be needed. We respect your need for information and are committed to sharing more details as soon as we can.