



Policy Principle

This policy principle was adopted by the Board of Directors at their September 29, 2017 meeting.

Policy Q04: Provincial experiential learning fund

Adopted: September 29, 2017

Expires: September 29, 2019

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Student Alliance believes that every university student, regardless of field of study, should have access to at least one (1) experiential learning opportunity during their studies; and

WHEREAS students with remunerated internship and experiential learning opportunities have almost double the positive employment outcomes post-graduation (63.1%) compared to students who participated in a non-remunerated internship (37%) or did not participate in one at all (35.2%); and

WHEREAS many fields of study, such as those in the humanities and social sciences, do not directly correspond to easily identifiable work placements, making it difficult for students to find experiential learning opportunities and the institutional backing for these opportunities; and

WHEREAS an experiential learning fund would allow students to tailor experiential learning opportunities to their field of study and to their academic interests; and

WHEREAS nearly 20% of all recent graduates are in precarious work as of 2014; and

WHEREAS according to a 2013 survey by Pathways to Education, 54% of Canadians believed that young people were not “moderately prepared” for the workforce;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the New Brunswick Student Alliance advocate for the establishment of a provincial fund for experiential learning that students, especially those in non-traditionally supported fields of study, at public universities can access in order to support tailored experiential learning opportunities:

- Such monies shall be provided by the Government of New Brunswick through a fund administered by the Department of Postsecondary Education, Training and Labour;



- The eligibility and appropriateness of such opportunities shall be overseen by a university committee, which must include at least one student. Eligibility criteria include:
 - Proof of an organization willing to work with the student;
 - Proof of a willing supervisor and the academic rationale supporting this opportunity;
 - Proof of an outline of work to be completed as part of this opportunity;
 - Proof of a formal learning and reflection plan; and
 - Funding shall also be made available to support the labour of professors and or supervisors involved in the creation of such opportunities; and
 - Students supported by this fund shall receive, at minimum, the equivalent of the provincial minimum wage.