



This policy principle was updated and approved by the Board of Directors at the 2019 Annual General Meeting on March 10, 2019.

Policy A06: Deaf and hard of hearing students

Updated: March 10, 2019

Expires: March 10, 2021

WHEREAS deaf and hard of hearing students are underrepresented in postsecondary education, with only 3% of deaf and hard of hearing students and 1.7% of profoundly deaf students receiving a bachelor's degree, compared to 29% of the Canadian population;

WHEREAS almost 40% of deaf Canadians are unemployed, compared to 6.9% of all hearing Canadians;

WHEREAS students who are deaf and hard of hearing experience higher costs when accessing postsecondary education and on average require 6 years to complete an undergraduate degree;

WHEREAS deaf and hard of hearing students cite attitudinal barriers created by professors and universities as major factors contributing to their academic frustration and overall lack of access to education in Canada; and

WHEREAS there is an absence of designated equitable programs and institutions for deaf and hard of hearing students in New Brunswick.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the New Brunswick Student Alliance advocate for the creation of a transition to university program for deaf and hard of hearing postsecondary students in New Brunswick.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the New Brunswick Student Alliance advocate for the Government of New Brunswick to expand all current student financial aid programs to include deaf and hard of hearing students who wish to transfer to specialized postsecondary institutions, regardless of location.