

## **Leniency Policy**

If you have been previously funded under the PSSSP and currently have a condition placed on your file (ex: owing funds to the PSSSP), you are eligible to apply under the **PSSSP Leniency Policy**.

This policy was established to assist persons who have conditions applied to their education files which disallows them access to further education benefits. This is particularly true from earlier years of this program before the PSSSP had counselors and education officers on staff.

Many students found themselves in situations where they could not cope with the stresses and pressures of attending post secondary education; others were homesick; some made unwise choices in course selections and program selections; and many others were just immature at the time and as a result, their studies suffered which caused them to fail out.

While we had policies in place at the time to ensure students knew what the processes were for all eventualities, some of these students could have benefited from more intense counselling, guidance and monitoring such as we have today.

All cases where conditions are applied are a result of failure to follow policies and to communicate with post secondary staff on issues and seek assistance.

The leniency policy provides a forum for any person with conditions that prevent them from accessing further education benefits an opportunity to clarify what happened in the past and advise what is different now that would ensure their success.

In order to be considered eligible under the PSSSP Leniency Policy, an individual must have at least 10% of their outstanding balance paid to the PSSSP and they must submit an application by the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline date. The applicant will then be reviewed by the **Leniency Review Committee (LRC)** for consideration. If approved for consideration of funding, the applicant will then be considered a Priority 5 Applicant – Late and Leniency Applications.

There are no guarantees that a request for leniency will be approved. If approved for consideration, there is no guarantee that funding will be approved. This will be dependent on the availability of the annual PSSSP budget at the time of selections.