

July 30, 2019

ATIPPA, 2015 section 40.(1)



Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015* [Our File #: AESL/051/2019]

On July 18, 2019 the Department of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour received your request for access to the following records/information:

“Completion/graduation rates, total enrollment rates, attrition rates, and detailed financial information (ie. per-student cost, overall actual cost, grants, transfers, funding provided, tuition costs, average per-student cost etc.) associated with and incurred by the province since the privatization of Adult Basic Education (ABE) broken down on a per-year basis for 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19”

I am pleased to inform you that your request for access to this information has been granted and the requested records are included herein.

As the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program allows for continuous intake and serves a diverse client group, completion/graduation and attrition rates are not applicable as it is unlike the K-12 school system. ABE students may complete their individual objectives at any time in the program without completing all courses in a particular level of the program. For example, some ABE learners are focused solely on basic literacy skills and engage in Level I course work but may never complete the full Level. Likewise, not all students registered in Level III in a given year will be eligible to complete Level III in that year and therefore graduate. Students who require literacy skills for employment, academic upgrading to access post-secondary or specific courses to transfer back to the high school system leave the program when their learning objective is complete, even though they have not finished the ABE program and graduated. Accordingly, we have provided the number of graduates in each of the years over the requested timeframe, but caution that this is not an accurate measure of program or individual success as the measure would be applied in the K-12 or other post-secondary education environments.

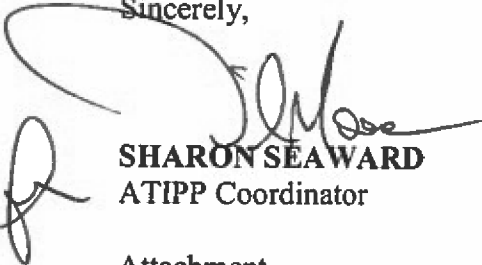
Students leave the ABE program for a variety of reasons which are included in the attached table. Some leave the program for short periods in an academic year to secure employment, address family responsibilities, or for other reasons but later return to their studies. Please note the recorded reasons are provided by service providers on a voluntary basis and are not comprehensive. In some cases, the information may not have been provided by the student.

The Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (act) requires us to provide an advisory response within 10 days of receiving the request. As this request has been completed prior to day 10, this letter also serves as our Advisory Response.

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Completed Access to Information Requests website within one business day following the applicable period of time. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the undersigned at (709) 729-4276 or SharonSeaward@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



SHARON SEAWARD
ATIPP Coordinator

Attachment

ABE Program Information for 2016-2017

Number of ABE Graduates (Academic Year)		408
Total ABE Enrollment (Unique Individuals by Fiscal Year)		2016
Attrition (Academic Year)		
Populated in the database using information voluntarily provided by service providers.		
	Academic Dismissal	41
	Deceased	1
	Dropped Out	223
	Family Responsibilities	24
	Financial	25
	Goal Completed	131
	Graduated	471
	Illness	49
	Institution Closed	12
	Left for Employment	37
	Level I Completed	10
	Level II Completed	2
	Other	333
	Unknown	72
Funding Provided:		
• Private Institutions: ABE Tuition		\$9,431,168
• ABE and literacy grants to ABE providers		\$486,347
Total Tuition Cost (Fiscal Year)		\$9,917,515
Average Per Student Cost (Fiscal Year)		
		\$4,919

ABE Program Information for 2017-2018

Number of ABE Graduates (Academic Year)		396
Total ABE Enrollment (Unique Individuals by Fiscal Year)		1971
Attrition (Academic Year)		
Populated in the database using information voluntarily provided by service providers.		
	Academic Dismissal	50
	Deceased	2
	Dropped Out	170
	Family Responsibilities	26
	Financial	19
	Goal Completed	122
	Graduated	367
	Illness	79
	Institution Closed	0
	Left for Employment	40
	Level I Completed	12
	Level II Completed	5
	Other	317
	Unknown	47
Funding Provided:		
• Private Institutions: ABE Tuition		\$8,554,641
• ABE and literacy grants to ABE providers		\$486,347
Total Tuition Cost (Fiscal Year)		\$9,040,988
Average Per Student Cost (Fiscal Year)		
		\$4,587

ABE Program Information for 2018-2019

Number of ABE Graduates¹ (Academic Year)		299
Total ABE Enrollment (Unique Individuals by Fiscal Year)		1855
Attrition¹ (Academic Year)		
Populated in the database using information voluntarily provided by service providers.	Academic Dismissal	33
	Deceased	0
	Dropped Out	143
	Family Responsibilities	21
	Financial	15
	Goal Completed	92
	Graduated	96
	Illness	53
	Institution Closed	0
	Left for Employment	18
	Level I Completed	3
	Level II Completed	1
	Other	244
	Unknown	33
Funding Provided:		
• Private Institutions: ABE Tuition		\$7,852,020
• ABE and literacy grants to ABE providers		\$486,347
Total Tuition Cost (Fiscal Year)		\$8,338,367
Average Per Student Cost (Fiscal Year)		\$4,495

¹ to 07/18/19