

# Ministry of Advanced Education



## Plan for 2019-20

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# Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable  
Tina Beaudry- Mellor  
Minister of Advanced Education*

I am pleased to present the Ministry of Advanced Education Plan for 2019-20. It provides details about how our Ministry will support the direction of the Government.

Government Direction and Budget for 2019-20 is focused on *The Right Balance* for Saskatchewan. We're returning to a balanced budget with sound fiscal management while keeping taxes low, supporting economic growth and ensuring quality government programs and services for people and businesses in Saskatchewan.

Our Ministry continues to have an unwavering commitment to students and their success. We will provide funds for a post-secondary education and training system that allows students to go out into the world and compete.

We will support students financially through a program of scholarships, grants and loans that ensure everyone has access. Our inclusive system will provide opportunities to a diverse array of students from a wide variety of backgrounds.

We will focus on creating pathways from school to a career for our students. We will insist, as we always have, that students remain at the centre of everything we do. Their success is our success.

We will work with our partners, the universities, colleges and technical schools of Saskatchewan to ensure students have choices that are aligned with the needs of our growing labour market. We will respond to changes in that labour market with programs that meet the needs of students and employers.

We will insist our high-quality education and training programs constantly improve and we will look for efficiencies in program delivery. We will ensure our institutions continue to build on their commitment to increase the participation and success of Indigenous students. We will encourage institutions to continue working to improve student mental health and well-being.

The Ministry will report on progress made toward this plan in the 2019-20 Annual Report.

# Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to having *The Right Balance*. We will continue to carefully manage spending and focus on government priorities, such as competitive taxes, investments in economic growth and providing programs and services that meet the needs of Saskatchewan people and businesses.

## Saskatchewan's Vision

*"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."*

Sustaining growth  
and opportunities for  
Saskatchewan people

Meeting the challenges  
of growth

Securing a better quality  
of life for all  
Saskatchewan people

Delivering responsive  
and responsible  
government

Saskatchewan's Vision and goals provide the framework for ministries, agencies and partners to align their programs and services and meet the needs of Saskatchewan's residents.

All ministries and agencies will report on progress in their 2019-20 annual reports.

# Operational Plan

## Mandate Statement

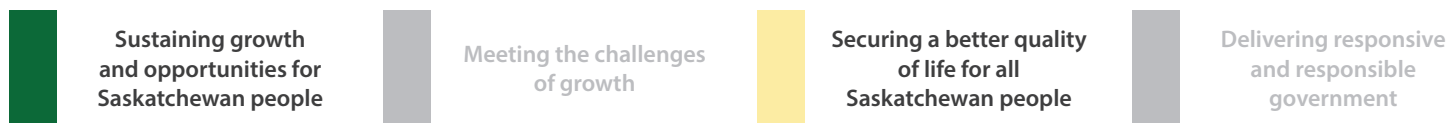
The Ministry is responsible for the post-secondary education sector that supports a growing Saskatchewan and that leads to a higher quality of life. The Ministry places a high priority on meeting the needs of students by ensuring that our post-secondary sector is accessible, responsive, sustainable, accountable, and provides quality education. Working with our post-secondary institutions, the Ministry is focused on providing opportunities for all students, especially First Nations and Métis people, to prepare them to live, work and learn in Saskatchewan.

## Mission Statement

The Ministry provides leadership and resources to foster a high-quality post-secondary education and training system that responds to the needs of Saskatchewan's people and economy.

The Ministry is also home for the Status of Women Office.

## Government Goals



This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: improving education outcomes.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of accessibility, responsiveness and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post secondary sector is:



- **accessible** because it offers qualified people the opportunity to attend and succeed;
- **responsive** because it meets the needs of students, communities and the economy; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.

## Ministry Goal

Students succeed in post-secondary education.

## Strategy

Provide supports to promote student success.

## Key Actions

- Ensure that students have access to a variety of financial supports (loans, grants, scholarships) so that post-secondary education is accessible and affordable.
  - Target the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship to students with a demonstrated need for financial assistance.
- Improve opportunities for students to succeed while transitioning into post-secondary education and during their studies by working with post-secondary institutions to undertake activities such as:
  - Sharing knowledge and promising practices with respect to mental health supports for students; and,
  - Increasing student work abroad opportunities.



## Strategy

Foster an inclusive post-secondary sector where a diversity of students can enroll and succeed.

### Key Actions

- Increase the enrolment and educational attainment of First Nations and Métis students by:
  - Providing targeted funding for Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies for its Student Support Services Model and to Saskatchewan Polytechnic to support its Indigenous Student Success Strategy.
- Increase the enrolment and educational attainment of students with a disability by:
  - Working with the post-secondary sector to implement aspects of the [Provincial Disability Strategy](#); and,
  - Administering program supports for students with disabilities.
- Increase the number of international students studying in Saskatchewan by:
  - Working with the post-secondary sector to implement the [Post-secondary International Education Strategy](#); and,
  - Maintaining the international reputation of Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions through monitoring and implementation of the federal government's International Student Program designation standards.
- Work with the post-secondary sector to implement the [Vision 2030](#) plan for French post-secondary education in Saskatchewan.

## Strategy

Provide programs, services and technology that evolve in response to client needs.

### Key Actions

- Ensure technology and digital services continuously respond to client needs.
  - Improving student services at the regional colleges.
- Solicit citizen input and feedback on programs, services and the technology used to deliver programs and services and make adjustments based on the results.

## Performance Measures

### Enrolment

#### Annual Student Head Count in Credentialed Programs

Enrolment indicators demonstrate sector capacity and uptake. This data is used to monitor trends and inform planning for the sector. For Indigenous students, the target is to increase enrolment by 60% by 2021 (baseline year is 2013). For international students, the target is to increase by 75% by 2020 (baseline year is 2012).

### Credentials

#### Number of Credentials Awarded

Credentials awarded demonstrates student outcomes. This data is used to monitor trends, inform planning and support sector responsiveness. For Indigenous students, the target is to increase by 80% by 2021 (baseline year is 2013). For international students, the target is to increase by 25% by 2020 (baseline year is 2012-13).



## Educational Attainment

### Post-secondary Educational Attainment of Population Aged 15 Years and Over

This measure changes slowly over time. The 2019-20 target is a 2% annual increase in the number of Saskatchewan residents, 15 years and over, who have a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or university degree. The long term target is to match the national percentage of population with post-secondary education.

### Educational Attainment of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Populations Aged 15 years and Over by Credential

Educational attainment measures change slowly over time. The long-term target is to match the attainment level of the Indigenous population with the attainment rate of the overall Saskatchewan population.

## International

### Number of Saskatchewan Students Studying Abroad

The target is to increase the number of Saskatchewan students studying abroad by 50% by 2020.

## Government Goals



This Ministry goal supports the strategic priorities from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: increasing Saskatchewan's competitiveness, improving education outcomes and connecting workers and employers, and investing in skills training.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of responsiveness, quality and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post-secondary sector is:



- **responsive** because it meets the needs of students, communities and the economy;
- **high quality** because it meets required standards and maintains public confidence in the programs and services provided; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.

## Ministry Goal

Meet the post-secondary education needs of the province.

## Strategy

Ensure post-secondary funding supports Ministry and sector goals.

## Key Actions

- Engage with post-secondary institutions on goals, strategies and financial requests to help inform decision-making and provide leadership and direction to the sector.
- Work with post-secondary institutions to develop and annually update capital plans to inform government investments in infrastructure.



## Strategy

Support post-secondary institutions to provide education, training and research to meet the needs of Saskatchewan communities and labour markets.

### Key Actions

- Encourage post-secondary institutions to engage in education and research that generates innovative ideas and technologies that support Saskatchewan's future economic development.
  - Provide financial support for Mitacs research internships, which equip Saskatchewan graduate students and post-doctoral fellows with work experience in Saskatchewan businesses.
- Identify training needs and support programs that align with the labour market including:
  - Ensuring that the training system serves provincial labour market needs by working with the Ministry of Immigration and Career Training to support the Skills Training Sector Program Planning Committee;
  - Working with the Ministry of Health and the health sector to monitor and evaluate health occupation needs to inform provincial training, including working with the College of Medicine to support undergraduates and post-graduate residencies;
  - Managing interprovincial agreements to meet current and projected health labour market demands in specialized areas; and,
  - Renewing the interprovincial funding agreement for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

## Strategy

Strengthen program quality and responsiveness to Saskatchewan's economic and social needs.

### Key Actions

- Examine Ministry legislation, regulations and policies so that they align with program and service needs.
- Ensure all new degree programs meet Saskatchewan's social, economic and quality standards according to *The Degree Authorization Act*.
- Monitor post-secondary institutions' compliance with all legislative, regulatory and policy requirements.

## Performance Measures

### Employment Rate by Credential

This measure changes slowly over time and is reflective of the economy and labour market. The 2019-20 target is for Saskatchewan's employment rate to remain higher than the national average.

### Quality of Educational Experience

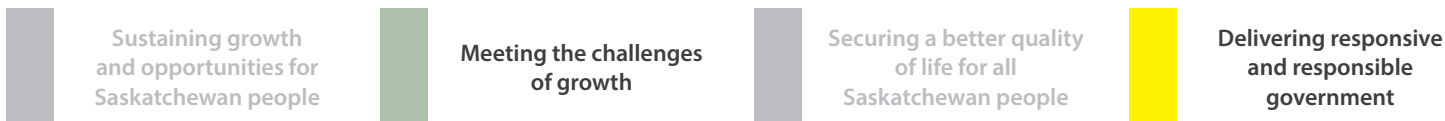
This measure demonstrates levels of graduate satisfaction with the overall quality of their educational experience. It is collected every five years in the [Ministry of Advanced Education Post-Secondary Graduate Outcomes Study](#).

### Relatedness of Program to Current Job

This measure demonstrates the relatedness of the post-secondary program to the current job for recent graduates. It is collected every five years in the [Ministry of Advanced Education Post-Secondary Graduate Outcomes Study](#).



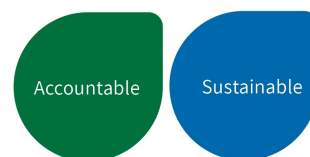
## Government Goals



This Ministry goal supports the strategic priority from the *Saskatchewan Plan for Growth*: delivering responsive and responsible government.

This goal aligns with the Ministry's post-secondary sector expectations of sustainability and accountability. Meeting these expectations means that the post-secondary sector is:

- **sustainable** because it operates within available resources; and,
- **accountable** because it achieves expected outcomes and is transparent.



## Ministry Goal

Saskatchewan's post-secondary sector is accountable and sustainable.

## Strategy

Encourage Saskatchewan post-secondary institutions to operate efficiently.

### Key Actions

- Identify opportunities to encourage collaboration and manage costs.
  - Lead efforts to encourage collaboration and manage costs, including implementation of the approved recommendations of the Task Force on Regional College Efficiency; and,
  - Engage the universities and Saskatchewan Polytechnic in joint efficiency and cost saving initiatives.
- Support continuous improvement efforts across the post-secondary sector.

## Strategy

Strengthen mechanisms that demonstrate accountability for public investments.

### Key Actions

- Promote government's five student-focused expectations for the post-secondary sector and monitor institutional progress toward meeting the five expectations.
- Advance the Post-Secondary Education Indicators Project to ensure consistent, comparable, sector-wide data is collected and available to inform planning, monitoring and reporting.

## Performance Measures

### Expenditure to Revenue Ratios

The expenditures to revenue ratio demonstrates efficiency and long-term sustainability. It is used to inform planning for the sector, to compare with other jurisdictions and review trends.

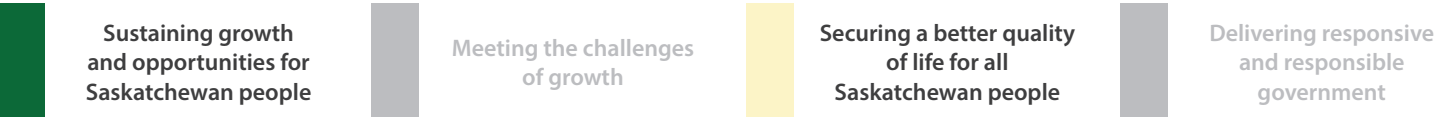
### Reliance on Revenue Source Ratios

Measures the composition of an institution's revenue sources and provides a measure for assessing the sustainability of the sector if the proportion or distribution of revenue sources changes.



# Status of Women Office

## Government Goals



The Status of Women Office is the sole branch in government that reports on the status of women. The Office acts as a catalyst within government to raise awareness of issues affecting women to ensure gender considerations are integrated into all aspects of government policy-making, legislation and program development.

## Goal

Raise awareness of issues affecting women and their families and ensure gender considerations are integrated into government decision making processes.

## Strategy

The Status of Women Office does not directly deliver programs and services to Saskatchewan residents. Instead, the Office works within government and with partners across the province to identify and address gender equality gaps.

## Key Actions

- Work with internal and external stakeholders to ensure gender considerations and gender-based analysis are integrated into government decision-making.
- Conduct research and report on equality indicators.
- Identify priority areas of concern and test solutions for Saskatchewan women.
- Focus training and awareness activities in targeted areas.

## Performance Measures

### Economic Prosperity

These measures capture the change in representation and women in leadership positions. Performance measures include:

- The number of Saskatchewan Public Service staff holding senior leadership positions;
- The number of women on Government of Saskatchewan Agencies, Boards and Commissions; and,
- The percentage of board members for Saskatchewan TSX traded companies who are women.

### Engagement with Stakeholders

This measure holds the Status of Women Office accountable in a responsive and responsible manner by measuring the number of interactions the Office has with internal and external stakeholders over the course of the year. 2019-20 data will be used to establish a baseline measure for engagement.

# Highlights

## 2019-20 Budget Highlights:

The Ministry of Advanced Education's 2019-20 budget totals \$728M, which is \$1M (0.2%) lower than 2018-19. This level of funding reflects the Government's commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the post-secondary education sector, given continued fiscal challenges, balanced with supporting students and the post-secondary sector's ability to provide access to high-quality programs that are responsive to students.

Key highlights include:

- Maintaining operating grants for universities, federated and affiliated colleges and technical institutes at their 2018-19 levels, despite the fiscal challenges facing the province;
- Adjusting operating grants to regional colleges to reflect administrative efficiencies realized, in part, by regional colleges through increased cooperation;
- Increasing the funding for the student loan program to reflect the anticipated increase in the number of students accessing the program; and,
- Targeting the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship to students with a demonstrated need for financial assistance.

\$673M will be provided in operating and capital funding to post-secondary institutions, including:

- \$469M to the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Regina and the federated and affiliated colleges;
- \$152M to Saskatchewan Polytechnic, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, and Gabriel Dumont Institute;
- \$29M to Saskatchewan's regional colleges; and,
- \$22M for capital repairs and maintenance throughout the post-secondary sector.

Over \$33M in financial supports will be provided to students, including:

- \$26M to support the student loan program, which will provide repayable and non-repayable financial assistance to an estimated 18,000 students;
- Continuing our transparent system of up-front grants for students which will see learners in a typical eight-month program receive about \$4,000 in combined federal and Saskatchewan grants per year of study; and,
- \$7M for scholarships, such as the Saskatchewan Advantage Scholarship and the Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship.

The Ministry's budget includes approximately \$0.4M in funding for the Status of Women Office, which will support efforts to raise awareness of issues affecting women, including economic participation and entrepreneurship, and to ensure gender considerations are integrated into government decision making. This represents a \$0.1M increase in funding related to the 2018-19 expansion of the Office to oversee the response to the Domestic Violence Death Review recommendations.

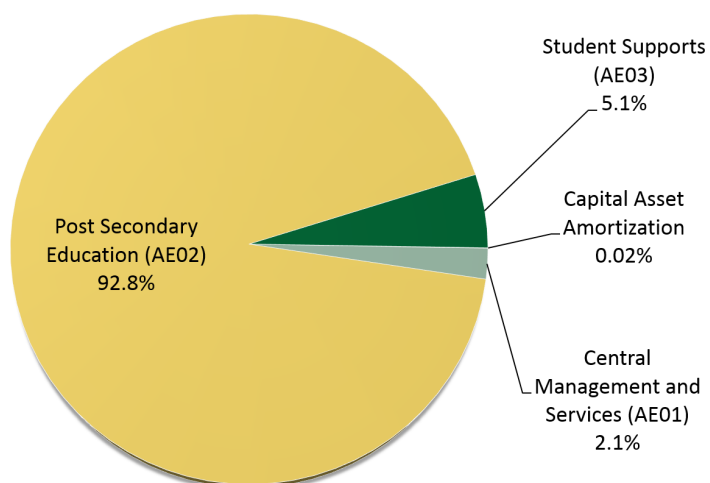
# Financial Summary

Advanced Education Budget 2019-20 Estimates (\$727.8 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Central Management and Services	\$ 15,299
Post-Secondary Education	\$ 675,417
Student Supports	\$ 36,902
Major Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 727,618</b>
Capital Asset Acquisitions	--
Capital Asset Amortization	167
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$727,785</b>

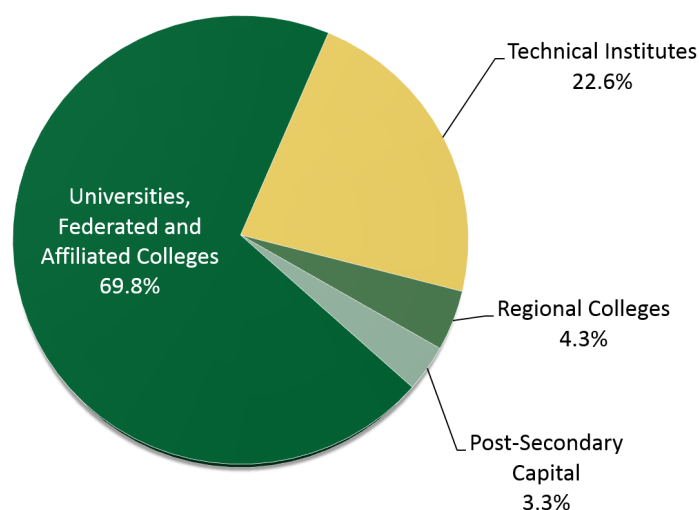
Advanced Education Transfers to Post-Secondary Institutions (\$672.8 million)	(in thousands of dollars)
Universities, Federated and Affiliated Colleges	\$ 469,399
Technical Institutes	\$ 152,001
Regional Colleges	\$ 28,996
Post-Secondary Capital	\$22,400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 672,796</b>

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget>

Ministry of Advanced Education  
Budget (\$727.8 million)



Ministry of Advanced Education  
transfers to Post-Secondary Education (\$672.8 million)



## For More Information

Please visit the Ministry's website at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/advanced-education>