



Memorandum

Date: August 1, 2007

To: Deans, Faculties of Education
General Secretaries, OTF and Affiliates
QECO, OSSTF Certification

From: Lise Roy-Kolbusz
Deputy Registrar

Subject: **Wage-earning experience required for Technological Studies certification – apprenticeship hours acceptable**

The College would like to confirm that we do accept apprenticeship hours for meeting the work experience requirements for certification as a teacher of Technological Studies.

Currently, *Regulation 184/97, Teachers' Qualifications*, sets out the requirements that must be satisfied by a candidate for certification as a teacher of Technological Studies. Among the requirements that are detailed is “wage-earning experience”.

The regulation is silent on the nature of wage-earning experience including that gained during apprenticeship. Significantly, there are no explicit or inferred statements that would prohibit the acceptability of experience gained during an apprenticeship towards the wage-earning experience requirement. In most cases, apprenticeship hours are compensated and can be considered wage-earning.

Additional inferences can be made when the regulation is read in context:

- Other clauses in the relevant section of the regulation outline variants of acceptability that allow the candidate to present a combination of work experience and education.
- The acceptability of a degree for the purposes of general studies certification is analogous to the acceptability of experience gained in an apprenticeship. Both are formative, and both are spent in accumulating specific knowledge or skills.

- The current clause in Regulation 184/97 permitting 3,700 hours of wage-earning experience aligns with the hours requirement for completion of an apprenticeship.

The College's recent Teachers' Qualifications Review and the review undertaken in 2000 considered certification requirements for teachers of technological studies.

In both cases, the College Council recommended regulatory amendments to adjust the wage-earning-related definitions of technological qualifications by:

- replacing the phrase "wage-earning" with "documented postsecondary skilled work and/or wage-earning" experience; and
- replacing references to "years of wage-earning experience" with "hours of work and/or wage-earning experience".

The proposed changes were intended, in part, to enable apprenticeship hours to be taken into account.

If you have any questions about this issue, please don't hesitate to contact Iona Mitchell, Manager, Membership Records, at 416-961-8800 ext. 412 or by e-mail at imitchell@oct.ca

I look forward to continuing to work effectively with you to help meet Ontario's need for highly-qualified, certified Technological Studies teachers.



Lise Roy-Kolbusz

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