

CIRCULAR

Date: July 17, 2025

CIRCULAR NUMBER: EIA #2025-13

Alternate Programs:

To: Program Managers

Subject: **Approval of Adult Education as an Employment Enhancement Measure**

Reference: 5.4 (1) of the Manitoba Assistance Act

Type: ☒ Policy ☐ For Internal Reference Only
☒ Procedure
☐ Rate
☐ Information Only

Effective Date **Immediately**

This circular provides updated information and instructions about a change in policy regarding adult education as an appropriate employment enhancement measure to meet work expectations for certain Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) participants.

Effective August 1, 2025, staff should automatically approve adult education as an acceptable employment measure for participants under 30 years old who do not have a grade twelve diploma or equivalent. If participants choose to attend an adult education program, this will meet their work expectations under EIA. This policy change will support young adults in receipt of EIA to increase their educational attainment so they can move towards sustainable employment.

Please note that there is no change in policy or practice related to approvals of post-secondary education.

Background

The Manitoba Assistance Act was amended on June 4, 2024, to make explicit that adult education can be an appropriate employment measure in fulfillment of work expectations. A new definition of "Adult Education" was also added to include (a) vocational or other employment related training, and (b) literacy or other educational upgrading, including a course or program of study offered at an adult learning centre.

Under the Manitoba Assistance Act, participants for whom work expectations apply are obligated to undertake employability enhancement measures that may lead to employment. Activities can range from participation in employment programming, educational upgrading, or rehabilitative treatment, to working with the EIA counsellor to address other social or medical barriers.