

Stay in School Initiatives

Objectives

- To assist students at risk of dropping out of school before graduating by allowing community stakeholders to develop innovative and effective programs and services at the local level.
- Projects are to prepare, inspire through experience, and instruct youth from grades 9 to 12 with the “tools” necessary to graduate high school.

Expected Results

Service providers are expected to work together to provide students from elementary school to high school with academic, cultural and career mentoring supports. The program aims to enhance student success by reducing the absenteeism and dropout rate, while providing a higher level of academic and cultural enrichment, and parental involvement in their child’s education.

Eligible Participants

- Off-reserve Aboriginal community members of Brantford, Hamilton, St. Catharines, and Fort Erie
- Aboriginal includes First Nations, Status, Non-status, Métis, Inuit
- Between the ages of 15 - 30 (Inclusive) at time of intake/selection
- Receive a referral from school administrator (i.e. principal, counsellor or teacher)
- Students previously expelled, suspended, or who have dropped out are given serious consideration
- Preference is given to Aboriginal students living in Brantford, Hamilton, St. Catharines, and Fort Erie

Eligible Coordinators (Employers)

- Businesses
- Organizations
- Schools and/or School boards

Program Parameters

- 1. Academic** – Tutoring in core subjects
- 2. Cultural** – Group mentoring for all grades to learn culture through stories, arts and support from Elders
- 3. Financial** – Immediate financial support such as free bus tickets tied to attendance
- 4. Career Focus** – Career mentoring for grades 9 and 10, and experiential co-operative on-the-job learning opportunities for grades 11 and 12