What's New for 2017 Tax Year?

Your 2017 Tax Receipts can be viewed and printed on ACORN starting on February 21, 2018.

The Canada Revenue Agency provides two helpful publications for students:

- Students and Income Tax 2017 [<u>https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/cra-arc/migration/cra-arc/E/pub/tg/p105/p105-17e.pdf</u>]
- Information for Students [<u>https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/students.html</u>]

Education and Textbook Tax Credits

The tax certificate has been named to T2202A Tuition and Enrolment Certificate.

Effective January 1, 2017, the federal education and textbook credits were eliminated. This measure did not eliminate the tuition tax credit, and does not affect the ability to carry forward unused education and textbook credit amounts from years prior to 2017.

- If you have unused education amounts from years prior to 2017 they can be carried forward to claim on your 2017 and subsequent tax returns.
- For tax years prior to 2017, you can claim the textbook amount if you are entitled to claim the education amount. Unused textbook amounts from years prior to 2017 can be carried forward.

Depending on your province or territory of residence (where you file your tax return), you may still be able to claim provincial or territorial education and textbook amounts in 2017.

The following provinces or territories have made changes to these credits/amounts:

- New Brunswick has eliminated its tuition and education tax credits for years after 2016.
- Ontario will only allow eligible tuition fees paid for periods of enrolment before September 5, 2017, and education amounts for periods of enrolment before September 2017.
- Yukon has eliminated its education and textbook tax credits for years after 2016. Tuition fees can still be claimed.
- Saskatchewan will allow eligible tuition fees paid and education amounts only for periods of enrolment before July 2017.

You can view the 2017 T2202A on ACORN starting on February 21, 2018. This T2202A displays separate lines for each session period: Winter (Jan-April), Summer (May-Aug), Fall (Sept-Dec).

If you are a student who will file a 2017 tax return in Saskatchewan and who paid for 2017 Summer session Tuition fees, then the Student Accounts Office will manually revise the 2017 T2202A certificate to display separate lines for May-June, and July to August so that you can claim eligible tuition fees paid and education amounts only for periods of enrolment before July 2017. Please send an email request from your utoronto.ca email address for a revised 2017 T2202A to info.studentaccount@utoronto.ca.

Please record 'Request for 2017 T2202A for Saskatchewan Students' in the email subject line. Processing time will be 5-10 business days.

A scanned copy of the revised T2202A will be sent to your utoronto.ca email address.

Scholarship Exemption

Effective January 1, 2017, changes were made to the definition of a "qualifying student" to ensure that the scholarship exemption remains unaffected by the elimination of the education credit.

For 2017 and later years, to claim a scholarship exemption, you must be enrolled in an educational program in respect of which you are a qualifying student in 2017 or in 2018, or were eligible for the education amount in 2016.

You have to include in your income for the year the total of all of your awards (including artists' project grants) that is greater than your scholarship exemption as determined below.

The scholarship exemption is calculated by adding all of the following:

- 1) The total of all awards you received that are related to a program of study, where you are a qualifying student and enrolled on a full-time basis.
- 2) The lesser of the awards received and the total of the tuition fees paid and costs incurred for program-related materials for a program of study, where you are a qualifying student and enrolled on a part-time basis.
- 3) The total of all amounts, where each amount is the lesser of each artists' project grant you received and the expenses associated with that grant
- 4) The lesser of \$500 and the total of all awards that you received (including artists' project grants) that exceeds the amounts described in items 1, 2, and 3, added together.

Student Eligible for the Disability Tax Credit

Effective January 1, 2017, a part-time student in a qualifying educational program at a designated educational institution will be considered to be a full-time student for purposes of the definition of qualifying student, if one of the following situations apply to the student:

- Is eligible for the disability tax credit for the 2017 year, or
- Has, in the 2017 year, a mental or physical impairment and a medical practitioner has certified in writing that the effects of the impairment are such that the student cannot reasonably be expected to be enrolled as a full-time student while so impaired.