

# FBA Education Fund proves popular with health care workers

In the first three months of accepting applications, more than 140 workers applied for training support from the FBA Education Fund.

That includes applications for long-term training – the first deadline was November 20, 2006 – and for short-term training where applications are being reviewed on a continuous basis.

And as of last month, approximately \$199,000 has been approved to assist members who began training since September 01, 2006.

The Fund has supported training in a wide-range of health care fields including: Resident Care Aide, Practical Nursing, Nursing Unit Clerk, Sterile Supply Technician Certificate, Immunization Certificate, 4th Class Power Engineering ticket, Medical Lab Assistant, Nutrition and Food Management, Acute Care Nursing Skills, Computer Skills/Web Design upgrades, Gasfitter “B” ticket, and Purchasing/Business courses.

All funded training is related to a member’s current job or another job within the Facilities sub-sector bargaining unit.

## Change in Short-Term Training Application Package

The Confirmation of Employee Status/Leave Approval form is now **required** for short-term and long-term training applications. If no leave is taken, the member should write “no leave requested” on the form.

## DEADLINE – Long-Term Training Applications

The next deadline for long-term training applications is **March 15, 2007**. This deadline may be of interest to members considering training in September, 2007 as they will know in advance of payments whether funding has been approved. Applications for long-term training started from September 01, 2006 will be considered. There is another long-term training application deadline on June 15, 2007.

## Union Websites

Updated FBA Education Fund application packages can be found on your union website. Look for Short Term and Long Term Application forms, Employee Status/Leave Approval forms, Overview of Criteria and Frequently Asked Questions – January, 2007.

The Facilities Bargaining Association (FBA) secured the \$5 million Education Fund in the 2006 round of collective bargaining. Under the provisions of the agreement, the fund will assist **regular** employees (and displaced employees within their recall period) in taking courses related to their current job or to advance their career in health care through more extensive training programs.

For information, email [fbaeducfund@heu.org](mailto:fbaeducfund@heu.org) or call 604-456-7146 or toll free – 1-800-663-5813, extension 7146.