

## **MIDAs Operational Details**

*The MIDAs program is being phased out in favour of a graduate funding mechanism that allows for the development of funding programs at the Faculty level. The MIDAs program will accept its last cohort of students in the Winter 2011 semester. International PhD students currently receiving the MIDAs will be grandfathered into the program and will continue to receive the MIDAs as long as they maintain their eligibility.*

### **Method of payment to student**

- Semi-Automated Mechanism.
- List of eligible students will be submitted to student accounts by GPS prior to billing cycle.
- GPS will apply DFWs to DFW-eligible students in accordance with allocation distributed in March.
- Exemption code placed on eligible student's account
  - Code charges the amount to a central FOAPAL (GPS) based on the amount of a detail code for the international supplement.
  - If student's eligibility changes (leave of absence, non-registration, withdrawal, government exemption, etc.), the amount of the exemption code is automatically adjusted to \$0.
- Manual intervention for third-party contracts in Student Accounts (in consultation with GPS).
  - Not all third-party contracts pay the full amount of tuition (some pay fixed amount, some pay % of tuition, some pay Quebec fees only, some pay ancillary fees, etc).
  - If third party contract covers the international supplement, the exemption code will be deleted manually.
- Student accounts will prepare detailed data warehouse reports for GPSO to document billing.

### **Billing to Faculties**

- GPS will collect a single FOAPAL from Faculties for the purpose of billing for the Faculties' share (1/3 of cost).
- Each transfer transaction will be accompanied with a detail of students for whom the charge is applied/reversed.
- Statements will be sent to Faculties:
  - Prior to the beginning of term, to capture returning students who have registered by the registration deadline. (August, December)
  - After late registration ends, to capture newly admitted students and late registrants (October, February).
  - At the end of term, for adjustments (changes of eligibility status, leaves, withdrawals, etc.) (December, May).
- To avoid multiple transactions and heavy reconciliation burdens, transfers will be done three times during the year: October, February, May.

### **Charges to Departments and Researchers**

- Faculties may do transfers from Faculty and Departmental operating accounts through usual procedures.
- There are great difficulties in charging to Research Grants, due to the strict regulations in use of Grant Funds:
  - Grant policies stipulate maximum stipend payable to students. Since tuition is **not** an eligible expense on federal and provincial council grants, you cannot add a contribution towards MIDAs over and above the maximum stipend already paid to an international student.
  - Tri-Council auditors have indicated that contributions to generic accounts (Cost centres) are not allowed. Transactions must clearly be paid for the purpose stated and payments to individuals must be directly traceable to the Grant.
  - Partial payment of MIDAs exemptions is at best difficult, due to the mechanism.
  - Grants can only be charged for allowable expenses directly. Faculties and Departments must identify allowable expenses to charge to research grants.
- The share of indirect costs of research and overhead on McGill agreements and contracts redistributed to Faculties can be used toward the costs of the program. However, the Quebec and federal indirect costs programs do not allow payments to students.