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Assistance for needy students
opens the Laurier door for many

Horace Braden, director of student awards at Wilfrid Laurier University, said today that increased government financial aid is helping many students from lower income homes attend university.

In the 1982-83 academic year, Laurier students received \$4,122,838 in financial assistance, an increase of 24.6 per cent from the previous year when the total was \$3,305,105.

"I have always maintained that any Ontario student with the ability to attend university can find the money," Braden said.

More than 100,700 students across Ontario received financial aid in the 1982-83 school year, including 1,600 at Laurier. The total aid for financially needy students in the province totalled \$299 million.

Of that amount, \$101.12 million was in the form of grants and \$197.88 million in loans.

About 78.5 per cent of the total grant funding was received by students whose families had gross incomes of less than \$20,000.

The monies come from the Ontario Student Assistance Program, consisting of five plans, four of which are funded by the Ontario government. The fifth is financed by the federal government.