



**UNIVERSITY  
OF ALBERTA**

**INDIGENOUS GUIDEBOOK**  
FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS & INUIT STUDENTS  
2024 - 2025



INDIGENOUS  
LEARNERS FLOURISH  
**With Purpose.**

At the largest Northern research institute in Canada.

U OF A in EDMONTON

**TOP 5**  
UNIVERSITY IN CANADA

**TOP 100**  
UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD



 **1,900+**  
INDIGENOUS  
STUDENTS  
STUDY HERE

**LARGEST**  
INDIGENOUS  
POPULATION IN ALBERTA  
IS IN EDMONTON

**1st**  
INDIGENOUS HEALTH  
INITIATIVES PROGRAM  
(WĀPANACHAKOS)  
IN CANADA



**TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The University of Alberta, its buildings, labs, and research stations are primarily located on the traditional territory of Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Haudenosaunee, Dene, and Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe nations; lands that are now known as part of Treaties 6, 7, and 8 and homeland of the Métis. The University of Alberta respects the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems, and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.





## MALIJAH

CREE STUDENT

*Malijha is a fourth-year student pursuing a Native Studies/ Secondary Education combined degree. Her family is from Swan River First Nation/Kinuso in Treaty 8 Territory. She found her purpose at the University of Alberta giving back to her community, and is currently serving her second term as President of the Indigenous Students' Union. She also makes and sells beautiful beadwork.*

“

Being part of the Indigenous community at the U of A has been the most rewarding part of my time on campus. My favourite experience as a student was taking Native Studies 372 Métis Politics with Professor Harold Robinson. Initially, I knew very little about Métis politics and felt intimidated to engage in discussion as my classmates were very knowledgeable in this field of study. My teacher and classmates helped me gain the knowledge and confidence to engage in class

discussions. By the end of the course, I became knowledgeable in Métis politics and capable of forming my own opinions. I have never taken a course before with such thoughtful and intelligent classmates and teachers. I am grateful to have the opportunity to be in the Faculty of Native Studies because of these kinds of experiences that will stick with me for the rest of my life.”





MAIN QUAD | NORTH CAMPUS



FIRST PEOPLES' HOUSE | CULTURE AND CEREMONY

## INDIGENOUS VITALITY AWAITS YOU

IN A THRIVING COMMUNITY OF INDIGENOUS STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND ALUMNI

### Dedicated Housing Options

We offer diverse, on-campus housing options for Indigenous students. First Peoples' House works directly with Residence Services to offer secured residential options for single students, families and student couples.

[uab.ca/fph](http://uab.ca/fph)

### Community Service Learning (CSL)

The Community Service Learning program is designed to provide Indigenous students with the opportunity to give back to the urban Indigenous community in the Edmonton area. Indigenous CSL participants gain valuable experience within the context of a university course and can increase their awareness of the social and political challenges faced by the urban Indigenous community. [uab.ca/csl](http://uab.ca/csl)

### Teach Indigenous Perspectives

The Aboriginal Teacher Education Program (ATEP) aims to support the educational success of Indigenous children by increasing the number of Indigenous teachers with an understanding of Indigenous perspectives in communities in northern Alberta. You could receive an Education degree in Elementary Education and teach in your community. Visit the ATEP website for more details. [uab.ca/atep](http://uab.ca/atep)

## BRAIDED SUPPORTS

FROM APPLICATION TO GRADUATION, YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR TOP PRIORITY

### Self-Declare as Indigenous

Self-declaring as an Indigenous person and student at the U of A is important. Whether you're from a First Nation, Métis or Inuit community, or you're an urban Indigenous person, self-declaring can provide unique opportunities for support, events, funding and more.

You can self-declare when completing your application, or any time online.

[uab.ca/fnmi](http://uab.ca/fnmi)

### First Peoples' House (FPH)

A dedicated space for the Indigenous student community on North Campus, FPH honours the Indigenous worldview of education as a continuous Ceremony by respecting and supporting First Nations, Métis, Inuit and non-status Indigenous students.

To foster academic success and personal growth, FPH provides access to:

- Tutors and writing support
- A computer lab with free printing
- A dedicated learning specialist
- Snacks and community meals
- Elders and a Ceremonial room
- Financial support

### Augustana Indigenous Student Services

Indigenous Student Services (ISS) is housed in the community space within the Wahkohtowin Lodge on our Augustana our Augustana Campus in Camrose. The lodge enables First Nations, Métis and Inuit students to gather and access dedicated academic and mental wellness supports available to Indigenous students. [uab.ca/augiss](http://uab.ca/augiss)

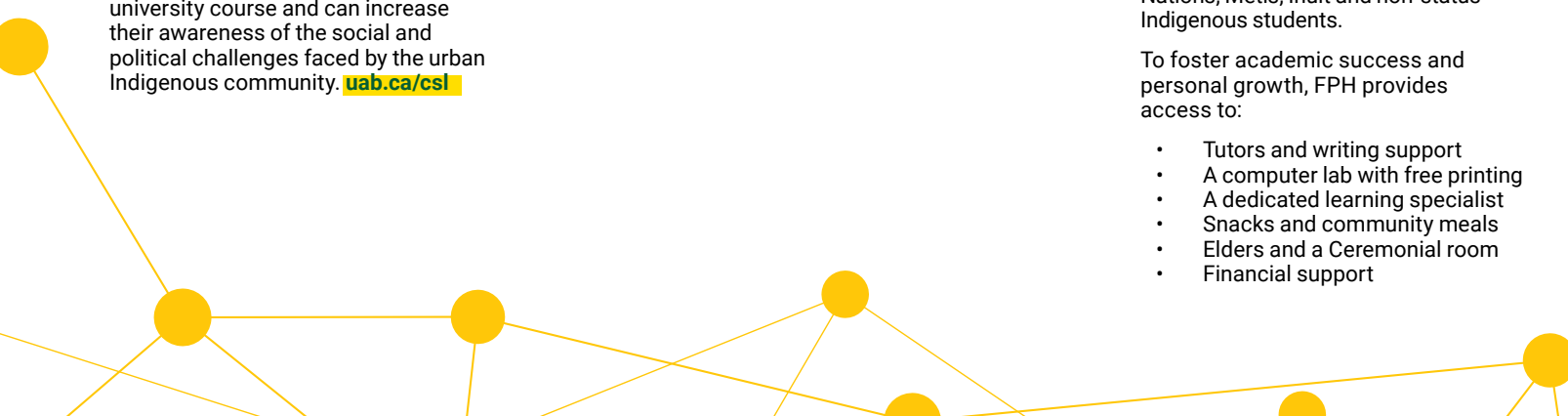
Some resources at ISS include:

- Indigenous student mentors
- Student advising
- Community gatherings and celebrations

### Culture and Ceremonies

Stay connected and grounded with your cultural teachings while you are at the U of A. Sit with Elders, access our Ceremonial room and attend events that will keep you connected to your First Nations, Métis and/or Inuit roots. Events like:

- Welcoming Ceremony (TAWOW)
- Annual Round Dance
- Convocation Honouring Ceremony







“ I faced many obstacles during my time as an undergraduate student, but I found role models and support at First Peoples’ House. I watched them cater to the students and the community, and it made me want to do the same with my passion and love for dance. I don’t think there would be *nimihitotân* without First Peoples’ House – the ideas and plans were made there, and the passion for it was a direct reflection of the staff’s commitment, love and care for us.”

– DANNI OKEMAW

DANNI OKEMAW | STEINHAEUER PHOTOGRAPHY

## FUNDING YOUR FUTURE

### SCHOLARSHIP AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFICALLY FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

#### Financial Advice

Whether you have financial barriers to attending university or you would like more information on funding options available to you, we’re here to help. From scholarships and awards to student loans, bursaries and emergency funding, our advisors at First Peoples’ House are set on guiding you towards the right support. Appointments can be made with the Engagement Coordinator at [fph@ualberta.ca](mailto:fph@ualberta.ca)

#### Tuition Deposit

If you will be funded by your Band or another third party, you may qualify for a waiver for the \$500 tuition deposit required when you accept your admission offer. Contact an Indigenous Recruiter to find out more at [indigenous@ualberta.ca](mailto:indigenous@ualberta.ca)

#### Third-Party Funding Options

##### First Nations Students

- First Nation or Tribal Council
- Freehorse Family Wellness Society

##### Métis Students

- Belcourt Brosseau Métis Award
- Métis Settlement
- Rupertsland Institute (RLI) Post-Secondary Education Funding

##### Inuit & Northern Students

- Freehorse Family Wellness Society (Alberta Residents)
- Nunavut Inuit Representative Organizations
- Northwest Territories Indigenous and Territorial Funders

##### All Indigenous Students

- Indspire Bursaries & Scholarships

#### Scholarships and Awards

The University of Alberta administers more than \$46 million in undergraduate financial support each year. Many faculties and departments offer awards and scholarships specifically for Indigenous students. Explore your options and apply at [uab.ca/awards](https://uab.ca/awards)

#### ADMISSION-BASED

**Scholarships you don’t even have to apply for.** Eligibility for these scholarships is based on your admission average at the time of your admission offer.

##### Indigenous Entrance Scholarship

Self-declaring First Nations, Métis or Inuit students with an average of 80%+ will receive up to \$1,500.

#### APPLICATION-BASED

**Remember, just one application assesses you for everything!** We match you to scholarships and awards based on your background, experiences, academics and interests. The deadline is **January 10, 2024**, and you must apply to your program first.

##### Indigenous Careers Award

Self-declaring First Nations, Métis or Inuit students who are residents of Alberta completing degrees in programs with high-demand career outcomes will receive \$2,000 per semester. Apply by **October 13, 2024**.

##### First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Awards

Various awards of up to \$5,000 are available. Apply by **October 13, 2024**.

##### Turtle Spirit Pathway Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Students

Students new to post-secondary who have demonstrated financial challenges and barriers to attending will receive up to \$8,000 per year.





# MAKING THE LEAP

## Find Yourself...Here

### NORTH CAMPUS

The University of Alberta is located in the heart of amiskwaciwâskahikan (Edmonton) in Treaty 6 Territory, one of the fastest growing urban areas for Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island (Canada). Steps away from campus is our breathtaking river valley, a traditional meeting place for many Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial.

## THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO COME TO THE U OF A

### Direct Entry (from High School)

For direct entry, you will need to present competitive grades in five core academic 30-level courses, including English Language Arts 30-1 plus four other core courses. The additional four core courses vary by program. [uab.ca/programs](https://uab.ca/programs)

The application deadline for direct entry is **March 1, 2024**.

### Transfer Students

If you are transferring from another post-secondary institution, you will need to consult your faculty of interest for full admission details. As a transfer applicant, you will be evaluated on both your high school and post-secondary coursework. Once admitted, you will automatically be evaluated for transfer credit. If you are a transfer student from an Indigenous Post-Secondary Institution (IPSI), contact an Indigenous recruiter for more information at [indigenous@ualberta.ca](mailto:indigenous@ualberta.ca)

### Mature Students

To qualify for admission as a mature (or non-matriculated) student, you must be 21 or older as of September 1 in the year you wish to attend and not have completed any previous post-secondary schooling. [uab.ca/nma](https://uab.ca/nma)

### Transition Year Program

The Transition Year Program (TYP), offered through First Peoples' House at our North Campus in Edmonton, is a one-year university access program designed for students who may not be prepared to enter a faculty through a direct entry route. TYP is a full-time, Open Studies program that partners with nine faculties. Upon completion, you will be eligible to transfer 15-24\* credits into the participating faculty of your choice. [uab.ca/typ](https://uab.ca/typ)

**Deadline to apply (fall):**  
May 1, 2024 \*All Faculties

**Deadline to apply (winter):**  
October 1, 2024 \*Arts and Native Studies

TYP FACULTY PARTNERS	COURSE REQUIREMENTS
AGRICULTURAL, LIFE & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	English 30-1, Math 30-1, Biology 30, Chemistry 30 <sup>1</sup>
ARTS	English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C <sup>2</sup>
BUSINESS	English 30-1, Math 30-1
EDUCATION	English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C <sup>2</sup>
ENGINEERING	English 30-1, Math 30-1, Chemistry 30, Physics 30
NATIVE STUDIES	English 30-1, plus one course from Group A, B or C <sup>2</sup>
NURSING	English 30-1, Math 30-1 or 30-2, Biology 30, Chemistry 30 or Science 30
KINESIOLOGY, SPORT & RECREATION	English 30-1, plus one course from Group A or C <sup>3</sup>
SCIENCE	English 30-1, Math 30-1, plus two of Biology 30, Chemistry 30 or Physics 30

<sup>1</sup> BSc in Human Ecology: Biology 30 or Chemistry 30 is required and Math 30-2 or Math 30-1

<sup>2</sup> Group A (Humanities): Social Studies 30-1, Aboriginal Studies 30, or a 30-level language other than English; Group B (Fine Arts): Art 30, Drama 30, and Additional Fine Arts courses may be considered; or Group C (Math and Science): Chemistry 30, Biology 30, Physics 30, Science 30, Math 30-1, 30-2, or Math 31.

<sup>3</sup> Biology 30 recommended

## No Fee to Apply To TYP

Initially, there is no fee to apply to TYP. However, the TYP application is a more involved process than a direct entry application requiring additional supporting documents. Indigenous

applicants are encouraged to start the application early. The application fee will be required once an admission offer is made and accepted. Apply online at [uab.ca/typ](https://uab.ca/typ)



KISKINOHAWMATOK | "LEARNING TOGETHER THROUGH SHARING"  
BY TARA KAPPO (WOODLAND CREE NATION)

### ASK US

You've got questions, and our advisors have answers.

University of Alberta  
Indigenous Recruitment

🌐 [uab.ca/fnmi](https://uab.ca/fnmi)

@ [indigenous@ualberta.ca](mailto:indigenous@ualberta.ca)



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[uab.ca/start](https://uab.ca/start)