Visa Payables Automation (VPA) Program

Supply Chain at the University has partnered with Scotiabank to offer an automated payment option to our supplier community. Our goal is to leverage the commercial card program in order to streamline the payment process, minimize risk of fraud and to reduce the cost of manual payment processing.

How does VPA benefit our suppliers?

- **Payment efficiency** – The University’s payment term for suppliers who accept VPA as a payment method is net 0 – 7 days from invoice approval.
- **Statistically lower risk of fraud**
- **Working capital benefits** – reducing receivables and accelerating cash flow into the organization by:
  - The cost of borrowing is greater than the merchant fees resulting in a net gain;
  - More predictability around cash;
  - Leveraging reporting allows for easy reconciliation of invoicing; and
  - Resource effectiveness through easy access to data and getting funds sooner.
- **Process efficiency** – reduced paperwork and streamlined accounts receivables process.
- **Customer acquisition and retention** – by accepting VPA, suppliers provide a valued service which may be a determining factor in becoming or remaining a preferred supplier of the University. As we seek to concentrate spend, suppliers who offer flexible and beneficial payments solutions may receive increased business and strengthen their competitive advantage with the University and other clients.

How it works:
Upon enrolling, suppliers will be directed to access a secure website to obtain the credit card account which will be used to process future VPA payments. When receiving a VPA payment, suppliers will receive an automated remittance notification email alerting the supplier of the payment available for deposit, along with other pertinent details of the transaction.

The following URL will demonstrate how the Visa Payables Automation application functions from the perspective of a supplier or recipient payee.


Questions:
If you have questions regarding the University of Calgary VPA program, please contact:

Jeannette Murray  
Associate Director, Supply Chain Management  
Email: jnmurray@ucalgary.ca  
Phone: (403) 210-6412
To enroll in the University of Calgary VPA program:
To enroll in this program, please have an authorized company representative complete the fields below for each appropriate remittance address and email your acknowledgement to finance@ucalgary.ca.

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<td>City:</td>
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<td>Province/State:</td>
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<td>Contact Phone:</td>
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*This is either an Accounts Receivable Department email or designated person to process payment transactions.

Once the University has set the supplier up in the VPA system, a “welcome” email will be sent to the supplier outlining additional information on the program. All payments from the University will be made via VPA going forward.

To assist with first VPA payments, the University will walk suppliers though the initial payment to ensure a successful processing. Please contact finance@ucalgary.ca for this support.