

Aboriginal Student Policy

<p>Classification Student Affairs</p>	<p>Table of Contents</p> <p>1 Purpose..... 1</p> <p>2 Scope 1</p> <p>3 Definitions 1</p> <p>4 Policy Statement..... 1</p> <p>5 Responsibilities 3</p> <p>6 History 4</p>
<p>Approval Authority Board of Governors</p>	
<p>Implementation Authority Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee</p>	
<p>Effective Date July 1, 2003</p>	
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1 Purpose

This policy has been written in response to recommendations published in the Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1996) and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework (Alberta Learning, February 2002). These documents advocate the development of policies, programs, and services that address equitable access, recruitment, retention, and completion rates for Aboriginal people in the post-secondary education system.

- a) The purpose of this policy is, therefore, to ensure the provision of a University learning environment that:
- b) encourages full access, participation and success for Aboriginal students, and
- c) enriches all aspects of the intellectual and cultural life of the University of Calgary through full participation of Aboriginal students.

2 Scope

The University of Calgary acknowledges a collective responsibility to support and implement this policy.

3 Definitions

In this policy:

- a) "Aboriginal Person" means a member of an Indian/First Nation, Métis, or Inuit community. Indian/First Nation includes "Status", "Treaty", or "Registered" Indians as well as "Non-Status", and "Non-Treaty" Indians. An individual who is not included in this definition but who wishes to self-declare should present documentation and/or evidence of community recognition to the Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee of the University of Calgary.

4 Policy Statement

Principle Objectives

- 4.1 The University of Calgary will:

- a) establish an Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee;
- b) address equitable access and participation of Aboriginal people in all faculties, programs, and services associated with the University of Calgary;
- c) continue to provide programs and initiatives that strive to increase the admission, retention, and completion rates of qualified Aboriginal students registered at the University of Calgary;
- d) increase the overall awareness of and sensitivity to the diversity of Aboriginal students and cultures within the University of Calgary community;
- e) continue to provide culturally appropriate support services, a service facility, and a gathering place for Aboriginal students and other community members;
- f) continue to provide University activities that encourage personal, social, intellectual, and cultural interactions between Aboriginal people and the University of Calgary community;
- g) promote collaborative research and learning partnerships between the University of Calgary, and the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities. Appropriate efforts will be made to acknowledge Aboriginal cultures, values, languages, and ways of knowing;
- h) promote the teaching of Aboriginal perspectives and content in courses and programs where appropriate;
- i) develop and promote international indigenous relations.

Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee

Mandate

- 4.2** The Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee will be responsible for the overall implementation, periodic review, and evaluation of the Aboriginal Student Policy.

Committee Structure

- 4.3** The Assistant Vice-President of Student Services shall chair the Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee. The Committee shall be comprised of the following members:
- a) Director of The Native Centre
 - b) Director of the International Indigenous Studies Program
 - c) Director of the Arctic Institute or designate
 - d) Director of Enrollment Services or designate
 - e) two undergraduate Aboriginal student representatives from the First Nation Student Association
 - f) one undergraduate Aboriginal student registered in a University of Calgary off campus programs
 - g) two Aboriginal students in Graduate Studies: one Master's student, and one Ph.D. student
 - h) one Aboriginal community representative
 - i) one Aboriginal alumni member
 - j) one Aboriginal cultural resource person
 - k) four representatives as appointed by Dean's Council

Consultation with GFC

4.4 The Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee shall present any academic matters to General Faculties Council for its consideration before taking them to the Board of Governors.

Revisions

4.5 Amendments to the Aboriginal Student Policy must be reviewed by the Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee before being submitted to the General Faculties Council for information and the Board of Governors for approval.

5 Responsibilities

5.1 Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee

The responsibilities of the Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) The Committee will address issues related to the implementation and content of the policy;
- b) The Committee is responsible for updates, amendments, evaluations, and reviews concerning the policy content and implementation strategies;
- c) The Committee shall review documents and / or provide a hearing for students who wish to “self-declare” as an Aboriginal person under the definition cited within this policy;
- d) The Committee shall establish and periodically review terms of reference for the Aboriginal Student Policy Standing Committee;
- e) The Committee will prepare an annual report on its activities to be submitted to the Board of Governors and copies to the GFC for information.

5.2 Approval Authority

- a) ensure appropriate rigour and due diligence in the development or revision of this policy.

5.3 Implementation Authority

- a) ensure that University faculty and staff are aware of and understand this policy and related procedures;
- b) monitor implementation and administration of this policy;
- c) monitor compliance with this policy and related procedures;
- d) sponsor the revision of this policy and related procedures when necessary; and
- e) appoint a Policy Advisor to administer and manage these activities.

6 History

March 27, 2003	Approved by the General Faculties Council (Minute Ref. 478.10). Presented to the Board of Governors for information in June 2003.
July 1, 2003	Effective.
September 28, 2006	Revised. Revisions approved by GFC Steering Committee. Presented to GFC for information October 2006.
September 1, 2007	Editorial Revision.
October 22, 2007	Revised. Board of Governors Meeting #2, 2007-08.
January 1, 2020	Editorial Revision. Updated format.