The University of Calgary acknowledges the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. UCalgary is situated on land adjacent to where the Bow River meets the Elbow River, and the traditional Blackfoot name of this place is “Moh’kins’tsis,” which we now call the City of Calgary.

Learn about UCalgary’s Indigenous Strategy, ii’ taa’poh’top, at: ucalgary.ca/indigenous-strategy
fast facts

City of Calgary

- 6 MAJOR SKI RESORTS WITHIN 3 HOURS OF CAMPUS
- CANADA’S SUNNIEST MAJOR CITY (333 DAYS PER YEAR)
- ONE OF CANADA’S SAFEST MAJOR CITIES
- NORTH AMERICA’S MOST EXTENSIVE PATHWAY AND BIKEWAY NETWORK
- HOME TO MORE THAN 33,000 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE
- 3rd MOST DIVERSE CITY IN CANADA
- HOME OF THE ABORIGINAL FRIENDSHIP CENTRE OF CALGARY

University of Calgary

- #6 TOP RESEARCH UNIVERSITY IN CANADA
- 46 U SPORTS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
- 14 FACULTIES
- 23:1 STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO
- 14 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MEDALS WON BY STUDENTS
- UNLIMITED USE OF PUBLIC TRANSIT WITH THE STUDENT UPASS
- 27,000+ UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS
- 95% FIRST-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION RATE
- 94% GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT RATE
- 526 ACRES OF PARK-LIKE CAMPUS
- 185,000 ALUMNI IN MORE THAN 150 COUNTRIES
- MULTI-YEAR RESIDENCE GUARANTEE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS
- 761 SELF-IDENTIFIED INDIGENOUS STUDENTS
- MONTHLY CEREMONIES FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS
- CAMPFIRE CHATS ON NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY
- 1 ON 1 CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL ADVISING

Each year, Indigenous graduates are honoured at UCalgary’s annual graduation powwow.
pathways to university

Direct entry (high school)
The general admission requirement for UCalgary is Alberta Grade 12 graduation, or equivalent, and the completion of English 30-1 and four other faculty-specific courses at the 30 level (or equivalent).

For more details, visit: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/requirements

Indigenous admissions process
Our Indigenous admissions process is designed to increase access, participation and success for undergraduate Indigenous learners. If you’ve self-identified as Indigenous on your application form, you’ll automatically receive consideration, first under the direct entry (high school), transfer or adult students pathway, and then under the Indigenous admissions process, if needed.

If you’re granted admission under the Indigenous process, you’ll be asked to submit documentation to verify your Indigenous identity before registering for classes.

To learn more, visit: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/indigenous/admissions_process

Transfer students
If you’ve attended an accredited/recognized post-secondary institution and have completed 12 or more units (four courses or more), you’ll be considered for admission on the basis of your post-secondary academic standing.

Visit our academic calendar at: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/a-5-3

Adult students
You can be considered for admission as an adult student if you’re 21 years of age or older and have completed fewer than 12 units (fewer than four courses) of post-secondary study. You must present English Language Arts 30-1 or an acceptable equivalent. Additional Grade 12 level high school courses, or equivalent, are normally required by the faculty to which you’re seeking admission.

Visit our academic calendar at: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/a-5-4

Diverse qualifications admissions process
If you’ve achieved excellence outside your academics or have overcome significant hardships, you may seek admission under the diverse qualifications admissions process.

To learn more, visit: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/diverse-qualifications

self-identify on your application
Self-identification allows the university to support you through the admissions process, assist you with academic advising and referrals, and provide you with updates about cultural and social activities for Indigenous students. Additionally, Indigenous applicants are eligible to apply for a variety of funding options. These opportunities include community-based scholarships, as well as UCalgary’s Indigenous-specific scholarships, bursaries and awards.

self-identify on your application

Indigenous Student Advisor
Keeta Gladue is one of the friendly team members at Writing Symbols Lodge dedicated to helping students succeed.

Writing Symbols Lodge
your home on campus
As the hub of Indigenous life on campus, Writing Symbols Lodge helps students succeed by providing a variety of services, facilities, programs and events.

Student success, academic support and community building
Our programs and events are designed to support your academic and cultural needs. Examples include cultural crafting, pet therapy, connections to Traditional Knowledge Keepers, language cafes and more.

Cultural events
Cultural events are offered throughout the school year and include pipe ceremonies, workshops, Indigenous Awareness Week, tea ceremonies, social gatherings and more.

Graduation powwow
Indigenous graduates participate in a traditional powwow that includes a Circle of Honour, where graduates are celebrated and receive ceremonial gifts.

Indigenous student leadership opportunities
Student employment, volunteer, mentorship and advisory opportunities are available.

Student facilities
Access a computer lab, the Indigenous Students’ Council office, the Red Lodge Student Lounge, study space, and a ceremonial room.

For more information, visit: ucalgary.ca/writing-symbols
Indigenous Student Access Program (ISAP)

This one-year cohort-based program offers Indigenous students an alternate access route to gain admission to their desired program or additional supports as they transition to university studies. In this program, students take a combination of mandatory first-year university classes and classes relevant to their target degree programs. Courses taken in ISAP apply toward credit in degree programs.

The cohort model helps build a sense of community and supports students with developing peer-to-peer relationships. Additionally, students access academic supports such as one-on-one academic advising, cultural workshops, leadership training, and tutorials. Students are required to attend regularly-scheduled sessions in Writing Symbols Lodge to help them build academic skills, effective study habits and connections with mentors, Elders and other students.

Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/writing-symbols/isap
Questions? Contact the ISAP coordinator at: isap@ucalgary.ca

finance your education

$1M+ in scholarships, bursaries and awards funding went to UCalgary’s Indigenous students in 2019-20

Awards for Indigenous students
Throughout your degree, UCalgary has scholarships, bursaries and awards available for Indigenous students. Examples include:

Writing Symbols Lodge Award
VALUE: $10,000
Award eligibility:
• Offered to a Canadian Indigenous undergraduate student entering any faculty
• Renewable in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th year, provided the recipient maintains enrolment and achieves a minimum GPA of 2.6 over a minimum of 24 units in the previous fall and winter terms
• Based on academic merit

Métis Scholars Entrance Award
VALUE: UP TO $5,000
Award eligibility:
• Must be a Métis student and a resident of Alberta
• Offered annually to a continuing undergraduate student in any faculty
• Requires submission of a short essay that outlines reasons for the chosen field of study, how a Métis Scholars Entrance Award will impact the applicant’s journey towards education and career objectives, and how the applicant is involved in the Métis community

Elizabeth and Walter Fairey Bursary
VALUE: UP TO $4,500
Award eligibility:
• Offered annually to a continuing undergraduate student in any faculty
• Must be a Canadian Indigenous student
• Preference given to a single parent

Métis Scholars Entrance Award
VALUE: UP TO $5,000
Award eligibility:
• Must be a Métis student and a resident of Alberta
• Offered annually to a continuing undergraduate student in any faculty
• Requires submission of a short essay that outlines reasons for the chosen field of study, how a Métis Scholars Entrance Award will impact the applicant’s journey towards education and career objectives, and how the applicant is involved in the Métis community

Ellen McNeil Hamilton Bursary
VALUE: UP TO $3,000
Award eligibility:
• Offered annually to a continuing undergraduate student in any faculty
• Must be a Canadian Indigenous student
• Need to have taken part in extra-curricular activities

Note: Awards have specific eligibility criteria that may not be listed.

Applying for scholarships, bursaries and awards
By applying for admission, you’re automatically considered for entrance awards. UCalgary also offers prestige awards and high school entrance awards, which you need to apply for through your Student Centre (my.ucalgary.ca).
For detailed information on applying for our high school scholarships, bursaries and awards, visit: ucalgary.ca/awards
connect with us

Visit campus
The best way to get to know your future campus is by experiencing it on a campus tour. By request, we offer a tour for future Indigenous students and their guests, which is led by current students and is focused on storytelling. It offers details about Indigenous culture and community on campus. All campus tours conclude with the option to speak with an advisor to explore programs and admission requirements.

For more information on our Indigenous student tours, email: tours@ucalgary.ca

Connect with our Indigenous recruiter
UCalgary has a dedicated recruiter to support Indigenous applicants. Connect with them today by emailing: indigenous.recruiter@ucalgary.ca

Take a virtual campus tour
See what campus and the surrounding area is like with our 360-degree photo tours. Explore our classrooms, student services, athletic facilities and more.
Take a photo tour at: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/tours-events

Join our mailing list
To learn more about our campus community, join our mailing list. You’ll be able to request more information, find out when we’ll be visiting a town or city near you and receive important details and reminders.
To sign-up today, visit: ucalgary.ca/registrar/future-students/connect

Find us on our social channels
- University of Calgary Future Students
- Choose UCalgary
- Choose UCalgary
- Choose UCalgary Podcast
- WhatsApp +1.403.605.8635

"Along with the academic support I received at UCalgary’s Writing Symbols Lodge, I also became a part of a loving community, which eventually became family. It’s a place where everyone wants to see each other succeed and people go out of their way to help one another."

SIERRA KOOCICUM
FACULTY OF ARTS STUDENT