Bold choice
Bright future

Parent and Family Viewbook 2020–21

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
We know you want your student to succeed in university.

We do too!

You've invested so much into your student. You've seen them grow into an adult, and you want them to find success in the next part of their journey. At UCalgary, they can have an incredible education experience that will benefit them for the rest of their life.

UCalgary offers its students high-quality academic programs and a supportive learning environment in which to excel. This includes undergraduate research opportunities like our PURE program, experiential learning opportunities such as our Study Abroad and ucalgarycares programs, and co-operative education and internship positions with a variety of companies including BMW and ConocoPhillips. Career Services, Student Accessibility Services, the Student Success Centre and many other student support services will ensure your student can access the help they need to be successful.

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 our Indigenous Strategy, li’ taa’poh’to’p, at: ucalgary.ca/indigenous
our city

Calgary is a city of opportunity. There's no better place to pursue a post-secondary education.

- Canada’s leader in innovation and its energy capital
- Ranked the 6th most livable city worldwide
- 6 major mountain ski resorts within 3 hours of campus
- One of the safest cities in Canada
- Average daily maximum of 21.9°C in summer and -1.4°F in winter
- Home to North America’s most extensive urban pathway system

our university

Innovation, creativity and an unwavering entrepreneurial spirit strengthen our campus culture

- Ranked in the top 250 universities worldwide
- #6 top research university in Canada
- 27,000+ undergraduate students
- 140+ career workshops each year
- 95% undergraduate retention rate
- 94% graduate employment ratio
- 23:1 student to faculty ratio

Home to 1.4 million people, Calgary is Canada’s youngest city, a global finance hub and an economic powerhouse. It’s truly a city of great opportunity, shaped by passion, creative energy and an entrepreneurial spirit.
**Why Choose UCalgary**

**It’s about striving to be the best**
At UCalgary, students enjoy a high-quality education enriched by research and experiential learning opportunities. Your student will love our inspiring professors, experts in their fields, who create exceptional learning experiences designed to challenge and nurture. Students can explore, take risks, and push boundaries as they experience our rich academic environment.

**A global intellectual hub**
UCalgary is a global intellectual hub where students and staff from over 155 countries come to share ideas and different perspectives. Our university produces graduates who have strong cross-cultural competencies and who are competitive in the global marketplace.

**An invigorating campus spirit**
At UCalgary, we are all Dinos. Being a Dino means our students challenge themselves to be the best they can be in all aspects of their university experience, from sports to academics. Dinos events are key opportunities for the campus community to gather and show spirit. Through their hard work, community leadership and determination, Dinos athletes remind us of our dedication to the pursuit of new knowledge and innovation that benefits the world we live in. Go Dinos!

**A safe place to learn**
We’re proud to have a welcoming and safe campus. We take a proactive approach to safety at our university. Our university is patrolled 24 hours a day and is monitored by over 2,000 closed-circuit television cameras. Additionally, our university offers help phones and intercoms in most buildings, parking lots and elevators; a check-in system called SoloSafe; and a Safewalk program in which volunteers will walk anyone to their destination 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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**Unique Learning Opportunities**

**Research**
Whether it’s conducted in class or in the field, research can be an important part of your student’s academic journey. The Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) and the Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships are two examples of programs dedicated to giving undergraduate students research experience. They’ll work alongside researchers to learn how projects are developed and how research can contribute to solving our world’s greatest challenges.  
[research.ucalgary.ca/students]

**Study Abroad**
Your student doesn’t have to wait until they graduate to see the world. With 200+ partners and programs across six continents, we can boost their degree with experiential learning opportunities that maximize their time here. Our Study Abroad programs are a chance to explore new places and new ideas through study and travel, leading to the adventure of a lifetime.  
[ucalgary.ca/international/study-abroad]

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UCalgary’s Rothney Astrophysical Observatory is an important teaching and research facility. Opportunities exist throughout the year for the public to observe the stars.
university terminology

As your student prepares to apply for university, here are some pathways they may choose.

Credentials

**Bachelor's degree:** An undergraduate degree that typically takes four to five years to complete. Many bachelor's degrees are direct entry; however, some degrees require prior university study (e.g., Social Work, Law and Medicine). A student who is pursuing a bachelor's degree is called an undergraduate student.

**Honours bachelor's degree:** An honours degree is a further specialization of a bachelor's degree requiring high academic standing and, typically, a thesis project. A thesis project is an original research idea that’s presented at the end of the undergraduate degree. Some programs at UCalgary, like the Bachelor of Health Sciences, are only offered as an honours degree.

**Combined degree:** A combined degree is when a student registers in two different bachelor's degrees (including honours degrees) at the same time and graduates from both degrees concurrently. It typically requires a minimum of five years of study.

Learn more at: [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/combined-degrees](http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/combined-degrees)

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**Other common terms**

**Academic calendar:** The calendar contains information about our program and admission requirements, course descriptions and academic regulations. View our academic calendar at: [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current](http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current)

**Major:** A major is the main area of focus throughout a bachelor’s degree. Students typically take one-third of their courses in this specialization.

**Minor:** A minor is an optional secondary area of focus that can be added to a degree. It requires fewer courses than a major.

**Embedded certificate:** Embedded certificates are completed as part of a bachelor’s degree, at no extra cost, and are designed to focus on a thematic area and be available to students across faculties. Examples include Sustainability and Mental Wellbeing and Resilience. Learn more at: [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/embedded-certificates](http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/embedded-certificates)

**Co-operative (co-op) programs and internships:** Co-ops and internships are paid work opportunities that a student can add to some degree options. Learn more at: [ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/coop-1](http://ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/coop-1)

**Conditions of admission:** Requirements that need to be met by students who receive an admission decision while they have coursework in progress. Conditions of admission are outlined in the Student Centre ([my.ucalgary.ca](http://my.ucalgary.ca)), and students must complete them in order to have their admission finalized.

**Final admission:** Admission is finalized when final transcripts are received confirming that course requirements have been met, the admission average for their program in their admission year has been maintained and, for high school students, that their high school diploma has been awarded.

**Academic Requirements:** An online planning tool that allows a student to see the completed and pending course requirements for their degree. The Academic Requirements tool is available through the Student Centre ([my.ucalgary.ca](http://my.ucalgary.ca)).
dates and deadlines

2020

October 1
Fall 2021 undergraduate application opens
Fall 2021 competitive undergraduate awards application opens
Mid-November
Admission offers begin being made
December 1
Prestige awards application deadline
December 15
Prestige awards document deadline

2021

January 1
Application for residence opens
March 1
Fall 2021 admission application deadline
Fall 2021 undergraduate awards application deadline
Deadline for students to make changes to their program choices on their admission application
March 15
Deadline for high school and transfer applicants to submit unofficial transcript and supporting documents
May 1
Deadline for students to accept their offer of admission and pay the $500 non-refundable admissions deposit

Early May
Course registration begins for first-year students (your student will be assigned an enrolment appointment, which is the date and time they can begin registering)

June 1
Begin applying for student loans.

June 30
Deadline for high school students to complete all high school courses required for admission

August 1
Deadline for high school applicants to submit final official transcripts

September 2 – 3
New Student Orientation

September 7
Fall semester classes begin

application process

To assist your student with the application process, here are some helpful tips:

• Students should apply as early as possible to be considered for both admission and awards.
• Students can apply to two programs with one application and a single fee ($125 for students with Canadian credentials and $145 for students with international credentials).
• Each program will be reviewed based on the grades presented when each transcript is received. If a student is unable to be considered for early admission, their grades will be automatically reviewed again, when new grades are received.
• Students should select the program that they’re most interested in as their first choice. If they receive an offer to their first choice program, it is the only offer they’ll receive.
• There are two steps to accept an offer of admission. Students must accept the offer in their Student Centre (my.ucalgary.ca), and pay the $500 non-refundable admission deposit. This deposit will go towards your student’s first-year tuition. The due date for this deposit is included with their offer of admission.

To be admitted, applicants must present the admission requirements specific to their program (ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/requirements), meet the competitive admission average and meet the English language proficiency requirement. To finalize admission, students must graduate from high school, complete the five required courses and maintain their admission average.

For more information about the application process, UCalgary has recruiters who specialize in supporting students from every province in Canada and every region of the world. Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/recruiters
Part of the initial application process for our four-year undergraduate degree programs is to select a major, which is a student’s main focus of study. They can further customize their degree by choosing a minor in an upper year, integrating a certificate into their degree,* or taking a combined degree option and earning two degrees in five years.†

*Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/combined-degrees
†Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/embedded-certificates

1, 2 Canadian students only
3  Program offered in partnership with Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
4  Direct entry honours program
5  Must meet entrance requirements for combined degree program
6  Combined education program requires that students complete two degrees concurrently
7  Online option available

**FOOTNOTES**
costs and funding

Approximate costs for your student’s first year (September to April)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COSTS†‡</th>
<th>Canadian citizens and permanent residents</th>
<th>International students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>Haskayne School of Business∗</td>
<td>$8,318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Schulich School of Engineering∗</td>
<td>$6,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All other programs∗</td>
<td>$5,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General fees (includes transit pass, health plan, and dental plan)</td>
<td>$1,295</td>
<td>$1,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books and supplies (two terms)</td>
<td>$500 – $1,500</td>
<td>$500 – $1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living expenses and spending money</td>
<td>$1,000 – $4,000</td>
<td>$1,000 – $4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-year, double room in residence</td>
<td>$3,875</td>
<td>$3,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-day All You Care to Eat meal plan</td>
<td>$4,987</td>
<td>$4,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$17,420 – $23,975</td>
<td>$31,829 – $38,456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

∗ All costs cover an eight-month period and are based on a full first-year course load and a typical student’s experience in residence. Fees are based on the 2020-21 academic year.
‡ Tuition fees are reviewed regularly by the Board of Governors, in consultation with students. Full fee information is available at: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/p-1-1
† Most bachelor’s degrees take four years of full-time study to complete.

Cost estimator

Students will likely use a variety of sources to cover the costs of university. This might include savings, part-time jobs, scholarships, bursaries, awards and student loans. Students can find the cost estimator by visiting: ucalgary.ca/cost-estimator

Paying fees

Students have several options to pay their fees including online banking and international fund transfers.

Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/tuition-fees/pay-your-fees

Student loans

Government student assistance programs (student loans) are available to Canadian citizens, permanent residents, protected persons and American citizens.

Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/finances

Using RESPs

Students use an official confirmation of registration letter from their Student Centre (my.ucalgary.ca) to submit as proof of enrolment for withdrawing RESP funds. The official confirmation of registration letter is available once students are registered in courses and tuition fees have been posted to their account (July 2021). Tuition fees are due in September 2021 after the start of classes.

Money Smart

Students can learn about budgeting, money saving strategies, financial planning, and more, by attending a Money Smart workshop, accessing a Financial Literacy session or making an appointment with a Money Smart peer helper.

Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/money-smart

Health and dental benefits

All full-time undergraduate students (taking three or more courses) are automatically enrolled in the Student Health and Dental Plan when they register for classes. Students from outside the province should apply for Alberta health care in order to receive comprehensive coverage during their studies.

Learn more at: su.ucalgary.ca/programs-services/student-services/health-dental

Learn more about awards!

Scholarship: An award based primarily on academic merit, but also based on other selection factors.

Bursary: An award based on financial need. Financial need is calculated by looking at a student’s costs and then subtracting their resources.

Award: An award based on multiple requirements.

Prestige awards: These awards are for high-achieving entering students. A student’s academic excellence and accomplishments outside the classroom are considered.
campus support services

Career Services
The expert staff at Career Services will help your student prepare for a career they’ll love. They can meet with a career specialist, get expert advice to improve their resume, and attend career fairs to meet potential employers.
ucalgary.ca/careers

Faith and Spirituality Centre (FSC)
The FSC seeks to cultivate a pluralistic community by encouraging cultural and religious literacy, community building, and social change.
ucalgary.ca/student-services/faith-spirituality

First Year Scholars (FYS)
The FYS program connects the top incoming students with a community of high-achieving peers across all disciplines.
ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning-support/first-year-scholars

International Student Services (ISS)
ISS provides support services and customized advising for all international students. Their leadership initiatives deliver unique peer-driven programs that connect international and Canadian students.
ucalgary.ca/iss

Leadership and Student Engagement (LSE)
The LSE is committed to helping every student thrive. From hosting new student orientation, to facilitating connections with peers, to providing opportunities to learn about social justice and serve the community through ucalgarycares, the LSE connects students to one another, to our campus, and to our local, national and international communities.
ucalgary.ca/leadership

Student Accessibility Services (SAS)
SAS works collaboratively and innovatively with the campus community to create an accessible, equitable and supportive learning and living environment that enhances academic and personal development. Admitted students can meet with an access advisor to discuss transitioning their accommodations from high school to university.
ucalgary.ca/access

Student Success Centre (SSC)
Whether your student is deciding which degree to pursue or would like support in enhancing their learning strategies, the SSC’s exploratory advisors, academic development staff, and writing support staff are here to help them. Students have access to a variety of one-on-one appointment services, as well as writing workshops, success seminars and academic support programs.
ucalgary.ca/success

Student Wellness Services
Your student can access counselling, medical appointments, chiropractic and massage. They can also take part in wellness workshops and group programs.
ucalgary.ca/wellness-services

Writing Symbols Lodge
In this welcoming campus space in support of the university’s Indigenous community, students can access a computer lab, study space and a range of cultural programming including monthly ceremonies, social activities and advising.
ucalgary.ca/writing-symbols

residence

Your student can live, learn and grow alongside their peers, while creating strong and lasting friendships. With shared dorm-style rooms in first-year, to full apartments in upper years or grad school, to family housing, there are options available for all students. Each building has a residence life coordinator who provides continuous support. Residence life coordinators foster and promote inclusive living environments, organize events and help students with everything from homesickness to health and academics. Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/ancillary/residence/live-with-us

Multi-year guarantee
All students applying directly from high school are guaranteed a place in residence for both first- and second-year if they apply by May 1, 2021.

Meal plans
The University of Calgary has unlimited All You Care to Eat (AYCTE) meal plans that ensure our students have the best value, convenience, nutrition and flexibility. With multiple fresh food options available (gluten free, vegan, vegetarian and meat choices), students can choose to eat whatever they like, whenever they like and as much as they need throughout the academic year. The Landing offers breakfast, lunch, dinner and continuous dining between meal times.

For those not living in residence, the AYCTE plans are also available, along with swipe plans and door rates, which will vary based on the time of day.
Learn more at: ucalgary.ca/ancillary/unicard/use-card/meal-plan

Students living in residence can take part in residence life activities including theme nights, community dinners, sports tournaments and student groups to connect with like-minded students.
getting your student started

We would love to meet you

The best way to get to know your student’s future campus is by experiencing it on a tour. Guided by one of our current students, you can join us on campus (or virtually) to explore our classrooms, student services, athletic facilities and more. All campus tours end with the option to speak with an advisor to explore programs and admission requirements. To book a tour, visit: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/tours

You and your student can also attend prospective student events or information sessions: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/events

Students can also connect with their province- or country-specific recruiter to arrange a one-on-one meeting online: ucalgary.ca/recruiters

Join our family 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 get important details and reminders.

To sign up, visit: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/connect

Make a plan to communicate

Discuss with your student their plan for managing their education, as well as the type of information you’d like them to share with you, such as student account balances (fees owing), grade reports, course registration, or difficulties they may be having with school or other related activities. Keep in mind that it’s ultimately the student’s decision which personal information they choose to disclose.

prepare your student to excel

Proven advice you can share with your student

1. It’s important that your student is engaged in more than their course work. Encourage your student to explore clubs, meet their professors and take part in leadership opportunities. Not only will they do better at school, they’ll also build positive relationships with peers, gain new skills and take part in experiences that can benefit them in the future.

2. Encourage your student to seek help early and often. The campus community offers many supports to our students, everything from academic and writing support to mental health and wellness support.

3. Encourage your student to be active. They have access to our world-class Active Living recreational facilities, including our aquatic centre, fitness centre, gymnastics centre, racquet centre and the Olympic Oval. From fitness classes and intramural leagues, to sports clubs and fully-equipped gyms, there are lots of ways to stay active on campus. We also boast the Outdoor Centre, the largest of its kind in North America, which offers training courses, equipment rentals and student discounts.

protection of privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP)

In accordance with Alberta’s Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, UCalgary is unable to share information about a student or applicant to a third-party (including family members) without the explicit consent of a student or applicant, regardless of their age. This includes information about fees owing and their admission status.

Under FOIP, if a student or applicant would like to authorize a third party to have access to their confidential personal information, they may do so in writing using the Third Party Authorization form. Find it at: ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy

Explore the University of Calgary using Google Street View: ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/tours-events