

Student Access Process – Personal Statement

In addition to the standard application materials, students who wish to be considered for admission through the Student Access Process must complete and submit a Personal Statement by the document deadline.

Eligibility Confirmation

To be eligible for admission through the Student Access Process, you must have experienced exceptional barriers or challenges that have negatively impacted your ability to access university. Such challenges may include serious illness or disability, forced migration due to conflict or environmental disaster, socioeconomic hardship, exceptional caring and family responsibilities, or systemic discrimination related to identity in an equity-deserving group.

Please confirm the following statements to proceed with your application under the Student Access Process:

1. I have demonstrated perseverance, adaptability, flexibility, or dedication in response to a significant challenge or barrier in my life that has influenced my educational journey and access to university and demonstrates my potential for success at UCalgary.
2. I have taken, or attempted to take, steps to navigate or address these barriers or challenges in pursuing my academic goals.
3. I confirm that my application to be considered under the Student Access Process is NOT related to participation in extracurricular activities or non-academic achievements.

Acknowledgment

I understand and confirm all the above statements.

*Note: If you do not complete the acknowledgment, your application will not be reviewed through the Student Access Process. *

Personal Statement

The goal of the personal statement is to help the review committee review your application for admission within the context of your lived experience.

Please respond in the format of your choice (e.g., written, video, or audio).

Written responses should be between 250–300 words per section. If you choose a video or audio format, your response should be between 2.5 to 3 minutes in length per section (approximately equivalent to 250–300 words).

1.) Personal Circumstances and Barriers

Describe the personal circumstances, systemic barriers, or lived experiences that have led you to apply through the Student Access Process.

You may consider the following prompts to guide your response (you are not required to answer each one directly):

- What challenges or barriers have affected your access to or experience with education?
- What strategies, personal strengths, supports or resources have you used, or are currently using, to navigate or respond to these challenges or barriers?

If you are a Canadian Indigenous student (First Nations, Métis, Inuit) who is also applying through the Indigenous Admission Supplementary Process (IASP), please skip questions 2 and 3 and ensure you complete and submit the IASP Personal Statement.

If you do not identify with any of these groups, please continue to question 2.

2.) Educational Goals

Outline your educational goals, including short-term academic goals for your next year of study at UCalgary, if admitted, and a longer-term goal for your education, and whether you have a career goal in mind. You may wish to reflect on:

- What aspirations or values guide your interest in your chosen field or program?
- What education, personal, volunteer or work experiences helped prepare you for post-secondary studies?
- What strategies or resources will you use to be successful in meeting your educational goals?

3.) Resilience and Evidence of Capacity for Success

Share a personal accomplishment, experience or moment that you are proud of. This could be something from school, work, home, or in your community.

In your response, reflect on the following:

- How this experience reflects your strengths, growth, or values.
- What forms of resilience, adaptation, or perseverance did you draw on?
- How did you continue to move forward or stay true to your goals, even when facing challenges?

Final Acknowledgment of Submission

By submitting this form, you acknowledge that:

the information provided is true, accurate, complete, and prepared by you.

By submitting this form, you understand that the personal statement will be used:

to support your request for consideration under the Student Access Process.

by the faculty(ies) to which you have applied alongside your academic record to make an admission decision.

Acknowledgment

I understand and confirm all the above statements.

*Note: If this acknowledgment is not completed, your application will not proceed for review through the Student Access Process.

Full name

UCID

Signature

Date

After you complete this document, you must upload it to your MyUCalgary Student Centre (my.ucalgary.ca) by the document deadline for the term and program you have applied.

Notice of Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Student Personal Information

The University of Calgary (UCalgary) respects your privacy and is committed to ensuring the privacy of all students, staff, and community members. UCalgary's collection, use, and disclosure of your personal information is authorized by section 65(a) of Alberta's *Post Secondary Learning Act* (PSLA) and section 4(c) of Alberta's *Protection of Privacy Act* (POPA). It will be used to support the evaluation of your application through the Student Access Process.

We recognize the sensitive nature of your personal information and are committed to the protection of your privacy. UCalgary will treat your personal information as confidential at all times and will make reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access to, collection, use, disclosure, or destruction in accordance with POPA. Access to your personal information will be restricted to a limited number of designated individuals responsible for considering applications through the Student Access Process on a need-to-know basis.

If you have questions regarding this notice or the collection, use, or disclosure of your personal information, please contact the Associate Registrar, Information, Admissions, and Recruitment by calling (403) 210-7625, or the UCalgary Access and Privacy Office at:

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