

Funding and awards

GRADUATE STUDIES: CURRENT STUDENTS



Athabasca
University

Pursuing higher education is a significant investment, and financial aid can help make it more accessible.

At Athabasca University, we offer a range of financial assistance options, including scholarships, awards, and bursaries to support students in achieving their academic goals.

Types of support



Financial aid

A loan given to help students pay for university. Financial aid can come from various sources like the government or private organizations.

Each province or territory has student funding agencies that provide students with financial assistance.

Apply for financial aid through your provincial funding agencies.

[Learn more about financial aid](#)



Awards, scholarships, and bursaries

Financial assistance for students, but they differ in purpose. Scholarships and awards are merit-based, given for academic achievements, and don't need to be repaid. Bursaries are need-based, helping students reduce tuition costs if they face financial challenges. While scholarships and awards reward success, bursaries ease financial burdens, making education more affordable.

Internal

AU offers 29 different awards for graduate and undergraduate degree students, each with unique eligibility criteria based on your program of study and financial needs.

[Explore awards, scholarships, and bursaries](#)

External

AU's accredited online graduate programs make you eligible for the same national student awards available to learners at other Canadian post-secondary institutions.

[Discover external awards](#)

For master's and doctoral level students.



Sponsorship

Looking to further your education? Sponsorship through employers, foundations, and various associations can help fund your graduate studies by covering tuition (full or partial) and other costs. Many employers offer this benefit, sometimes with added perks like flexible work arrangements. Check with your employer to see if they offer sponsorship.

By the numbers

2024/2025

\$887,847

in total was awarded to AU's graduate students.

\$415,000

in Government of Alberta scholarships (Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarships and Alberta Innovates Graduate Student Scholarship) were awarded to a total of 35 graduate students.

97

students were given awards or scholarships for graduate studies. (2023/2024)

73

graduate students were given bursaries.

20

different graduate programs received awards.

[Contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies](#)



AU

Canada's
Open
University

Connect with us:

