Funding and awards

GRADUATE STUDIES: PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Athabasca University

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

At Athabasca University, we also offer awards, scholarships, and bursaries to support students in achieving their academic goals.

Types of support

Financial aid

A loan given to help students pay for university. These are funds that must be repaid with interest, either during or after the completion of studies. 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

Scholarships, awards, 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.

Did you know?

$887,847

AU graduate students have accessed in scholarships, awards, and bursaries to support their education and research.
(2024/2025)

810

graduate students utilize student financial aid as both full-time and part-time students.
(2023/2024)

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.

Ready to start your graduate degree journey with AU?

Apply for a program

Contact the Faculty of Graduate Studies

AU Canada's Open University

Connect with us: