



Athabasca University Students' Union

AUSU Position Policy Handbook

Last Reviewed: August 2019
To Be Updated: August 2020

AUSU Position Policy Resolutions

AUSU advocacy initiatives are guided by the student membership. The needs or concerns brought forward by students are taken to our important stakeholders (such as the university or the government) at local, municipal, provincial, or federal levels as necessary— until those concerns are heard.

To clearly articulate student issues, position policies are created and approved by AUSU council. Many policies have been taken on, and some have been rescinded throughout the years— however, policies are only removed as **your concerns are addressed**. Below you will find our most current position policy resolutions. These statements sum-up the intention of the policy and are the official stance of council on the issues at hand. They form the official statements and can be referenced whenever questions or concerns are raised. They are also the documents used by AUSU student representatives to bring your concerns to the attention of our colleagues and stakeholders.

Importantly, these statements **do not stand alone**. They are backed-up by research and data compiled into the AUSU Position Policy Manual. This document provides the evidence-based approach to the rationale behind the individual policies found here in the Position Policy Handbook. Each section contains the details and background information that inform the resolutions found below.

- To gain access to Athabasca University Students' Union Position Policy Manual, please email us at admin@ausu.org
- To view the current AUSU Advocacy Priorities, please follow the [LINK](#) to “Advocacy Initiatives” page of the AUSU website.

9.01: Tuition and Fees –Distance Education Funding Exemption

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union supports tuition predictability and affordability measures for non-resident students of distance-delivery programming, similar to those for international students and Alberta resident students- to be included in the Tuition Fees Regulation of the Post-Secondary Learning Act.

9.02: Tuition and Fees – Exam Invigilation Fees

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate to Athabasca University to provide at least one exam option that does not incur out-of-pocket fees for the student, regardless of the course.

9.05: Technology and Infrastructure – Web Services for students

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate for Athabasca University to be the leader in online distance education through their presence at the frontier of the implementation of new education technologies.

9.06: Government Funding – Technology and Infrastructure

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate to the provincial and federal governments to provide sufficient funding for the research, development, and implementation of new information technologies and virtual education technologies at Athabasca University.

9.07: Government Funding – Campus Alberta Grant

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union supports the adoption of equitable Alberta post-secondary institutional funding that does not disadvantage Athabasca University in per-student funding compared to other Alberta universities.

9.10: External Relations – Athabasca University's National Presence

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union should seek out and build partnerships with provincial or federal governments and groups in order to foster more support for the growth of Athabasca University as it implements the Imagine Plan and Learning Framework.

The Athabasca University Students' Union holds the position that Athabasca University should work to build relationships with provincial governments as well as the federal governments in order to show the value Athabasca University brings to students across the country, and to seek additional funding for students residing out-of-province.

9.12: Academics – Course and Program Development and Maintenance

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate that Athabasca University maintain a wide range of courses across all faculties, and that a review process be developed so that every course is regularly reviewed and updated as needed.

9.18: Student Aid and Government Tuition Tax Credits

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union support increased access to financial support for part-time and distance-delivery program students, especially continued access to tuition tax credits and expanded access to part-time student aid.

9.21: Career Services Student Services: Career Services, Co-ops, and Job Placements

Be it resolved that Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate to Athabasca University to seek out and expand on additional career services, including resume writing services, career fairs and job placement services, internships, co-ops, and work-integrating learning, with an integrated faculty-based approach.

9.22: E-Text Choice and Cost Savings Sharing

Be it resolved that the Athabasca University Students' Union will advocate to Athabasca University to always give students the choice in text book format and that any cost savings associated with the use of e-text should be passed on to the student.

For a more in-depth look at the research behind these resolutions, please visit the Advocacy section of the AUSU website, or contact our Governance and Advocacy Coordinator for a copy of the AUSU Position Policy Manual.

governance@ausu.org
780.497.7000 (local)
1.855.497.7003 (toll free)

If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or advocacy issues that you would like to be considered by AUSU council, please contact the AUSU office to be put in contact with the most appropriate representative.

Please direct inquires to our Administrative Assistant who can help you with most issues or direct you to the appropriate person.

admin@ausu.org
780.497.7000 (local)
1.855.497.7003 (toll free)

Hours and Address

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 – 4:00

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