



POLICY 9.07

POSITION POLICY

Government Funding: Campus Alberta Grant

POLICY INTENT

To outline the position of AUSU regarding the Campus Alberta Grant

POLICY RESPONSIBILITY

AUSU Council

POLICY RESEARCH

The Campus Alberta Grant is essential to post-secondary institutions in Alberta and is typically dispersed based on a traditional model that does not include out-of-province learners. Although based in Alberta, Athabasca University is Canada's open, online university and most learners at the institution are out-of-province students.ⁱ Athabasca University is not equitably represented regarding Campus Alberta Grant funding distribution because of the unique nature of the institution. Athabasca University charges an out-of-province distance delivery program fee to these students, which is neither protected by tuition increase caps, nor provides predictable tuition rates.ⁱⁱ The Government of Alberta provided \$2.2 billion in Campus Alberta Grant funding in 2020-21ⁱⁱⁱ The process for reviews and changes to the formula for determining funding per post-secondary institution is not made public, but the funding ratio distributed to post-secondary institutions per full-time load equivalent clearly shows that Athabasca University receives the least amount of operating funding among universities in Alberta.^{iv}

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.

POLICY HISTORY

Original Approval Date: June 27, 2005
Last Review Date: September 2020
Review by Date: August 2021

ⁱ Athabasca University. (2019, 01 14). *About AU*. Retrieved from athabascau.ca: <https://www.athabascau.ca/aboutau/media/aufacts/>

ⁱⁱ Government of Alberta. (2019, 01 14). *20180308_bill-019*. Retrieved from assembly.ab.ca: http://www.assembly.ab.ca/ISYS/LADDAR_files/docs/bills/bill/legislature_29/session_4/20180308_bill-019.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ Government of Alberta, *Budget 2020: A Plan for Jobs and the Economy*. Retrieved June 13, 2020 from <https://www.alberta.ca/budget-documents.aspx>.

^{iv} Alberta Advanced Education, *Operating Grants*. Retrieved May 28, 2019 from <http://advancededucation.alberta.ca/1439.aspx>.