



POLICY 9.07

POSITION POLICY

Campus Alberta Grant

POLICY INTENT

To outline the position of AUSU regarding the Campus Alberta Grant

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 (AU) is Canada's open, online university and most learners at the institution are out-of-province students.¹ AU is not equitably represented in the Campus Alberta Grant funding distribution because of the unique nature of the institution. The institution 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.² The Government of Alberta provided \$2.2 billion in Campus Alberta Grant funding in 2020-21³ 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 AU receives the least amount of operating funding among universities in Alberta.⁴

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.

¹ Athabasca University. (2019, 01 14). *About AU*. Retrieved from athabascau.ca:
<https://www.athabascau.ca/aboutau/media/aufacts/>.

² 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

³ Government of Alberta, *Budget 2020: A Plan for Jobs and the Economy*. Retrieved June 13, 2020 from
<https://www.alberta.ca/budget-documents.aspx>.

⁴ Alberta Advanced Education, *Operating Grants*. Retrieved May 28, 2019 from
<http://advancededucation.alberta.ca/1439.aspx>.