

INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN CANADA

2026-2027 HANDBOOK



UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA





TOGETHER, WE'RE LEADING WITH PURPOSE.

If you are an international student currently living in Canada and attending high school on a study permit, this book is for you!

As you read through this guide, you will be introduced to what makes the University of Alberta a world-class institution and to the ways we celebrate and support international students.



TOP 4
UNIVERSITY IN
CANADA



6 PROGRAMS
RANKED #1
IN CANADA



TOP 100
UNIVERSITY IN THE
WORLD



#1 IN CANADA FOR
AI RESEARCH



46,000+
STUDENTS FROM
159 COUNTRIES
(STUDENTS FROM 82%
OF THE WORLD!)



TOP 5
IN CANADA FOR
**GRADUATE
EMPLOYMENT**

For more information on rankings, visit uab.ca/rank

Three unique teaching campuses to discover!

From the Edmonton River Valley views of North Campus, to the bustling French Quarter of Campus Saint-Jean, to the nature and ski trails lining Augustana Campus in Camrose, there is so much to explore. Head to uab.ca/campus to learn more about each or book a virtual or in-person campus tour at uab.ca/tours and come see for yourself.

You'll quickly discover your own community, but here are a few ideas to get you started:



GET INVOLVED

From the International Students' Association to the Improv Group to the Anime Club, you are bound to find your fit in one of our 475+ student-run clubs. uasu.ca/clubs



GO GREEN & GOLD

Join 10,000 intramural participants, participate in 22 club sports or try out to compete as a varsity athlete. On the field or in the stands, you can show your team spirit at FREE regular season games. betheroar.ca



LIVE ON CAMPUS

By living just steps from campus life, you will have access to a diverse meal-plan, study groups, built-in friends – oh, and did we mention folks in residence LOVE dodgeball? uab.ca/residence



ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

Go beyond the classroom with first-year research projects and collaborative makerspaces. Or, take your learning off campus with one of 250+ study abroad programs or co-ops/internships in every direct-entry faculty. uab.ca/wil



DO WE CHECK YOUR BOXES?

Deciding where to go to university is a big deal. Work your way through our checklist below to help determine if the U of A is the right fit for you.

- Pick the perfect program by browsing our 200+ program options and requirements. uab.ca/programs
- Prepare for admission by reviewing our historical admission average ranges. uab.ca/averages
- Explore any of our three campuses by booking a virtual or in-person campus tour. uab.ca/tours
- Take a residence tour and see the perks of living on campus in action. We have a guaranteed spot for all first-year students who apply by **April 30, 2026**. uab.ca/residence
- Chat with current U of A students to hear their perspectives on the U of A student experience. uab.ca/peerchat
- Apply! You can apply as early as October 1 of your grade 12 year. uab.ca/apply

Funding Your Future

There are a number of cost-saving reasons to attend the U of A:



Our international tuition cost is often lower than other top 5 post-secondary institutions in Canada.



Edmonton is the only province with no PST or HST and has been deemed one of Canada's most affordable cities.



Edmonton has been ranked in the top 5 best cities in Canada for youth work opportunities.

Tuition Guarantee

As an international student, you will know the total cost of your tuition at the time of your admission offer. This guarantee ensures a fixed cost for the duration of your program – giving you peace of mind to plan ahead and make informed decisions.

Use our cost calculator to find your estimated tuition amount based on your program choice and living arrangements. uab.ca/costcalc

**These figures are based on one year of full-time study for 2026-27; fees are subject to change every year.*

First-Year Estimate*



\$35,908-\$49,953
FOR INTERNATIONAL TUITION

PLUS



\$3,700+
FOR BOOKS, SUPPLIES
AND FEES



\$14,200+
FOR RESIDENCE
WITH A MEAL PLAN

Scholarships & Awards

The U of A administers more than \$52 million annually in undergraduate financial support, including exclusive scholarships and awards **specifically for international students who are already studying in Canada – like you.**

Admission-Based

Based on your admission average alone, you could receive awards you are automatically evaluated for!

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA INTERNATIONAL ADMISSION SCHOLARSHIP (UP TO \$5,000):

Awarded to students with superior academics in high school.

ALBERTA REGIONAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (\$4,000 - \$5,000):

Awarded to students attending high school in Canada on a study permit with an admission average of 80%+.

Application-Based

After applying to the U of A, simply submit one scholarship application to be considered for most offerings.

The deadline to apply is **January 10, 2026**. uab.ca/awards

PRESIDENT'S INTERNATIONAL DISTINCTION SCHOLARSHIP (\$120,000*):

Our most prestigious and competitive scholarship for international students. Awarded to students with exceptional academics, creativity and leadership.

**Payable over four years.*

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA INTERNATIONAL LEADER SCHOLARSHIP (UP TO \$15,000):

Awarded to well-rounded leaders with superior academics.

From admission to graduation, we're here to support you.

ROLLING ADMISSION

We review all grade 11 and grade 12 coursework to begin our evaluation process, and we automatically re-evaluate when new documentation is provided. Students who completed grade 10 or 11 outside of Canada can submit transcripts from their grade 11 institution for consideration.

BRIDGING PROGRAM

A great option for students who meet all admission requirements except English Language Proficiency within five participating faculties.

uab.ca/bridging

STUDY PERMIT SUPPORT

Once you are admitted to the U of A and receive your Provincial Attestation Letter, you must apply for a new study permit to attend university in Canada. Have questions? See our study permit resources and register for a study permit webinar. uab.ca/studypermit-canada

WORK WHILE STUDYING

As a post-secondary study permit holder, you can work while you study full time at the U of A. After you graduate, you can apply for the Post-Graduation Work Permit, which can allow you to work full time in Canada for up to three years.

uab.ca/intwork

International Student Supports

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND VISITOR SERVICES (ISVS)

Access immigration advising, study permit resources, settlement support, events and student-led organizations.

uab.ca/international

STUDENT ADVISING

Chat with an advisor virtually or in person by booking an appointment at uab.ca/advising or contact a coordinator specifically for international students studying in Canada at mapleleaf@ualberta.ca

Students outside Pembina Hall during the beautiful fall season.

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Requirements

There are many ways to meet ELP in order to be granted admission to the U of A. Visit uab.ca/languagereqs for more information. The deadline to submit proof of ELP is **August 1, 2026**.

WRITTEN EXAMS	COURSE REQUIREMENTS
TOEFL INTERNET-BASED TEST (IBT)	Overall 90 with no band less than 21
IELTS (ACADEMIC)	Overall 6.5 with no band less than 6.0
DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST	Overall 120 with no subscore less than 100
HIGH SCHOOL COURSEWORK	
English Language Arts 30-1 (Alberta or NWT)	75% or higher (final blended grade must include the diploma exam or provincial exam mark)
IB English A1, A2, A Literature or A Language & Literature	5 or better (official predicted mark or exam mark)
IB English B	6 or better (official predicted mark or exam mark)
AP English	4 or better (exam mark)
PREVIOUS EDUCATION IN ENGLISH	
Three or More Years of Full-Time Education in English (Excluding ESL) ¹	Successful completion with at least 5 academic, for-credit courses taken per year in those three years. We only consider courses that were taken for credit, and we will not consider courses that were failed or ESL/ELL courses in the 5 course per year calculation. ²
POST-SECONDARY COURSEWORK	
6 Credits of University-Level English Studies Completed at a Recognized English-Language Institution	B+ or better (must be transferable as 6 credits of ENGL at the University of Alberta)
University of Alberta EAP 136 & INT D 137 ³	Successful completion

Spoken English Language Proficiency Requirements

Required for applicants to the Faculty of Education and Health Science-related fields.

SPOKEN EXAMS	COURSE REQUIREMENTS
TOEFL INTERNET-BASED TEST (IBT)	Minimum score of 26 in the speaking section
IELTS (ACADEMIC)	Minimum score of 7.5 in the speaking section
DUOLINGO ENGLISH TEST	Overall 140 with no subscore less than 120
PREVIOUS EDUCATION IN ENGLISH	
Six Years of Full-Time Education in English in Canada ¹	Successful completion ²

NOTES:

1. In a secondary or post-secondary institution in Canada or another country where English is recognized as the official/primary language of instruction. Will be evaluated upon receipt of Official Final Transcripts at the end of your schooling.
2. Education must include Alberta Grade 12 (or equivalent) if secondary education is the highest level completed, or if a combination of secondary and post-secondary is used.
3. These courses can be completed through the Bridging Program.

READY TO JOIN US?

uab.ca/start

ASK US

You've got questions. We've got advisors.

uab.ca/mapleleaf | mapleleaf@ualberta.ca

MEET US

Attend a presentation or come to an event
at uab.ca/recruitmentevents

KEEP CONNECTED

Sign up for notifications at uab.ca/top5



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