



# University of Alberta

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## Financial requirement

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**Financial guarantee amount**      There is no specific requirement by the University, you'll need to show the Canadian Government suitable funds when you apply for a Visa.

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## Brief overview of the university

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The University of Alberta has earned a reputation as one of the best universities in Canada. It is internationally recognized for research achievements and excellence in teaching, services and athletics. Founded in 1908, the U of A is home to over 37,000 students, including more than 3,100 international students from all over the world and provides 200 undergraduate and 170 graduate programs. It is found in the city of Edmonton in the province of Alberta, located in Western Canada. Edmonton is the capital city of Alberta and is a modern city that is home to over one million people.

The funding for research at the U of A is among the highest in Canada and the programs are ranked among the best in the country. With top quality facilities and world renowned professors and researchers, the U of A continues to grow and change to meet the educational aspirations of students from around the world.

The U of A's strong international focus enriches students' university experience both academically and personally. It fosters international understanding and enhances classroom discussions, debates, and research by providing unique perspectives. Students can meet people from around the world at the U of A. Over 3,100 students from 121 countries are welcomed onto campus each year. The curriculum in U of A programs provides a truly global education.

Students will learn in high-tech classrooms and state-of-the-art labs and research facilities. In addition, the U of A has Canada's second-largest research library system with more volumes per student than any university in the country, world-class athletic and recreation facilities, the finest theatre teaching centre in Canada, and new buildings being built all across campus!

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## Academic issues

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**Academic strengths**      Engineering, Sciences, Arts, Fine Arts, Law

**Restricted/closed Departments**      The following areas do not accept exchange students: Criminology, Medicine & Dentistry, Pharmacy and Computer Engineering. The course BUS 201 and Accounting courses are not open to exchange students. Both the Faculty of Engineering and School of Business do not allow students to follow courses if they are not registered in the faculty. Students can only apply for exchange to the Faculty of Engineering once they have completed two years of university level courses specifically in an Engineering program and have a minimum GPA of 3.0 equivalent. Applications will not be considered until all of the grades for the second year of

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study are final and a transcript is submitted.

Can I pre-register for classes before arrival?

Yes

If yes, please give details

Once you have been admitted to the University of Alberta (U of A), you will receive a login ID and password to access BearTracks, the on-line registration system. You will then be able to register for courses prior to your arrival to the U of A. You are responsible for registering in your courses on BearTracks, however, the exchange office will help register those students who encounter difficulties. You compete with other U of A students for course space, and so be prepared to take alternate courses. There is no guarantee of registration in the courses they may want or need.

Link/s to detailed subject or course descriptions:

You will be given a log in ID and password once you apply and you can search the course listings and the course schedules for the upcoming year (which are updated in April or May) by signing in as a “guest” if you do not have a password or login id at this website:

<https://www.beartracks.ualberta.ca/>

Please note that the course listings in the official University of Alberta Calendar provide ALL the courses that have been offered in the past and MAY be offered at the University of Alberta. The appearance of a course in the U of A Calendar does not guarantee that it will be offered every term or every academic year. The most current information is available on *BearTracks*.

Course listings and Class schedules for 2012-2013 will be updated on *BearTracks* at the end of March 2012. Course listings are available in the online version of the U of A calendar at <http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/pdfcal/11-12calendarpdf/CourseListings.pdf>

However, for the most accurate course listings by semester, please login to BearTracks.

### **Using *BearTracks* to find Course Listings & Schedules**

There are two important resources that students should refer to when selecting their courses on *Bear Tracks*:

1. The “Course Listings” includes all course descriptions and credit weight.
2. The “Schedule of Classes” outlines in detail the term, time and date, and location that each course is offered.

Note: Courses that begin with “AU” are offered at the University of Alberta’s AUGUSTANA CAMPUS. The Augustana Campus is our rural campus and is located about 1.5 hours away from Edmonton by car in a Camrose, Alberta. Please advise your students to refrain from choosing these courses as they are only offered at Augustana and not on the main Edmonton Campus.

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### **Semester dates**

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Semester dates do not become available until March of the previous academic year. To keep updated, please go to:

<http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/>

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## Housing

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Guaranteed housing?	<p>Accommodation is guaranteed to all exchange students who send their applications to our office by April 15<sup>th</sup> (along with their exchange applications) for a September start. Guaranteed rooms are ONLY available in Lister Centre and HUB International Residences. Please ensure you write Lister or HUB as your 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices on the housing applications if you want a guaranteed room for September. Should you choose another residence, there is a risk of not getting a room offer on campus.</p> <p>You can choose from various dormitories and apartment style housing which are catered and non-catered. Please see <a href="http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/">http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/</a> for detailed information regarding each residence.</p> <p>Housing applications should be sent directly with the Exchange Application to the Education Abroad Program office. The Office will then ensure that the applications are forwarded to the Housing Office. A \$175 housing application deposit fee is required at time of application.</p>
If no, is on campus housing readily available?	N/a
When is housing information sent?	<p>Accommodation is guaranteed to all exchange students who send their applications to our (U of A Education Abroad) office by April 15<sup>th</sup> (along with their exchange applications) for a September start. Guaranteed rooms will be only for Lister Centre and HUB International Residences.</p> <p>You can choose from various dormitories and apartment style housing which are catered and non-catered. Please see <a href="http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/">www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/</a> for detailed information regarding each residence.</p>
Link to housing website	<a href="http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/">www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences/</a>
Brief details	<p>The University of Alberta offers a wide variety of Housing and Food options from dormitory- style shared and single rooms to shared self-catering apartments. In 2004/05 room prices in Residence Halls ranged from CAD\$3,104 (small single room, no meal plan) to CAD\$6,792 per academic year (large room and meal plan a meal plan [worth CAD\$3,000]). Apartments were priced at between CAD\$288 per month (4 bed flat) to CAD\$673 per month (1 bed flat).</p> <p>For updated information on residence rates, please see this document <a href="http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences//pdfs/UofAResidenceRates20112Version2.pdf">http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/residences//pdfs/UofAResidenceRates20112Version2.pdf</a></p>
Allocation process	<p>You will receive a letter stating that you have been guaranteed housing in June. If you have indicated Lister or HUB, the letter will confirm the residence. If you have applied to a different residence, you will be sent a letter confirming housing, however, not necessarily in the residence of choice.</p>

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## Application information

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Which month of the year are applications processed?	May to July
Which month of the year do you send out offer letters?	It generally takes 6 to 8 weeks for an application to be processed. Some faculties, such as Engineering, are slower in making

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admission decisions.

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### **Immigration information**

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Which month of the year do you hope to send immigration documents?

It is your responsibility to contact the nearest Canadian Embassy/Consulate for information on applying for the necessary immigration documents. This can be done once you receive your official admission letter from the University of Alberta.

A Study Permit would be required if you want to work on campus during your studies. The cost for this is approximately CAD\$125 (see [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca) for updated details). Certain nationals will require a Temporary Resident Visa to enter Canada. Please contact the nearest Canadian Embassy or Consulate for more information or consult the Government of Canada website at [www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

Note: Canadian consulates and high commissions have taken 6 weeks at least to process applications in the past.

Where can I find further information about immigration?

[www.cic.gc.ca](http://www.cic.gc.ca)

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### **Pre-arrival information**

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Which is your nearest airport?

Edmonton International Airport

Do you offer an airport pick up programme?

No. Edmonton International Airport, is 30 km south of the city. You can catch a taxi or the Sky Shuttle service from the airport. From the International Airport, taxis charge a metered rate of approximately \$45. The Sky Shuttle is \$18 one way and it is the best option. Please take the Sky Shuttle and get off a Campus Tower Suite Hotel which is right on the U of A campus.

Brief details

N/a

Do you have an orientation programme?

Yes – it is called “Transitions”

Is it mandatory?

No it is not mandatory, however, it is highly recommended as it will cover topics on immigration documents, academics, health insurance, etc, and will give you the opportunity to meet new friends. All incoming exchange students should plan on attending.

How much does it cost?

No cost

What are the dates?

TBC . It is usually a 3 day orientation held at the end of the last week of August.

Link for a website for further details

<http://www.international.ualberta.ca/current/index.cfm>

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### **Health Insurance**

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Do you have mandatory health insurance?

Yes. You are automatically enrolled in the University of Alberta Health Insurance Plan

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	(UAHIP).
Brief details	<a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/incoming_preparing.php?id=82">www.international.ualberta.ca/incoming_preparing.php?id=82</a>
Approximately how much does it cost?	The cost is approximately \$152 (c£93) per term.
Can this be waived by my own policy?	No. You will be automatically enrolled in UAHIP upon application to the U of A. Once you arrive, payment for UAHIP can be made at the U of A's Financial Services and health care cards can be obtained from the International Centre.

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### Additional costs

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Do I have to pay any mandatory costs?	Yes, health cover and the newly introduced Universal Transit Pass (U-PASS). All students must pay \$116.67/ term for the U-PASS fee and are automatically assessed the U-PASS fee when registered in 1 course at the U of A. The U-PASS allows for travel on any public transport (including buses and trains in Edmonton) for \$116.67/ term. Bus passes usually cost \$75 / month. For more information on this, please go here: <a href="http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/u-pass/">http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/u-pass/</a>
If yes, please provide details and costs	Costs for UAHIP is \$152 / term U-PASS is \$116.67 / term

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### General Information

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Links to tourist information	Edmonton <a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67444&amp;nav01=67430">http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67444&amp;nav01=67430</a>
	Alberta <a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67443&amp;nav01=67430">http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67443&amp;nav01=67430</a>
	Canada <a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67442&amp;nav01=67430">http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/nav02.cfm?nav02=67442&amp;nav01=67430</a>
Link to the Study Abroad office pages	<a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/goabroad/">http://www.international.ualberta.ca/goabroad/</a> <a href="http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/">http://www.international.ualberta.ca/prospective/</a>

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### Contact details

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Primary contact	University of Alberta Education Abroad Program 8920 HUB Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1 Tel: 001 780 492 6215 Fax: 001 780 492 6213 <a href="mailto:goabroad@international.ualberta.ca">goabroad@international.ualberta.ca</a>
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