



Financial Aid and Awards INFORMATION FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

WELCOME!

Whether you are entering your first year of university or graduating with a degree, we realize financial matters are important to you. Concordia University of Edmonton (CUE) is committed to helping you develop a financial plan so you can realize your academic goals. Each year our CUE Financial Aid and Awards Office works with students and their families to help make their CUE education more affordable. We can assist you in navigating through the financial aid process and work with you to identify grants, loans and scholarship opportunities.

WHAT IS A STUDENT LOAN?

A student loan is government funding designed to help students pay for university tuition, books, and living expenses. This financial assistance comes in the form of loans and grants to post-secondary students who demonstrate financial need. Loans are repayable forms of assistance. Grants are non-repayable forms of assistance.

WHAT IS A BURSARY?

A bursary is a non-repayable monetary award based on financial need.

WHAT IS A SCHOLARSHIP?

A scholarship is a non-repayable monetary award based on academic merit and/or non-academic criteria such as community service and leadership.

WHAT IS A STUDENT LINE OF CREDIT?

A line of credit is a loan set up with your banking institution to help cover the cost of tuition, books and living expenses. Contact your banking institution for full details.

WHAT IS SPONSORSHIP?

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)'s Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP) provides financial assistance to First Nations and eligible Inuit students who are enrolled in eligible post-secondary programs. First Nation students that are affiliated with a band can apply directly to their band for sponsorship. Post-secondary students who are not eligible for sponsorship due to having regained status as a result of Bill C-31 can apply to Freehorse Family Wellness Society.

HOW TO REACH US

We are dedicated to your success! Our financial aid advisors are here to help. We encourage you to talk to us about any questions or concerns you may have.

We are conveniently located on the main floor of the Hole Academic Centre in Student & Enrolment Services, HA 120, just down the hall from the Bookstore.

In-Person: Monday–Friday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

CLOSED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

Email: finaid@concordia.ab.ca

**Phone: 780.479.9220 or
toll-free 1.866.479.5200**

**Book a Google Meet Virtual
Advising Appointment at:
finaid@concordia.ab.ca**

financialaid.concordia.ab.ca

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY OF EDMONTON SCHOLARSHIPS

University Entrance Scholarship (no application required)

A scholarship awarded to high school students entering their first year of post-secondary study in Arts, Management, or Science with a 75% or higher awards average. Scholarships vary in value according to the applicant's award average (\$1,000 to \$5,000). This scholarship is renewable for four years, or until the completion of your first degree. Automatic consideration is given to those who apply for admission by April 1st.

University Transfer Scholarship (no application required)

Students who transfer to CUE with a minimum 24 university-level transferable credits may be eligible for a one-time \$1,500 scholarship. Students must present a minimum 3.5 or higher admission GPA and be working toward the completion of their first baccalaureate degree program. Automatic consideration for those who apply for admission by June 1st.

In-Course Scholarship (no application required)

High achieving students who did not receive a University Entrance Scholarship when they began their studies at Concordia are automatically considered for a \$1,500 In-Course Scholarship at the end of their first year of study. Recipients must be working toward the completion of their first baccalaureate degree in an Arts, Management, or Science degree program; be registered in a minimum of 12 credits each semester in the qualifying year; and earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.5 or higher. Recipients cannot simultaneously hold a University Entrance Scholarship.

CUE Scholarships (online application)

This annual competitive awards program offers numerous donor-funded scholarships for students who demonstrate scholastic achievement, volunteer/community service, leadership qualities, and/or financial need. Some awards are program-specific. The online application, available through Online Services for Students/Requests, opens in November and closes January 15th. A reference letter is required to complete the application. Cash awards are presented annually in winter term.

Concordia Bursary Program (online application)

Full-time undergraduate students experiencing financial difficulties while attending Concordia University of Edmonton may apply for a bursary to supplement their existing funds using the online bursary application through Online Services for Students/Requests.

The fall term deadline is October 15th and the winter term deadline is February 1st. Students may apply only once in an academic year.

Athletic Awards

Student athletes who compete on a designated Concordia Thunder Athletic team may be eligible for a Thunder Athletic Scholarship. In addition to the normal academic requirements, recipients must actively participate in all team functions, display a commendable work ethic, be positive team leaders, and exemplify appropriate behavior at all times. Concordia also holds competitions for the Tom Austin Athletic Sportsmanship Award, Edmonton Oil Kings Jr. Hockey Club Award, and the Maple Leaf Athletic Club Scholarship.

MÉTIS SCHOLAR AWARD

(online application)

A \$2,500 bursary to help alleviate the cost of tuition and learning resources and to encourage the post-secondary achievement of full-time Métis undergraduate students while attending Concordia University of Edmonton. Recipients must be enrolled full-time in any year of an undergraduate degree program at Concordia University of Edmonton and display academic merit. Preference will be given to those who are not receiving the Indigenous Careers Award and who demonstrate financial need. Alberta Métis students are encouraged to visit rupertsland.org for other post-secondary funding opportunities.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS THROUGH ALBERTA STUDENT AID

The Alberta Government, through Alberta Student Aid, and in partnership with post-secondary institutions and other community organizations, offers a suite of scholarships and awards to encourage and reward the excellence of Alberta students. Visit www.studentaid.alberta.ca for full details & criteria for each award.

- Alexander Rutherford Scholarship for High School Achievement
- Alberta Athletic Award
- Indigenous Careers Award
- Languages in Teacher Education Scholarship
- Louise McKinney Scholarship
- Jason Lang Scholarship
- Lois Hole Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship
- Laurence Decore Awards for Student Leadership
- Dr. Gary McPherson Leadership Scholarship

GOVERNMENT STUDENT LOANS & GRANTS

Government Student Loans and Grants help eligible students with the cost of a post-secondary education. If you are receiving Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada/Band funds, you can still apply for Government Student Loans should you require additional funding. You will, however, need to declare these funds as a resource on your application. If you declare your Indigenous status on your original application, you are exempt from the federal student contribution and your eligibility for federal student aid may increase.

If you are a resident of Alberta, you can apply for government funding online at studentaid.alberta.ca. If you live outside of Alberta, look into applying for government funding through your home province or territory.

CUE's financial aid advisors are here to help you navigate the application process, maintenance and repayment of your student loans.

OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

CUE students may be eligible to apply for award opportunities offered through external organizations. These awards are competitive, as they may be offered to post-secondary students attending universities across Alberta or Canada and are not administered by CUE. Applications or requests for more information must be submitted directly to the organization administering the award. Here are some examples of external awards for Indigenous Students:

- Aboriginal Education Partnership Program - Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.
- Aboriginal Student Business Award (CPA)
- Aboriginal Youth Achievement Awards – Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
- Alberta Blue Cross 50th Anniversary Scholarship for Aboriginal Students
- Alex Tutschek FCPA FCA Award for Indigenous Student Post-Secondary Achievement (CPA foundation)
- Alex Tutschek FCPA FCA Award for Mature Indigenous Students
- Alliance Pipeline Aboriginal Student Awards
- AltaLink Indigenous Scholarship Program

- Art L'Hirondelle Scholarship
- ATCO Indigenous Education Awards
- Belcourt Brosseau Metis Awards
- Canada Post Aboriginal Education Incentive Awards
- Cenovus Indigenous Scholarships
- ConocoPhillips Indigenous Awards Program
- Crowe MacKay No Limits Award
- Delia Gray Memorial Scholarship
- Forest Products Association of Canada Skills Awards for Aboriginal Youth
- Indspire Post-Secondary Education Awards
- KPMG's Indigenous Student Awards
- National Union of Public and General Employees Scholarship for Indigenous Students
- Pearl Calahasen Scholarship
- Repsol Canada Indigenous Award
- Sam Bull Memorial Scholarship
- Senator James Gladstone Memorial Scholarship
- The Gary Pruden Scholarship
- The Honourable Pearl Calahasen Scholarship
- TransCanada Indigenous Legacy Scholarship
- TransAlta's Aboriginal Bursary Program

Useful Websites

www.indspire.ca — Indspire is a national Indigenous-led registered charity that invests in the education of Indigenous people for the long term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada.

www.sac-isc.gc.ca — Government of Canada Indigenous Bursary Search Tool

www.rupertsland.org — Rupertsland Institute Higher Learning Completion Program — Financial support for post-secondary tuition, books/supplies and a living allowance for the final two semesters.