



University of Calgary Internal Post-Secondary Resources for Indigenous Students

This handout provides an overview of programs, resources, and spaces for Indigenous students at the University of Calgary. Entries are accompanied by brief descriptions and links.

Indigenous Admissions Process

This is a portal for Indigenous students that want to apply to the University of Calgary. If you self-identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis, the University of Calgary has created pathways to support your admission process. This portal shares information on student eligibility and how students can apply. They also highlight what documents, dates, and other knowledge you must have to complete a successful application.

https://www.ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/indigenous/admissions_process

Indigenous Student Access Program (ISAP)

The Indigenous Student Access Program is a bridging program for prospective Indigenous students. First Nations status/non-status, Inuit, and Métis persons can take part in a year of open studies. This program helps Indigenous students find the path they want to take with their education. It also helps develop study techniques to begin learning at a post-secondary level. Indigenous students, who do not meet the requirements for a specific degree, can use this program to gain entry to those programs.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/prospective-students/isap>

UCalgary Indigenous

A landing page for all things UCalgary Indigenous. You can find information on events, lectures, news, and the University of Calgary's Indigenous strategy.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous>

International Indigenous Studies

“Indigenous peoples have rich intellectual traditions that stretch back thousands of years in these lands. The International Indigenous Studies program engages those traditions to understand Indigenous contributions to the key questions that have shaped life on this planet. Indigenous perspectives help us see robust ways of relating to other human societies, as well as non-humans and the lands and waters we live with. For example, Indigenous legal and political systems include complex systems of justice that manage conflict in and between peoples. Or we can look to Indigenous literatures which share Indigenous experiences in the world we currently live in, and in the worlds that we could live in. Taken together, International Indigenous Studies is concerned with the vibrancy of Indigenous peoples’ intellectual traditions.”

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/international-indigenous-studies>

Indigenous Student’s Circle (ISC)

This portal is a way to connect to Indigenous student-led events based on the UCalgary campus. Indigenous Students Circle members organize all their events. They operate out of the University of Calgary’s Writing Symbol Lodge. They do not have a UCalgary portal but there is a Facebook page. You can like and subscribe to their page. It helps you stay connected to the UCalgary Indigenous community and upcoming events. This is also a good portal for getting involved with the Indigenous community at UofC.

<https://www.facebook.com/ucalgaryisc/>

Writing Symbols Lodge (WSL)

The Writing Symbols Lodge (WSL) is an Indigenous community hub located in on the third floor of MacEwan Hall on the University of Calgary main campus. It is an environment that supports and empowers Indigenous students and staff. Many programs operate out of the hub. The WSL is home to the Indigenous Student Access Program (ISAP), the Indigenous Student’s Circle (ISC), and the Ótáp ímisskaan (Indigenous Youth Leadership Training) program. The Writing Symbols Lodge also hosts many community and ceremonial events throughout the year. The WSL also gives Indigenous students and staff access to on-site cultural resources. Many students and alumni continue to enjoy its community support and resources.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols>

Undergraduate Indigenous Students Portal

For Indigenous undergraduate students, this portal will provide valuable information for you. Indigenous undergraduate students can download viewbooks or have them mailed to you. They highlight resources, awards, and testimonies from Indigenous students.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/future-students/undergraduate/indigenous>

Indigenous People and Working at UCalgary Portal

Indigenous Students can use this portal to search for Indigenous focused employment opportunities. Information about the Indigenous Summer Student Program is here as well. Learn about what it is like to work at the University of Calgary as an Indigenous student.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/hr/campus-culture/indigenous-work>

Indigenous Career Resources

The University of Calgary supports Indigenous students in their search for employment. They provide one-on-one career advising, and Indigenous Student career days. Lunch and learns, Indigenous career specific workshops are available. There is also support with resume writing, cover letters, job interviewing and more. These are events and resources for Indigenous students who want to develop their career path.

<https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/careers/indigenous-services>

Indigenous Education Resource

This portal is for supporting Indigenous education by providing many resources. You can learn more about Indigenous lifeways, the ii'taa'ph'to'p strategy, colonization, and decolonization. There are reconciliation video projects and events. These portals support students and staff alike. Indigenous Elders provide gateways to learning and how we can journey together in a good way.

<https://werklund.ucalgary.ca/teaching-learning/indigenous-education-resources>

Indigenous Research Support Team

If you pursue Indigenous research, the Indigenous Research Support Team is available to help you. They offer a range of support and guidance for Indigenous research projects whether team-based or not. These supports include advising for Indigenous community engagement and protocols. They also cover comprehensive research coordination support for Indigenous scholars. The Indigenous Research Support Team also provides information sessions. They also support students REB applications and funding applications for Indigenous research.

<https://research.ucalgary.ca/engage-research/irst>

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/departments/medicine/physician-resources/general-resources/equity-diversity-inclusion-and-accessibility/indigenous-research-support-team>

ii'taa'poh'to'p Grants

This portal is for Indigenous students, faculty or staff members who want to help Indigenize the University of Calgary campus. As UCalgary evolves and develops their relationships with local Indigenous populations, they also invest in creating more Indigenized spaces and programs. You will find guidelines and forms for applying to help Indigenize UofC.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/about-ii-taapohtop/grants>

Indigenous Graduate Students Portal

This is the portal that guides you to information about University of Calgary Indigenous graduate students. It serves to inform prospective Indigenous graduate students about the processes for applying. They also share funding options and other supports, such as the new UCalgary initiative, Supporting Aboriginal Graduate Enhancement (SAGE).

<https://grad.ucalgary.ca/future-students/indigenous-graduate-students>

Indigenous Studies – University of Calgary Library Research Guide

“Indigenous Studies are, by their very nature, worldwide in scope and interdisciplinary in character. Libraries and Cultural Resources have a wide variety of materials to support research and teaching in this area - books, journal articles, video, microforms, art, and artifacts. You will find resources that focus not only on Canadian Indigenous resources but resources for study of Indigenous peoples around the world. “

<https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/indg>

Kiipitakyoyis (Faculty of Social Work: Grandmother's Lodge)

Kiipitakayoyis, also known as the Grandmother's Lodge, is the Indigenous Social Work Lodge. It hosts ceremonial and community events. The Lodge also helps educate the community through webinars and gatherings. Elder Clarence Wolfleg gifted the lodge its name in ceremony, and the Lodge is also recognized as a pipe hall. This is a great honour for Kiipitakayoyis and the individuals who move through its space.

<https://socialwork.ucalgary.ca/about/about-faculty/Kiipitoyis>

Program Advising

The Writing Symbols Lodge hosts many resources, including academic and wholistic advising. This portal can help you find academic tutorial services. It also leads Indigenous students to support with general advising and course registration. This is a collaborative effort between the Writing Symbols Lodge and the Student Success Centre (SSC).

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/current-students/program-advising>

Tiya Dagumisasriy: the Indigenous Student Success and Engagement Program

Pronounced Tee-ah Koo-mah-suss-tih, the Indigenous Student Success and Engagement Program offers holistic approaches to supporting Indigenous students through their academic journey. The program empowers students by incorporating cultural events, Indigenous leadership training, student success seminars, pet therapy, field trips and other special events.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/current-students/td-program>

Ótáp ímisskaan: Indigenous Leadership Training

Pronounced Óo-tdúp-ím-ss-gkhan, this Indigenous leadership training is a student run youth outreach program. This program delivers culturally-tailored content that uplifts and educates Indigenous youth with leadership skills. The content covers topics of history, healthy communication, conflict resolution and self-care. They also feature prominent Indigenous artists and leaders. The name of the program was gifted by Elder Duane Mistaken Chief in ceremony and translates to "bringing rations back to camp for sustenance from a ceremony or gathering."

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/community/otapimisskaan>

Indigenous Relations Training Program (IRTP)

This portal leads to a training course available to students, staff, professionals, and community members. The goal is to strengthen participants understanding of Indigenous communities and working together. This program is available quarterly. It covers history, contemporary trends, Indigenous realities, resource development, ethics, and protocol. It also includes a ceremonial event with Indigenous professionals and knowledge keepers.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/writing-symbols/community/indigenous-relations>

ii'taa'poh'to'p - UofC's Indigenous Strategy

li'taa'poh'to'p is the Blackfoot name gifted to the University of Calgary's Indigenous Strategy. It translates to "a place to rejuvenate and re-energize during a journey." The University of Calgary collaborates with Indigenous leaders, scholars, and community members to Indigenize their programming. The strategy itself functions from a cultural model that reflect Indigenous ways of knowing and being. The Strategy is a record in traditional pictorial symbols on a buffalo robe. It is a gift to the University of Calgary from Traditional Knowledge Keeper, Elder Reg Crowshoe.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/about-ii-taapohtop/explore-strategy>

Global Indigenous Skills

"The Global Indigenous Skills program is funded by Global Skills Opportunity (GSO) - the Government of Canada's Outbound Student Mobility Pilot Program. Its aim is to invest in global skills for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, cultivating leadership, identity awareness, and global networks related to Indigenous ways of knowing, doing, connecting, and being."

<https://ucalgary.ca/international/globalindigenousskills>

Counselling Services

Counselling services are a valuable resource for Indigenous students who may not have access to readily available Indigenous holistic counselling and need mental health support. They are located across from the Writing Symbols Lodge.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services/counselling>

Third Party Sponsorship for Students

On this webpage, you can, "find out all you need to know about Third Party Sponsorship, including eligibility, steps, documentation and students' roles and responsibilities."

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/finances/third-party-sponsorship/third-party-sponsorship-sponsors>