

## Tuition Increases at the University of Alberta since 2020

### Background:

The Government of Alberta had frozen domestic tuition from 2015/16 to 2019/20. However, since 2019 the Government has begun allowing post-secondary institutions to raise their tuition.

Table 1: Tuition Increases of International Students Admitted Before 2020 and All Domestic Students

Citizenship	Level	Program	Year Admitted	Increase in 2020/21	Increase in 2021/22	Increase in 2022/23	Increase in 2023/24	Increase in 2024/25	Increase in 2025/26	Cumulative Increases
Domestic	Undergraduate	NA	All years	7%	7%	7%	5.5%	2%	2%	34.5%
	Graduate	Thesis-based	Before 2020	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	2%	2%	15.6%
			Since 2020	7%	7%	7%	5.5%	2%	2%	34.5%
		Course-based	All years	7%	7%	7%	5.5%	2%	2%	34.5%
International	Undergraduate	NA	Before 2020	4%	4%	4%	5.5%	6.5%	5% to 6.5%	32.7% to 34.6%
			Since 2020	New Tuition Model (see Table 2)						
	Graduate	Thesis-based	Before 2020	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	2.67%	17.1%
			Since 2020	New Tuition Model (see Table 2)						
		Course-based	Before 2020	4%	4%	4%	5.5%	6.5%	5%	32.7%
			Since 2020	New Tuition Model (see Table 2)						

Notes: Some of these increases do not apply to programs with non-standard fees. Some of these programs, such as Master of Education in Counselling Psychology experienced extra-ordinary tuition increases of more than 100% in the past few years.

In 2018, the Alberta Legislative Assembly passed *An Act to Improve the Affordability and Accessibility of Post-Secondary Education* (Bill 19) to prevent arbitrary increase of international tuition. In accordance with Bill 19, the University introduced the guaranteed tuition model for all international students admitted to programs with standard fees since Fall 2020. Their tuition listed on their offer letter will not change within the normal program period. However, almost every cohort has a higher tuition than the previous one.

Table 2: Tuition Increases of International Students Admitted Since 2020

<b>Cohort</b>	<b>Tuition Comparing to the Previous Cohort</b>
2020/21	Introduction of guaranteed tuition
2021/22	+0%
2022/23	+2%
2023/24	+6%
2024/25	+6.5%
2025/26	+5% to +6.5%
2026/27	+10%
Cumulative Increase	33.0% or 34.9%