



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**First Nations,
Métis, & Inuit**
EDUCATION

FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT STUDENTS

Career Pathways Guide



Revised: 09-18-2015

About This Guide

This guide is intended to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students and their families navigate the post-secondary system. Whether it is apprenticeships or degrees, post-secondary education furthers learning and provides career opportunities.

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It Starts with Relationships

~MÎYOWÎCEHTOWIN~

Edmonton Public Schools welcomes all students into an inclusive education system which is designed to support the learning needs of every child. The success of an inclusive education system relies on the engagement, collaboration and involvement of students, parents/guardians, staff and community.

We believe that reconciliation and healing can be achieved by fostering respectful, supportive and welcoming learning environments. The First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education team is available to provide programs and resources to support and enhance your child's learning journey.

Parent, guardian and family involvement is one of the most important factors to student success.

- Get to know the world of work and post-secondary options: research funding programs and resources to support students, visit post-secondary open houses in the fall.
- Reinforce the importance of post-secondary education and the world of work.
- Promote good study habits and career planning.
- Strengthen the education community by sharing your knowledge, language and culture.
- Be aware of courses and marks that lead to appropriate post-secondary programs that fit with your student's interests.



CONTACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Edmonton Public Schools

780-429-8000

First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education

780-429-8580

Find Your Designated School/School Attendance Areas

780-429-8427

Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)

— Aboriginal Peoples: Career, Learning and Work

[alis.alberta.ca/ce/cp/cpt/
aboriginal.html](http://alis.alberta.ca/ce/cp/cpt/aboriginal.html)

First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education

We strive to support and enhance the educational experience and achievement of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. We do this by helping schools develop a holistic understanding of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures, worldviews, histories and current realities.

We believe this approach fosters relationships that welcome, nurture, and honour individual student's stories and cultures and supports the weaving of culture and curriculum to enhance the learning for all students.

We collaborate with District staff, First Nations communities, Métis and Inuit organizations, and stakeholders to develop strategies, resources, programs and initiatives that support personal growth, high school completion, and career pathways to post-secondary studies or the world of work.

Our Goal

First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students will succeed within a supportive and inclusive learning environment that is respectful and responsive to individual narratives where learning ultimately supports the well-being of self, family and community to become engaged thinkers, and ethical citizens with entrepreneurial spirits in an interconnected world.

The annual First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Honouring Celebration provides an opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate the journey of graduating First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students at Edmonton Public Schools.

For more details, visit
bit.ly/FNMI_Events.

For further information, contact First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education at 780-429-8580 or visit **sites.google.com/a/epsb.ca/fnmi-education**.

Self-identifying as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit

As a parent or guardian you are given an opportunity to self-identify your child as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit during the school registration process. In addition, you can verify, change or remove your child's First Nations, Métis, or Inuit declaration annually on the Student Information Correction Form. Self-identifying is voluntary and does not require documentation to verify status. Self-identified information is treated in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP)*. For more information on FOIP, visit servicealberta.ca/foip.

The process of self-identifying in Edmonton Public Schools provides opportunities for initiatives, programs, resources, and services to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student achievement. Self-identified information is also used by Edmonton Public Schools and the Government of Alberta to support planning for improvement, accountability, to inform policy and funding decisions and for reporting purposes.

FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT FUNDING ALLOCATION

To support the achievement of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students, the Government of Alberta provides all school authorities with a First Nations, Métis, and Inuit funding allocation based on the number of students who self-identify as First Nations, Métis, or Inuit.

The funding is not distributed directly to individual classrooms or students. The District allocates the majority of the funding to schools, so they can decide how best to support the collective, identified educational needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students in their school community, such as:

- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaisons, coaches and/or mentors
- Elders, Knowledge Keepers and/or Cultural Advisors
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit resources, supports, services and learning opportunities
- Literacy and numeracy intervention support and resources
- Cultural arts-based programming

The funding also supports the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Education Unit; amiskwaciy Academy; Awasis Program at Prince Charles School; and the understanding of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit history, people and cultures for all students.

We encourage you to discuss with the principal how the school allocates the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit funding allocation provided through self-identification.

For further information, visit the Aboriginal Learner Data Collection Initiative education.alberta.ca/teachers/fnmi/aldci/faq.aspx

Program Planning

ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements indicated are the minimum requirements for a student to attain an Alberta High School Diploma. The requirements for entry into post-secondary institutions and workplaces may require additional and/or specific courses.

Earn a minimum of 100 credits that includes the completion of:

- English 30-1 or 30-2; and
- Social Studies 30-1 or 30-2; and
- Mathematics 20-1 or 20-2 or 20-3; and
- Science 20 or 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20*; and
- Physical Education 10; and
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20); and

Earn 10 credits, in any combination, from:

- Career and Technology Studies (CTS)
- Fine Arts
- Second Languages courses
- Physical Education 20 and/or 30
- Knowledge and Employability courses
- Registered Apprenticeship Program courses
- Locally developed/acquired and authorized courses in CTS, fine arts, second languages or Knowledge and Employability occupational courses; and

In addition to English and Social Studies, earn 10 credits in any 30-level course, in any combination, from:

- 30-level locally developed/acquired and authorized courses
- Advanced level (3000 series) in Career and Technology Studies courses
- 30-level Work Experience courses
- 30-level Knowledge and Employability courses
- 30-level Registered Apprenticeship Program courses
- 30-level Green Certificate Specialization courses
- Special Projects 30

Provincial exams are required in English 30-1 and 30-2, Social Studies 30-1 and 30-2, Mathematics 30-1 and 30-2, Biology 30, Chemistry 30, Physics 30 and Science 30. Final marks in these courses represent a blend of school and provincial exam marks.

* The science requirement may also be met with the 10-credit combination of Science 14 and Science 10.

For more information, visit education.alberta.ca or contact your school counselor/First Nations, Métis, and Inuit liaison/success coach.

CERTIFICATE OF HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Students must be enrolled in a Knowledge & Employability program and earn a minimum of 80 credits to graduate from high school with a Certificate of High School Achievement. Some workplaces or post-secondary institutions may require additional credits and/or specific courses. Talk to your school counselor for more information about diploma requirements.

Earn a minimum of 80 credits that includes the completion of:

- English Language Arts 20-2 or 30-4; and
- Mathematics 10-3 or 20-4; and
- Science 14 or 20-4; and
- Social Studies 10-2 or 20-4; and
- Physical Education 10; and
- Career and Life Management (CALM 20); and

Earn 5 credits in:

- 30-level Knowledge & Employability occupational course, or
- 30-level Career and Technology Studies (CTS), or
- 30-level locally developed course (learn more at your high school) with an occupational focus, and

Earn 5 credits in:

- 30-level Knowledge & Employability Workplace Practicum course, or
- 30-level Work Experience course, or
- 30-level Green Certificate course, or
- Special Projects 30

OR

Earn 5 credits in:

- 30-level Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) course

Please note early acceptance to post-secondary based on Grade 11. Talk to your school counsellor.

My Blueprint is an Education Planner that can support students to set goals and plan for the future. It is available through individual schools; please see your counsellor or Assistant Principal for more information.

myblueprint.ca

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT TRACKERS

ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Student: _____

High School: _____ Alberta Student Number: _____

GRADE 10				GRADE 11				GRADE 12			
Course	No.	Mark	Cr.	Course	No.	Mark	Cr.	Course	No.	Mark	Cr.
English			5	English			5	English			5
Social			5	Social			5	Social			5
Math			5	Math			5	Math			5
Science			5	Science			5	Science			5
Phys. Ed.	10		3/5	Biology	20		5	Biology	30		5
CALM			3	Chemistry	20		5	Chemistry	30		5
				Physics	20		5	Physics	30		5
				Phys.Ed.	20		3/5	Phys.Ed.	30		3/5
Options:				Options				Options			

High School Diploma Requirements

- ☐ 100 credits (min)
- ☐ English 30-1 or 30-2
- ☐ Social 30-1 or 30-2
- ☐ Math (20-level)
- ☐ Science (20-level) or Science 14/10
- ☐ Phys.Ed. 10
- ☐ CALM
- ☐ 10 credits in any combination (Fine Arts, Second Languages, Phys.Ed. 20 and/or 30, CTS, RAP)
- ☐ 10 credits at the 30 level (not including English or Social)
- ☐ 24 credits in any option courses in any combination (10, 20 and/or 30 level)

TOTAL CREDITS:	TOTAL CREDITS:	TOTAL CREDITS:
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HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT TRACKERS

ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT REQUIREMENTS – Knowledge & Employability (K & E)

Student: _____

High School: _____ Alberta Student Number: _____

GRADE 10				GRADE 11				GRADE 12			
Course	No.	Mark	Cr.	Course	No.	Mark	Cr.	Course	No.	Mark	Cr.
English			5	English			5	English			5
Social			5	Social			5	Social			5
Math			5	Math			5	Math			5
Science			5	Science			5	Science			5
Phys. Ed.	10		3/5	Biology	20		5	Biology	30		5
CALM			3	Chemistry	20		5	Chemistry	30		5
				Physics	20		5	Physics	30		5
				Phys.Ed.	20		3/5	Phys.Ed.	30		3/5
Options:				Options				Options			

High School Diploma Requirements

☐ 80 credits (min)

☐ English 20-2 or 30-4

☐ Social 10-2 or 20-4

☐ Math 10-3 or 20-4

☐ Science 14 or 20-4

☐ Phys.Ed. 10

☐ CALM

☐ 5 credits in 30 level (K & E occupational course OR CTS course OR locally developed course with occupational focus)

AND

☐ 5 credits in 30 level (K & E workplace practicum course OR work experience course OR Green Cert. course OR special projects)

OR

☐ 5 credits in 30 level RAP course

TOTAL CREDITS:	TOTAL CREDITS:	TOTAL CREDITS:
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DIPLOMA EXAM WEIGHTING

As of September 1, 2015, diploma exam weighting will shift from a 50/50 weighting to a 30/70 weighting, where school-awarded grades will be worth 70 per cent and the diploma exam worth 30 per cent of a student's final mark. Students write diploma exams for Grade 12 core courses (language arts, social studies, mathematics and sciences).

The change in diploma exam weighting will provide a more accurate reflection of student performance by putting a greater weight on teachers' assessments of students' abilities and knowledge.

Enhancing Your Child's Journey

High School Completion and Upgrading Opportunities

HOME EDUCATION

ARGYLL CENTRE

780-465-1299

argyll.epsb.ca

Instruction is delivered by parents, teachers or a combination of both for students completing their studies at home. Argyll Centre offers instruction on site and online, enrichment opportunities and program supports. Learning strategies include:

- Teacher-directed home-based learning
- Parent-directed home-based learning
- Blended programming: a combination of teacher-directed and parent-directed, online and in-class



ALTERNATE HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION

There are many alternative program choices for students who are returning to school, upgrading or need flexibility in their schedule. The following options support high school completion and career pathways to post-secondary studies or the world of work.

ARGYLL CENTRE

780-465-1299

argyll.epsb.ca

- Home schooling (parent-directed)
- LearnNet (online learning)
- Blended programming (parent-directed and teacher-directed)

CENTRE HIGH CAMPUS

780-425-6753

centrehigh.epsb.ca

- Programming for students who have attended, or who were eligible to attend, a regular high school for three years
- High school completion
- Academic upgrading
- Post-secondary partnerships
- Career preparation

LEARNING STORES

780-437-8199

outreach.epsb.ca

- High school completion for students 16 to 19 years old, as well as 15 year olds who have previously attended high school
- Individual program planning in collaboration with the student and teacher

For more information on alternative high school completion, go to

***epsb.ca/programs/
alternatehighschoolcompletion.***

METRO CONTINUING EDUCATION

780-428-1111

metrocontinuingeducation.ca

- High school credit courses
- Diploma and provincial achievement test preparation
- Review of elementary and junior high curriculum
- Tutorials

TRANSITIONS AT THE PARK PLAZA

780-451-8190

- Senior high programming for high school completion
- Receive one-on-one teacher support
- Support in building independence, work habits, academic and social skills
- Connections to other supports provided

NEW DIRECTIONS

780-429-8030

- Placement determined through the expulsion process

LEARNWRITE/LEARNNET

780-455-5643

***epsb.ca/programs/homeeducation/
learnnetonlinelearning***

- Program offered in partnership with the student's primary high school blending small group instruction and individual support to meet student's programing needs
- Flexible programming delivered online or by paper/pencil for timely high school completion

SKILLS AND JOB TRAINING

Skills, work experience and job training opportunities allow students to explore career interests and pathways into the world of work. Students in these programs develop employability skills, gain credits toward a high school diploma and earn a competitive wage while attending high school.

KNOWLEDGE AND EMPLOYABILITY (K&E)

- Job shadowing or work experience opportunities in a supportive environment
- Opportunity to earn a Certificate of Achievement by completing 80 credits in a combination of K&E courses and other courses (see page 5 for details)

THE SKILL CENTRE

- Real-world, hands-on career courses available at select District high schools
- Choice of Culinary Arts or Engineering Tech

REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (RAP)

- Opportunity to attend high school while working as an apprentice in one of Alberta's 50 or more designated trades
- Work experience at an approved job site
- Ability to transition into full-time apprenticeship program upon high school graduation

TRANSITION SUPPORT

- Supports students who have successfully completed Knowledge and Employability programming, or completed Grade 12 without a diploma or certificate or left high school before completion
- Career preparation
- Support in building independent living skills



REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (RAP)

Traditionally, apprenticeships in Alberta begin after students graduated from high school; however, some students identify their career interests at an earlier age and are ready to learn and practice their future trade while still in high school. RAP is an ideal program for these students.

RAP students are both full-time students and registered apprentices, dividing their time between an approved work site and their high school studies. They take regular courses such as English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science and Math to earn their Alberta High School Diploma or Certificate of Achievement.

The time a RAP student spends at school and on the work site can be quite flexible. The student, school and employer jointly agree on a suitable schedule. The student might work as a RAP apprentice for a semester, for half of each school day, for one or two days per week, or during summers, holidays and weekends.

The RAP apprenticeship ends when the RAP apprentice finishes high school. The RAP apprentice is then automatically registered as a regular apprentice and the credit earned while in the RAP program is applied to his or her apprenticeship through the apprenticeship program.

Contact your RAP coordinator in your high school or your local Apprenticeship Client Service Office to get started!

tradesecrets.alberta.ca/contact-us

WHAT'S AN APPRENTICESHIP?

An apprenticeship is a post-secondary education program that combines work experience, on-the-job and technical training.

- Approximately 80 per cent of an apprentice's learning is done "on the job." Training is provided by the employer, with the apprentice learning from a certified journeyperson or qualified individual and is measured in hours and months.
- Approximately 20 per cent of an apprentice's learning is completed through a post-secondary establishment, usually a college or technical training institution.
- Apprentices are required to successfully pass an industry examination at the end of each block/period of training.
- An apprenticeship program lasts one to four years, depending on the trade.
- When an apprentice has satisfied all the requirements of the program, he or she is granted an Alberta Journeyman Certificate.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR AN APPRENTICE TO WORK IN A TRADE

To work as an apprentice, an individual must:

- find an employer who is willing and able to hire them as an apprentice,
- be registered with Apprenticeship and Industry Training, and
- be ready and willing to learn.



CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES

Careerinsite – A free, interactive, online career planning tool.
careerinsite.alberta.ca/careerinsite.aspx

Career Planning – An Overview – A tip sheet that introduces career planning.
alis.alberta.ca/ep/eps/tips/tips.html?ek=139

Learning Clicks – A free post-secondary awareness program that helps students, parents and teachers learn about the importance, long-term benefits, and opportunities of post-secondary education. They also offer four free workshops for Aboriginal audiences about the career and education planning process.
alis.alberta.ca/ec/ep/pps/learning-clicks.html

My Choices, My Work, My Life – A guide to looking at your options, making decisions and reaching career goals.
alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/mychoicesmyworkmylife.pdf

OCCINFO – Information about more than 500 Alberta occupations, including Aboriginal Liaison.
occinfo.alis.alberta.ca/occinfopreview

Planning for High School Completion – Resources to help individuals finishing high school, or those who are planning to go back to finish high school or upgrade.
alis.alberta.ca/ec/ep/high-schoolcomp.html

This Is Your Life – A career and education planning guide for youth.
alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/aaet/yourlifestudent-english.pdf

Time to Choose – A Post-Secondary Education Program.
alis.alberta.ca/pdf/cshop/timetochoose.pdf

Talk to your career counsellor to begin your career planning process. They can connect you with many education, training and employment opportunities.

Ask about career counselling through your band:
aboriginal.alberta.ca/803.cfm



POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY OF EDMONTON

780-479-8481 Toll free: 1-866-479-5200 concordia.ab.ca

Concordia's offerings include over 45 majors and minors in the fields of Arts, Science and Management; 2 after-degree programs, 3 masters degrees and several graduate certificates and diplomas in high demand areas.



MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

780-497-4340 Toll free: 1-888-497-4622 macewan.ca

Aboriginal Education Centre

The Aboriginal Education Centre offers a diverse range of services such as academic counselling, personal support services, and cultural programming. Cultural activities include an annual feast, Aboriginal Cultural Day, and an Elders-In-Residence program. Aboriginal Elders are invited throughout the year to share their knowledge and traditions through workshops and special sessions. The Centre is a unique community environment where students gather, study, and learn. All are welcome.

macewan.ca/wcm/StudentServices/AboriginalEducationCentre/index.htm



NAIT

780-471-6248 Toll free: 1-877-333-6248 nait.ca

EnCana Aboriginal Student Centre

The EnCana Aboriginal Student Centre is a community gathering place where Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students can gather to network, study and share their post-secondary learning experiences. It is a place where culture and tradition are welcome and encouraged.

nait.ca/62131.htm



NORQUEST

780-644-6000 Toll free: 1-866-534-7218 Student Recruiters: 780-644-5927

norquest.ca

Aboriginal Student Services

NorQuest College provides learners with a complete education that attempts to balance strong academic foundations with Aboriginal culture. Aboriginal learners make up approximately 9% of NorQuest's student population. They have designed an extensive network of services tailored specifically to the needs of this group, including Aboriginal Student Support Services and Elder support.

norquest.ca/resources-services/student-services/aboriginal-student-services.aspx#sthash.5mJ3Jeug.dpuf



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

780-429-3111 ualberta.ca

[Faculty of Native Studies](http://nativestudies.ualberta.ca)

nativestudies.ualberta.ca

[Transitions Year Program \(TYP\)](#)

TYP is a University access program for Aboriginal students who may not be prepared to enter a faculty through the regular admissions route. This is not an upgrading program, but a full time University of Alberta program in Open Studies. aboriginalservices.ualberta.ca/TransitionYearProgramTYP.aspx

[Aboriginal Student Discovery Day](#)

In honouring its relationship with the Aboriginal community, the University of Alberta invites Aboriginal students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 to take part in a one-day UAlberta experience at the North Campus.



YELLOWHEAD TRIBAL COLLEGE (YTC)

780-484-0303 Toll free: 1-877-982-3382 ytced.ab.ca

Yellowhead Tribal College delivers upgrading programs as well as accredited post-secondary courses, certificates, diplomas, and degrees through recognized colleges and universities.



OTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS IN ALBERTA

alis.alberta.ca/ec/ep/aas/post-secondary.html

Don't forget
to check
application
deadlines

Watch for an open
house at your
preferred post-
secondary institution!

World of Work

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING RESOURCES

ABORIGINAL SKILLS AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING STRATEGY (ASETS)

esdc.gc.ca/eng/jobs/aboriginal/agreement_holders.shtml#ab

Aboriginal agreement holders deliver Aboriginal labour market programs through an extensive network of service points across Canada.

ABORIGINAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT READINESS WATER WINGS PROGRAM

boylestreet.org/we-can-help/adult-services/education

Through this program, Aboriginal youth and young adults can gain safety tickets (CSTS-09, WHMIS, basic food safety, standard first aid and CPR, forklift, skid steer, elevated work platform, H2S alive, flagger, fall protection, ground disturbance II, confined space, OSSA regional orientation), basic computer, and job-related skills such as resume writing and interview skills.

ALBERTA ABORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION CAREER CENTRE (AACCC)

aacc.ca

AACCC is a new facility at Norquest College that connects Aboriginals seeking careers in the Alberta construction industry with employment services and supports.

ALBERTA CAREER INFORMATION HOTLINE

alis.alberta.ca/ep/eps/hotline/abouthot.html

Career advisors offer advice and referrals about career, education and employment options.

ALBERTA WORKS CENTRES

humanservices.alberta.ca/services-near-you/6633.html

Locations across the province have qualified staff who provide career and employment services to help individuals with career planning, work search and job maintenance.

APPRENTICESHIP AND INDUSTRY TRAINING

tradesecrets.alberta.ca/home
alis.alberta.ca/js/ws/jsr/ab/learn/skills.html

Apprentices learn on the job, ensuring that they receive practical, hands-on-training that meets the needs of current and future employers.

OTENOW EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SOCIETY

oteenow.com

The Society helps connect First Nations and Inuit who live in Edmonton and area with a wide range of employment and training programs, services, and opportunities.

TRADE WINDS TO SUCCESS

tradewindstosuccess.ca

This 16-week Aboriginal pre-apprenticeship training program will provide the skills and knowledge to start a career in the following trades: boilermaker, carpenter, electrician, ironworker, millwright, plumber, steam/pipe fitter, insulator or welder.

WOMEN BUILDING FUTURES

womenbuildingfutures.com

Women Building Futures offers trades training, placement, and coaching services for women.

For more information on skills and job training, go to epsb.ca/programs/skills

Funding for Post-Secondary Studies

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I apply for post-secondary funding from my band?

There is a process for applying for post-secondary funding from your band. The first step is to contact your band (typically a phone call or visit to your band's education office).

Your band will need to know:

- When is the application deadline for the program?
- Is there any paperwork to be completed? (e.g., application, letter of intent, career investigation, FOIP release of information)

2. What if I haven't ever contacted my band for anything?

This is not a problem as your name will appear on your band list.

3. What will I need to be funded?

You will need:

- a copy of your Indian Status card
- a letter of conditional acceptance from your post-secondary institution
- an itemized list with the cost of tuition, books, and other applicable fees
- your class schedule for the upcoming semester

4. How will I know if my funding has been approved?

Your band will most likely contact you directly via telephone, letter, or email to inform you of their decision. As with anything else, a follow up phone call is always a good choice.

5. What is typically covered with band funding?

Band funding for full-time students typically covers:

- living allowance
- tuition, books and any other costs related to your education
- tutoring fees

Band funding for part-time students typically covers only tuition and book costs.

6. What is typically not covered with band funding?

Band funding does not typically cover:

- personal items and services not crucial to course requirements
- personal liabilities, bill repayments, loans, or other financial debts (Students are encouraged to assess their personal financial status before committing to full-time education.)
- fees for health and dental plans offered by colleges and universities
- computers, computer accessories, software and supplies

7. What if I am Bill C-31 Status?

If you are Bill C-31 Status and your band is located in Alberta then you will most likely need to access funding via Freehorse Family Wellness Society.

You can find details about Freehorse Family Wellness Society's funding on page 19 of this handbook or by contacting the Freehorse Family Wellness Society for further information.

8. What is Bill C-31?

Bill C-31 changed the registration system so that entitlement was no longer based on sexually discriminatory rules. The amendments, effective April 17, 1985:

- a. treat men and women equally;
- b. treat children equally, whether they are born in or out of wedlock and whether they are natural or adopted;
- c. prevent anyone from gaining or losing status through marriage;
- d. restore Indian status for those who lost it through discrimination or enfranchisement;
- e. allow first-time registration of children (and in some cases, descendants of subsequent generations) of those whose status is restored; and
- f. allow for the registration of children born out wedlock if either parent was a registered Indian, regardless of their date of birth.

The federal government continues to maintain the Indian Register. Those who were recorded on the Indian Register when the amendments came into force continue to be recorded there. Those whose status was to be restored or who are eligible to be registered for the first time must apply to the Registrar to be recorded.

Two categories of people were excluded from registration under the C-31 provision:

1. women who gained status only through marriage to a Status Indian, and later lost it (e.g., through re-marriage to a non-Indian); and
2. children whose mother gained Indian status through marriage and whose father is non-Indian.

Source: johnco.com/native/bill_c31.html

9. What if I am not a Status Indian?

There are no band funding options for Non-Status Indians; however, as a Non-Status Indian, you are still eligible for various scholarships or bursaries.

10. What if I am Métis?

If you are a member of a Métis settlement, you may be eligible to be sponsored through your settlement. Please contact your settlement for further information.

As a Métis student, you are also eligible for various scholarships or bursaries. Please see page 20 of this handbook for further information.

BAND FUNDING

STEPS TO APPLY FOR BAND POST-SECONDARY FUNDING

1. Contact your band's education advisor/counselor to inquire about post-secondary funding.
 - a. If you are unsure of who to speak with or do not know the education counselor's phone number, the first step would be to call your band's administration office to inquire about post-secondary funding.
 - b. If you do not know the number for your band's administration office, it is likely to be on the Internet.
2. When you contact your band's education counselor, ask for an application package for post-secondary funding.
 - a. Provide your band's education counselor with your contact information, address, and/or a fax number to send the application package.
3. Funding applications typically require you to provide your education counselor with the following information:
 - a. a completed application form
 - b. all necessary supporting documents:
 - i. statement of intent
 - ii. letter of acceptance from an approved post-secondary institution
 - iii. copy of your Provincial Health Care card (if claiming dependents)
 - iv. copy of your Status card (both sides)
 - v. tuition fee assessment
 - vi. marriage certificate or statutory declaration for common-law relationships (if applicable)
4. Continue to follow up with your education counselor to keep them up to date on your post-secondary program application status. Provide them with any new information such as a change of contact information (e.g., phone number, address, email) and to find out about funding deadlines.

POST-SECONDARY FUNDING DEADLINES

Each band has its own application policies, processes and application deadlines. The deadline dates range from April through July for post-secondary fall intake. Please contact your band for further information.

FUNDING OPTIONS FOR INUIT STUDENTS AND BILL C-31 STATUS STUDENTS

FREEHORSE FAMILY WELLNESS SOCIETY

The Society offers a post-secondary funding program on behalf of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). This program assists students from various Alberta First Nations whose status is the result of Bill C-31. Alberta residents from Nunavut and the Northwest Territories with Indian or Inuit status are also eligible.

Eligibility

- Must be attending a recognized degree, diploma, or certificate granting post-secondary institute on the AANDC approved list
- Program of study must have high school diploma completion as a requirement
- Program of study must be at least one year in length
- Must have lived in Alberta for at least 12 consecutive months

First Nations included

Bearspaw	Kapawe'no
Beaver	Kehewin
Beaver Lake	Long Lake
Blood Tribe	Peigan
Chiniki	Saddle Lake
Cold Lake	Sawridge
Driftpile	Sucker Creek
Frog Lake	Swan River
Goodfish Lake	Tall Cree
Goodstoney (Wesley)	Tsuu T'ina
Heart Lake	



Application deadlines

Term	Application deadline
Fall and Winter (September – April/June)	June 15
Winter (January – April/June)	October 15
Spring and Summer (May – August)	March 15

For more information, visit **freehorse.org**.

FUNDING OPTIONS FOR MÉTIS STUDENTS

MÉTIS SETTLEMENTS STRATEGIC TRAINING INITIATIVES (MSSTI)

This program provides funding and other supports as part of their mission “to provide training and education to Métis Settlement members residing on settlements or on an authorized leave of absence; to assist Settlement members in entering, re-entering meaningful employment.”

Applicants must:

- be Métis physically residing on a Settlement, or a Settlement Member on authorized leave of absences as defined by the Métis Settlement Act, Section 85
- be legally entitled to work in Canada
- have a Social Insurance Number (SIN) prior to approval
- be in good standing under previous funding programs by the Métis Settlement Strategic Initiatives Society
- require assistance to overcome existing or anticipated labour market barriers

For application details, go to ***mssti.ca***.

MÉTIS TRAINING TO EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

This program can provide support to Métis clients entering:

- the final two semesters of a university degree, a college diploma or a technical institute program
- a certificate program of one year or less
- a college diploma or technical institute program for up to two years in length if the training results in an occupation designated as being in high demand
- the first and second year of technical training in a Registered Apprenticeship Trade

The financial contribution for eligible clients may include tuition, mandatory books and supplies and income support.

Métis Scholar Awards are also available to students at a number of post-secondary institutions across Alberta.

For more information and application details, call 1-888-486-3847 or visit ***métisemployment.ca***.

SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY GUIDE FOR FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, & INUIT STUDENTS

Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Canada

aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1351687337141/1351687403171

Aboriginal Learning Link

aboriginallearning.ca

Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta (AMMSA)

ammsa.com

Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)

alis.alberta.ca/ps/ep/pps/lc/plan/as/funding.html

Alexander Rutherford Scholarships

alis.alberta.ca/et/fo/pay/scholarships/info.html?EK=11

Belcourt Brosseau Métis Awards

bbma.ca

Indspire Building Brighter Futures Booklet

indspire.ca/programs/building-brighter-futures/building-brighter-futures-booklet

Indspire Scholarships & Bursaries

indspire.ca/apply

Scholarships Canada

scholarshipscanada.com

Métis Nation of Alberta

albertaMétis.com/Services/Education.aspx

University of Alberta Aboriginal Student Services Centre Scholarship & Bursary Guide

aboriginalservices.ualberta.ca/FundingAndScholarships.aspx

Windspeaker Aboriginal Scholarship Guide

ammsa.com/community-access/scholarships

Yconic

yconic.com



5 STEPS TO EARNING SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Search

There are thousands of scholarships, awards and grants available to help finance your education! Many scholarships are awarded on academic achievement. However, there are other awards for athletic involvement, leadership, community service, area of interest and the institution you plan on attending.

Find out about these opportunities by using the following search techniques:

- Visit the websites listed on page 21 to find various scholarships and awards.
- Check with the post-secondary institution you plan to attend for possible scholarships and entrance awards.
- Search online
- Talk to your parents and/or relatives – they may be members of a club or organization that offers funding or their employer may offer awards to family members.
- Talk to your high school guidance counsellor.
- Find more tips for searching for scholarships by reviewing this guide.

2. Apply

- Check to ensure you meet the requirements as outlined on the application.
- Complete the appropriate scholarship application form. Keep a copy.
- Submit your application well before the deadline (a late application may not be accepted).
- Follow up with the award sponsor before the deadline to make sure your application was received.

TIP: Have letters of recommendation written by an Elder, employer, or recognized community member ready to include with your application. Keep extra letters of recommendation and transcripts on hand. It will save you time when applying for more than one award.

3. Write the essay

- Write that essay; if an essay is a requirement, it may be the deciding factor.
- Give yourself plenty of time.
- Read the instructions carefully, and seek advice from a family member, friend, teacher or counsellor.
- Go for quality rather than quantity.
- Use clear, concise language and avoid using abbreviations or slang.
- Review your essay. Read it aloud. Refine it.
- Proofread! Better still, have someone read and proofread your essay.
- Keep a copy on file – with a few changes, you may be able to use it for another scholarship.

4. Get the money

- Make sure you meet all the conditions to receive the money: full-time enrollment, maintaining residency, institution you are attending qualifies, etc.
- If you move, notify the scholarship donor of your new address.
- If you are required to attend an awards ceremony, luncheon, etc., be there, be gracious and dress appropriately.
- Thank the donor, when appropriate.

5. Maintain your scholarship potential

- Keep your marks, athletics, leadership and volunteer work at an outstanding level and continue to look for scholarships as you progress through your studies.
- Be positive. Believe in yourself and in your chances of winning a scholarship. It takes hard work and time, but the rewards are well worth the effort.

Key Terms

Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is a post-secondary education program that combines on-the-job training, work experience and technical training in a trade. From day one, apprentices earn a salary for their time on the job. An apprenticeship training program lasts one to four years depending on the trade.

Band

In Canada, an Indian band or band, sometimes styled as a First Nation band or simply a First Nation, is the basic unit of government for those peoples subject to the Indian Act (i.e., Status Indians or First Nations).

Bursary

A bursary is a monetary grant based primarily on financial need.

Certificate

A certificate is an official document which signifies that you finished a program or course. After high school, students who take a one-year program often get a certificate (e.g., a heavy equipment operator certificate).

Degree

An **undergraduate degree** is the first degree you can complete at the university level. It is commonly called a Baccalaureate or Bachelor's degree.

A **graduate degree** is a master's degree granted to individuals who have undergone study beyond a the bachelor's degree level, demonstrating a mastery or high-order overview of a specific field of study or area of professional practice.

A **doctoral degree** requires two or three years of full-time university study and research beyond the master's degree level. It typically involves conducting research and includes having to prepare and defend a dissertation on an approved topic.

Diploma

A diploma is a document given by an educational institution conferring a degree on a person or certifying that the person has satisfactorily completed a course of study. People who finish Grade 12 get a high school diploma. After high school, students who take two-year courses often get a diploma.

Journeyperson

A journeyperson has finished an apprenticeship. For example, apprentice carpenters work and study for four years. After that, they can become journeyperson carpenters. They get a special certificate, called a "ticket." A journeyperson may also be called a journeyman.

Occupation

An occupation is a specific category of work that has many similar jobs within it. To work in a particular occupation, you need certain training, skills and knowledge.

Occupational information will help you learn more about specific occupations, including:

- what you might like about working in this area
- what day-to-day work might be like
- the type of work that suits you
- the training or education you'll need
- future job trends, opportunities and demands
- where to search for a specific job in related industries
- salaries and wages you'll likely earn
- what companies or industries are hiring
- what it's like to work for specific companies or industries



Post-secondary education

Post-secondary education is any formal education pursued after graduating from high school, especially education at the college or university level. Post-secondary education can take place at a college, university, vocational school or other training program.

Pre-Employment Training

Pre-employment training is for potential apprentices. This training can include the first period of apprenticeship training for a given trade as well as other employment-related skills. Students are given the opportunity to challenge the first period technical exam at the end of their pre-employment program.

Scholarship

A scholarship is a monetary award based on academic merit or excellence in a specific area of study or discipline (athletics, music, volunteerism, etc.).

Trade

Designated trades and occupations are careers that are regulated by the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act. Designated trades have an apprenticeship program. When a trade is designated, it has either a compulsory or optional certification.

- A worker in a compulsory certification trade is a registered apprentice or a certified journeyperson.
- A worker in an optional certification trade can be self-employed or can work for an employer who is satisfied that person has the skills and knowledge expected of a certified journeyperson.
- To work in and learn a compulsory or optional certification trade in Alberta, a person must be a registered apprentice.

University transfer

A university transfer program allows you to begin a degree-level program at a college and then transfer to a university or institution with an accredited degree program to complete the degree. They typically offer up to two years of university-level courses.

Upgrading

Upgrading entails taking classes that give you the academic skills you may need to find work or enroll in a post-secondary program.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Special thanks to Centre High and Naim Cardinal.



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

First Nations, Métis, & Inuit EDUCATION

First Nations, Métis, & Inuit Education
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Edmonton Public Schools is helping to shape the future in every one of our classrooms. We're focused on ensuring each student learns to their full potential and develops the ability, passion and imagination to pursue their dreams and contribute to their community.