
To the members of the Athabasca University community,

The AUFA, AUSU, AUGSA, CUPE, and AUPE join in unity to express concern over the current state of bargaining between Athabasca University and AUGSA. This is primarily in respect to a pay freeze dating back prior to 2013 and the additional request from the Athabasca University to lock that pay in for an additional four years to 2026/27. This is combined with significant delays in the bargaining process. To be clear, this would equate to graduate students wage rates not changing for a period of over 14 years.

The current rates for academically employed graduate students at Athabasca University are \$18.50 for RA2 (master/certificate/diploma) and \$20.50 for RA 1 (doctoral). According to the Alberta provincial government, the average rate for an academically employed graduate assistant is \$35.63 (Government of Alberta, 2023).

Athabasca University, through the IMAGINE plan, pledged to improve the student experience, adapt its offerings, adapt to the economy, and be great partners. Athabasca University has an opportunity to uphold these values through its partnership with AUGSA on behalf of graduate students and provide equitable pay as a Comprehensive Academic and Research University (CARU).

We not only acknowledge and show our support for the academically employed graduate student community at Athabasca University, but we stand in solidarity with those bargaining on behalf of this group of students.





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May we all strive to better the student experience at Athabasca University.

In solidarity,

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Post-secondary teaching and research assistants: Wages and salaries in Alberta. Government of Alberta. (2023). <https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/wages-and-salaries-in-alberta/post-secondary-teaching-and-research-assistants/4012/>



www.AUGSA.com