



Council of Alberta University Students
Differential Tuition Policy
Policy #02-06

WHEREAS differential tuition represents a serious threat to affordability and accessibility; and

WHEREAS the use of differential fees for student support is not sufficient in order to ensure low and middle income access to post-secondary education; and

WHEREAS differential tuition has the potential to alter the balance of fields of occupation within a discipline by directing graduates to pursue well-paid specializations and away from socially necessary though ill-remunerated occupations; and

WHEREAS studies on national and provincial levels indicate that high tuition, in particular differential tuition creates substantial barriers to participation; and

WHEREAS an indicator of quality is student-faculty ratios and student-faculty ratios have not decreased in faculties that have implemented differential tuition in universities across Canada; and

WHEREAS the average debt of Alberta students with student debt is over \$20,000, and increasing this debt burden would create serious financial hardship for university graduates; and

WHEREAS an increase in tuition fees often necessitates an increase in the number of hours per week of student employment and this increase in hours of employment will adversely affect the quality of postsecondary education.

WHEREAS market modifiers in the past have offered no substantial increase to the quality of education the students received; and

WHEREAS market modifiers provide a loophole for the imposition of differential tuition.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students oppose any form of differential tuition for any academic faculty or program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Government of Alberta eliminate all existing tuition market modification that was a result of previous increases in differential tuition.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the legislative openings that allow for market modifiers are closed so that there is no possibility of governments or institutions implementing differential tuition.