

AU PLAR SCHOLARSHIP

Donor: Athabasca University
Value: \$1,000
Number: One (1)

Description of the Award

Athabasca University, as Canada's only open and Distance University, has long been at the forefront of accessible and flexible education. As a part of its suite of innovative processes for providing educational services to a diverse clientele, AU promotes a robust **Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)** process whereby learners can obtain credit for their prior and experiential learning acquired throughout their lives or in their workplaces. Such a system both honours and validates learners' non-formal and informal learning. In very real ways, the PLAR practice can expedite learners' educational journey and result in savings of time and money.

This scholarship will be awarded annually to a current AU undergraduate student who has successfully completed the PLAR process. Applicants will be asked to write a short essay (1000 words) explaining the contribution of the PLAR process to their success as learners.

Conditions of Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for this award:

- Enrolled in an AU undergraduate degree program.
- Has never received this award previously.
- Has a cumulative AU GPA of 3.60 or higher at an undergraduate level.
- Be within 30 credits of completing their undergraduate degree program.
- Has successfully completed the PLAR process.
- Include a reflective essay (1000 words, see page 4) explaining the contribution of the PLAR process to their success as learners and to your future plans. Details are outlined below.

Application Submission Deadline

February 15th

Application Instructions

Submit your application here: [Student Awards Application Submission](#) Or navigate back to award listing to submit.

Award Notification

Successful applicants should expect to be notified within one month of the selection committee convening to choose recipients.

Questions?

Visit the Athabasca University Awards website at: <http://www.athabascau.ca/registrar/studawrds.php>
Email your inquiries at: awardsinfo@athabascau.ca or call toll free: 1-800-788-9041 extension 6197.



APPLICATION FORM FOR AU PLAR SCHOLARSHIP

Please ensure that you meet all the eligibility criteria and that you can demonstrate the qualities of the selection criteria.

A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Athabasca University Student Identification Number:

Social Insurance Number:

Last Name:

First Name:

Middle Name:

Mailing Address 1:

Mailing Address 2:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Country:

Primary Telephone Number:

Alternate Telephone Number:

Email Address:

B. CURRENT POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION INFORMATION

Complete the information requested below. Information will be verified with your student record and other sources, if required.

In what AU **undergraduate degree** program are you enrolled?

How many AU credits do you need to complete your program?

What is your cumulative program GPA? (Go to MyAU portal, click on "Request Transcript", and then click on "Preview" to view your GPA)



C. REFLECTIVE ESSAY RESPONSE

Please use the space on page 4 to provide an essay of no more than 1000 words that answers the questions below. **A missing essay will disqualify you.**

Tell us how your PLAR experience has shaped you as a learner, and how the experience of doing PLAR will contribute to your future plans. In doing so, address these items in your essay:

- What was your understanding of PLAR before doing it, and what was your understanding AFTER?
- What did you learn about yourself through the process?
- What strengths or skills did you realize or learn through the process?
- How will these strengths or skills contribute to your future plans as a learner, a worker, or a person?
- What advice would you give to AU learners thinking about entering the PLAR process?

Essay Tips

1. As an essay, your work should be correctly formatted, spelled, and punctuated. A short submission will probably not be able to contain enough reflective thought to respond adequately to the question.
2. Ensure your essay submission includes your full name and Athabasca University Student Identification Number.

D. REQUIRED CERTIFICATION AND RELEASE

I certify that the information provided in this application and in the accompanying documentation is true, accurate and complete. I certify that the essay submitted is an original work that I have authored, documented and formatted. I authorize the provision of any information held or to be held by Athabasca University, and others relating to my application, including but not limited to personal evaluations and transcripts, to the Student Awards Unit of Athabasca University and the Selection Committee chosen for this scholarship. I understand and accept that: (1) such information will be used by the Student Awards Unit and the awards selection committee of Athabasca University for the purposes of selection, for statistical analysis, and to facilitate ongoing administrative correspondence with applicants, necessary to further the objective of the Athabasca University Student Awards Program and to improve selection process; (2) the Athabasca University will not release application evaluation or the results of the evaluation process, except to inform me if my application has been accepted for an award; and (3) for all questions regarding my personal information held on file by the Athabasca University, including updates thereof, I may reach an Athabasca University representative through the contact information provided within this award package; and (4) if my application is selected for this award, I authorize the publication of my name and the name of the award received on the Athabasca University website and in reports to governing bodies of Athabasca University. I understand that should my application be selected for this award, I am subject to the reporting obligations of the Canada Revenue Agency regarding scholarships, fellowships, bursaries, study grants, and artists project grants. Finally, if my application is selected for this award, I will: (1) provide a thank you letter to the Student Awards Unit of Athabasca University to be forwarded to the donor of the award and (2) agree to a request for a photo opportunity should one be forthcoming.

Name of Applicant:

Date:

Your personal information is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. F-25 and the *Post-Secondary Learning Act*, S.A. 2003, c. P-19.5.

PLAR REFLECTIVE ESSAY RESPONSE