

### 10. SPECIAL PROGRAMS

This section of the First Nations University of Canada Academic Calendar provides basic information on programs that are unique to the University.

#### 10.1 Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Program (ACAP)

Through the Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Program (ACAP), the First Nations University of Canada provides cultural bridging workshops to all business sectors and government agencies to help prepare for the shifting demographic changes in Saskatchewan's workplace.

- Helping to improve relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
- Debunking and dispelling myths and misconceptions about Aboriginal people.
- Providing education on First Nations and Métis history, treaty rights, self-government, socio economic conditions, and political rights.
- Creating awareness of Aboriginal languages, culture and traditions.

For further information contact:

Program Coordinator  
ACAP - Cultural Bridging Workshops  
First Nations University of Canada  
Tel: 306-790-5950 Ext: 3006  
[www.culturalbridging.com](http://www.culturalbridging.com)

#### 10.2 First Nations University of Canada Cooperative Education Program

The First Nations University of Canada Cooperative Education is a **degree option** that allows students to alternate credit and non-credit, paid work terms with their academic studies. Co-op students attend four months of classes, and then apply for a paid work term to put their classroom knowledge to use. By graduation, students will have 12–16 months of career-related work experience. Students who meet the faculty and Co-op program requirements will receive an appropriate designation on their diploma and transcript. Students who enter the Co-op program must maintain an acceptable grade point average and successfully complete at least three work terms.

##### Admission

The First Nations University of Canada Cooperative Education Program is available to all First Nations University of Canada students enrolled in Administration (non-credit program) and Arts (credit program). Eligibility criteria is as follows:

##### Administration Students

- Completion of at least 54 credit hours and no more than 81 credit hours
- Possess a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 67.5%
- Have completed ADMN 260, ADMN 285, and ADMN 007

##### Arts Students

- Declared a major in Arts excluding the following programs:
  - Bachelor of Human Justice
  - Bachelor of Arts in Journalism
  - Bachelor of Arts in Police Studies
- Completion of at least 45 credit hours and no more than 84 credit hours in a degree program in Arts
- Possess a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 70% and a major GPA of 70%
- Completed English 100 and English 110 and at least two courses in their major.
- Students will be expected to demonstrate minimal standards of computer literacy, specifically knowledge of word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software.

### Application Deadlines

Students interested in the Co-op program should apply **one** semester before they plan to go out on a work term. Application deadlines are as follows:

Winter work Term: September 13  
Summer Work Term: January 12  
Fall Work Term: May 10

Application forms can be picked up from Cooperative Education office or downloaded from the web site. Please attach a copy of your resume with your application form and submit your application in person, by mail, or fax to:

First Nations University of Canada  
Cooperative Education Program Coordinator  
1 First Nations Way  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 7K2  
Fax: 306-790-5996

Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date. If any deadline dates fall on a weekend, the following Monday becomes the deadline date. Once accepted into the Co-op Program, students will be expected to complete a series of pre-employment workshops, apply for jobs, and attend job interviews. After the interview process, students will be placed in a position mutually agreed upon by the student and an employer.

### Work Term Evaluation

Co-op students are required to submit a work term report at the end of each work term. The student's employer also submits a performance evaluation. Work terms are graded as pass/fail based on the two reports.

### Cooperative Education Fees

Co-op students are required to pay a fee for each work term, providing a work term is obtained. Students are responsible for paying this fee; however some employers and Post-Secondary Coordinators have agreed to cover the costs.

### 10.3 Indigenous Peoples Health Research Centre (IPHRC)

IIPHRC is a partnership between First Nations University of Canada, University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan, with broad support from various health boards and Aboriginal health organizations. The Institute of Aboriginal Peoples Health (IAPH), an Institute of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and the Provincial Government, supports IPHRC. Funding provided to IPHRC is primarily focused on building capacity in health research among Aboriginal people, communities and institutions through trainee support, and promoting research into areas of Aboriginal health.

The Centre is a collaboration between the First Nations University of Canada, the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. Its primary focus is promoting and expanding health research among Aboriginal people in areas of Aboriginal health such as chronic diseases, Indigenous health, appropriate delivery of health services and prevention measures.

### For further information contact:

Indigenous Peoples Health Research Centre  
CK 115, University of Regina  
3737 Wascana Parkway  
Regina, SK. S4S 0A2  
Ph: 306-337-2461  
Fax: 306-585-5694  
[www.iphrc.ca](http://www.iphrc.ca)

### 10.4 Northern Health Sciences Access Program

#### What is the Access Year?

The Access Year is a program designed to help students enter a variety of health programs offered by:

- First Nations University of Canada,
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science & Technology (SIASST), and
- University of Saskatchewan.

Following completion of the Access Year students will still be required to meet the current entrance requirements for each health program.

#### What is the goal of the Access Year?

The goal of the Access Year is to improve the recruitment, admission, and retention of First Nations and Métis students into health professions.

#### What are the objectives of the Access Year?

- To enhance success in sciences, math, and English by providing a 10 month preparatory program.
- To provide a basic introduction to the health field, with special emphasis on nursing as a career choice.
- To prepare students to meet the entrance requirements for the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS) and;
- Other health professions.

#### For further information contact:

Carrie LaVallie, Health Sciences Director

763-3333 ext 7005

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[www.firstnationsuniversity.ca/Northern%20Campus/northernhealthsciencesaccessprogram\].htm](http://www.firstnationsuniversity.ca/Northern%20Campus/northernhealthsciencesaccessprogram].htm)

NEPS website:

[www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/educationtraining/oncampusprograms/7264/5681/5852/index.shtml](http://www.siastr.sk.ca/siastr/educationtraining/oncampusprograms/7264/5681/5852/index.shtml)

### 10.5 Program for Nursing within First Nations

The Program for Nursing Within First Nations was developed and is being delivered with the collaborative support and involvement of Health Canada Medical Services Branch, The University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing, First Nations, and the First Nations University of Canada's Science Department and Northern Campus, Department of Community Development and Health Sciences.

The program consists of five courses that constitute two certificates. The first certificate program is Community Health; the second certificate program is Primary Care Nursing.

The program provides registered nurses with an expanded scope of practice in community health and primary care nursing. These courses meet Medical Services Branch scope of practice and they have been recognised for transfer credits to the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing.

#### For further information contact:

Carrie LaVallie Health Sciences Director

765-3333 ext 7005

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