



POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Category:	Accessibility
Policy Title:	Alberta PSE Application Service
Effective Date:	July 30, 2007
Revised Date:	November 10, 2007

Whereas students' opportunities to attend a post-secondary institution are increased when they apply to multiple institutions, therefore increasing the likelihood they will find an optimal situation for their needs;

Whereas the Access to the Future Act is intended to enhance the ability of prospective students to access Alberta's public post-secondary institutions;

Whereas the cost of post-secondary education (including all application and transcript fees) remains a significant barrier to equitable and diverse access to post-secondary education;

Whereas the Government of Alberta mandated the creation of a common application process for entrance to public post-secondary institutions (APAS) as part of its Access to the Future Act;
Found in section 2: Accessibility and Affordability, part 2 (a);

Whereas APAS will need to ensure quality, reliable services and reasonable accessibility financially and technologically for all users in order to be a worthwhile investment;

Whereas APAS will have significant benefits for the Government of Alberta including the ability to better track the usage and interest in its post-secondary system, and greater participation in all forms of post-secondary education resulting in a more competitive, knowledge-driven workforce;

Whereas APAS is a project that is supplementary to the Government of Alberta's current financial commitments to post-secondary education in Alberta;

Whereas the Government of Alberta has the obligation to financially support and follow-through on its initiatives, and must be accountable for those projects which it mandates;



BIRT the Government of Alberta fully support both financially and politically the APAS project so as to eliminate the assessment of an application, transcript or user fee for the clients of APAS;

BIFRT the Government of Alberta provide APAS with all necessary resources to provide support to students, parents and institutions who will be users of the system;

BIFRT the Government of Alberta provide the financial support required to effectively operate the APAS system in addition to the current allocation of resources within the Alberta post-secondary education system;

BIFRT that the Government of Alberta collaborates with the post-secondary institutions to eliminate any unnecessary application or transcript fees that an institution may charge;

BIFRT the Government of Alberta continue to consult with stakeholders on the implementation and further development of the APAS program.