

ULFA STUDY LEAVE RELOCATION FUND APPLICATION

* Attach copies of documentation as required under Regulations of Study Leave Relocation Fund.

SURNAME: _____ FIRST: _____ MIDDLE INITIAL: _____

PERIOD OF LEAVE: FROM _____, 20____ TO _____, 20____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

1. Intended location of Study Leave domicile and dates: _____

2. Purpose of Study Leave (one sentence statement): _____

3. Will family members be accompanying you on study leave? ☐ YES / ☐ NO

a) What dates will family member be relocating for? _____ to _____

b) Please list the name(s) of family members 6 years of age or older (at commencement of leave)
and note the age of any who are your legal dependants.

Please list the name(s) of family members under the age of 6 years old (at commencement of leave)

4. What was the date and location of your last study leave? _____

a) If you have not received a study leave before, when was your date of hire? _____

ULFA STUDY LEAVE RELOCATION FUND APPLICATION

TRAVEL EXPENSES

Refer to Regulation C

AUTOMOBILE (SECTION (A) - PAGE 7-8)

If you're traveling by automobile, fill out the following information

DISTANCE (if using own vehicle)

$$\boxed{} + \boxed{} \times 0.555 = \$ \boxed{}$$

Outbound
No. of km

Homebound
No. of km

LODGING & MEALS WHILE DRIVING
Lodging

$$\$40.00 + \left(\boxed{} \times \$5.00 \right) = \$ \boxed{} \times \boxed{}$$

Per additional person

No. of days

Meals

$$\left(\boxed{} \times \$20.00 \right) + \left(\boxed{} \times \$10.00 \right) = \$ \boxed{} \times \boxed{}$$

No. of adults

No. under age of 6 yr. old

No. of days

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (SECTION (B) - PAGE 8)

If you're traveling by public transportation, fill out the following information

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

☐ Airplane ☐ Train ☐ Boat / Ferry ☐ Bus / Taxi ☐ Other:

Quote #1

Quote #2

COSTS UPON ARRIVAL (SECTION (C) - PAGE 8)

Lodging

$$\$40.00 + \left(\boxed{} \times \$5.00 \right) = \$ \boxed{} \times \boxed{}$$

Per additional person

No. of days

Meals

$$\left(\boxed{} \times \$20.00 \right) + \left(\boxed{} \times \$10.00 \right) = \$ \boxed{} \times \boxed{}$$

No. of adults

No. under age of 6 yr. old

No. of days

SHIPMENT COSTS (SECTION (D) - PAGE 8)

Shipment of personal effects. Please give your best reasonable estimate and evidence for shipping your research-related materials, to a maximum of \$700.00.

Rational:

TOTALS

\$

\$

\$

\$

\$

\$

\$

TOTAL REQUESTED
Amount

\$

DATE:

SIGNATURE:



CHECKLIST

For ULFA Study Leave Relocation Application

To ensure your study leave relocation application is complete, check and include the following:

☐

Letter from the Dean/University Librarian approving your study leave, including the approved relocation destination and dates.

☐

Letter from the VP Academic approving your study leave

☐

Completed and signed application form.

☐

If traveling by public transportation, travel quotes (minimum of 2) are required.

NOTE: Incomplete application forms will be ineligible for consideration (see page 5) and will be returned.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

January 13, 2026

TO: STUDY LEAVE APPLICANT

FROM: Aaron Chubb, Executive Director

RE: RESEARCH AND STUDY LEAVE 2026-2027

Your name has been given to the Study Leave Relocation Committee as having been approved for Research and Study Leave in the year 2026-2027. If you are planning on relocating during your Research and Study Leave, please complete the enclosed application form and return it to me as soon as possible.

Several things to note: ULFA has recently amended the application criteria to make the process more equitable. A move is now considered a relocation if it includes a change of domicile during Study Leave for **four (4) consecutive weeks or more. Proof of change in domicile must be supported by documentation and receipts.** Also, please pay particular attention to regulation C.4 regarding approval from your Dean/Chief Librarian – **if the Dean's/University Librarian's letter fails to mention either the study leave location or destination, then you must include a copy of your original application.**

Completed Study Leave Relocation (SLR) applications are due **February 13, 2026**. Incomplete applications will **NOT** be accepted and will be returned to you for revisions. An advanced application will allow you the benefit of a careful review by the SLR committee and for the committee to make recommendations that will enhance your application. Should the committee receive an incomplete application on the due date, you will be declined support. Financial resources for this program are limited and the SLR Committee strongly encourages you to be diligent in your sabbatical planning and application to support your research from a fund with limited resources and growing requests.

Thank you,



Aaron Chubb
Executive Director
University of Lethbridge Faculty Association

STUDY LEAVE RELOCATION FUND

PLEASE NOTE:

The checklist, guidelines, and procedural documents provided in this package are intended to aid you in your application process. If you have any questions, please contact the ULFA office at 403-329-2578.

Study Leave Relocation Applications are due **February 13th, 2026**. We encourage you to submit your application early to give yourself the extra time you may need to tweak your application before the Study Leave Relocation Committee makes its final decision. Partial or incomplete applications will not be accepted; however, if you are unsure about filling this application out correctly, contact the ULFA office before submitting your documents.

It is an unfortunate reality that as our faculty numbers grow and relocation travel takes members and families to various parts of the world, the amount of the Study Leave Relocation Fund continues to be stretched. Each year we face the possibility of prorating award amounts, causing the funding to become competitive. For this reason, the Study Leave Relocation Committee must adhere to the regulations for awarding funding. If you have a unique situation that may not fit within the guidelines and procedures, it is recommended that you include additional information explaining your situation to the Study Leave Relocation Committee.

Congratulations on your study leave and good luck with your application.

STUDY LEAVE RELOCATION FUND

The Study Leave Relocation Fund is designed to assist financially those members of the faculty who are changing residence for academic reasons during their leave. This fund is administered by the University of Lethbridge Faculty Association, who shall be wholly responsible for the funds.

A. STUDY LEAVE RELOCATION COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is responsible for filling vacancies on the Study Leave Relocation Committee. The committee is comprised of three regular members and one alternate member, each serving a two-year term. Members are not eligible to serve on this committee in the year in which they are applying to it in support of their own study leave relocation. In such instances the alternate member will be asked to assume duties for that round of applications. This committee, with the assistance of the Accounting Assistant, Financial Services as resource person and fund administrator, is responsible for:

- i. Dispersing the funds to applicants on the basis of procedures and regulations set out in this document
- ii. Reporting annually to the Executive of ULFA. This report should include a list of applicants, the amount awarded to each and, if necessary, rationale where a discrepancy exists between the amount applied for and actual award.
- iii. Monitoring the expenditures of authorized funds by checking receipts according to normal University procedures. If allocated funds are spent but cannot be accounted for, the Study Leave Relocation Committee shall inform the Executive of ULFA which will take the appropriate action(s).

B. PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION

1. Each January or February, once the names of all approved study leave applicants have been received, information packages and application forms pertaining to study leave relocation are sent from the ULFA office to them.
2. Each February or March prior to the academic year during which the study leave is to commence, the applicant must submit to the University of Lethbridge Faculty Association a completed application for the Study Leave Relocation Award. The applicant must specify the dates for approved leave, location of the study leave domicile, and include an itemized estimate of relocation costs, supported by a minimum of two (2) quotations from different airline carriers (e.g. Air Canada, WestJet, etc) or agents (e.g. Expedia, Travelocity, etc).

The applicant will be awarded a Study Leave Relocation Award upon which claims may be made up to the approved specified maximum. The Study Leave Relocation Committee normally meets before the end of February or early March to conduct its business, and informs applicants of the outcome as soon thereafter as possible.

3. Claims for the relocation from the Lethbridge domicile to the study leave domicile must be submitted to the Accounting Assistant, Financial Services within thirty days of arrival at the study leave domicile. Claims for relocation from the study leave domicile to the Lethbridge domicile must be made within thirty days of the return to the Lethbridge domicile.
4. On request, an advance on a Study Leave Relocation Award may be obtained based on the estimated costs of a relocation from one domicile to another.

C. REGULATIONS FOR APPLICATION

1. The following expenses may be claimed, subject to the maximum specified for the Study Leave Relocation Award. All of the following are in Canadian funds.

Note that travel arrangements are normally made using one mode of transportation, such as air travel **or** automobile; however, the Study Leave Relocation Committee may consider the most reasonable, direct, and economical forms of transportation as an equivalent. Applications involving multiple modes of transportation may require additional explanation to the Committee. Applicants are expected to provide relevant information on travel costs to the committee

(a) Automobile Transportation Costs:

If a private automobile is used, the following formula is applied:
.555 cents per kilometer by the most direct route, for one automobile. For example: domicile in Lethbridge to domicile near University of British Columbia.



Outbound	1158km	x .555	=	\$642.69
Homebound	1158km	x .555	=	\$642.69

Cost of lodging & meals for a reasonable number of driving days when supported by receipts:

Lodging maximum is \$40.00 for one person, plus \$5.00 for each additional person. Allowance for meals en route of \$20.00 per diem, per member of the family 6 years of age or older and \$10.00 for those under the age of 6 years old.

For example, 2 adults and 2 children (5 and 9 years old) travelling to Vancouver over 2 days.

Outbound Meals: $3 \times \$20 + 1 \times \$10 = \$70 \times 2 \text{ days} = \140
Lodging: $1 \times \$40 + 3 \times \$5 = \$40 + \$15 = \$55$
(one night) sub total \$195

Homebound Meals: $3 \times \$20 + 1 \times \$10 = \$70 \times 2 \text{ days} = \140
Lodging: $1 \times \$40 + 3 \times \$5 = \$40 + \$15 = \$55$
(one night) sub total \$195

TOTAL for lodging & meals **\$390**

(b) Public Transportation Costs:

Public Transportation includes travel by airfare, trains, etc.

Lowest generally available airfare (charter, economy airfare or equivalent, based on travel within the terms of the approved leave) from Lethbridge to point of domicile for each member of the family when supported by receipts. *If air companies do not provide fare information for year of travel, use the following formula:*

This year's cost + 5%. For example Air Canada to Toronto (Cost at March 2018)

Lethbridge to Toronto = \$923.30 + 5% = \$969.47 (year 2018)
(include copy of current prices with your application)

(c) Costs Upon Arrival (Lodging and Meals):

Cost of lodging and meals on the same basis as in C.1.(a) for a maximum of three days upon arrival at the study leave destination, when necessarily incurred.

(d) Shipment Costs:

Freight, cartage or cargo trailer rental for personal effects primarily research-related (not including household furnishings) from the Lethbridge domicile to the study leave domicile and return, when supported by receipts; maximum \$700.00.



2. Only those faculty members/professional librarians who are part of the bargaining unit are eligible to apply for assistance from the fund.
3. The fund is designed to aid those who have a study leave approved by the normal process; those on administrative leave would not normally be eligible. Tenured members on retraining or upgrading leave are also eligible.
4. The applicant is required to submit a copy of the letter from their Dean/University Librarian who approves the leave. The letter should include details of approved relocation, including destination, dates and the nature of the leave.
5. Only applicants changing residence, either with or without families, for academic purposes, are eligible for assistance from the fund. A move shall be considered relocation if it includes change of domicile for four (4) consecutive weeks or more. A move shall not normally be considered as relocation unless the applicant remains at that location for a continuous period of four (4) consecutive weeks or more.
Maintaining domicile in one particular location for the entire leave does not exclude research trips, which may be taken periodically from that location. Note, however, such research trips will not be funded by the Study Leave Relocation Fund.
Accommodation booking must be supported by documentation and receipts for the minimum four (4) consecutive weeks.
6. Children who have completed high school shall not normally be considered part of the family unit.
7. A person is eligible for funding for a full year of study leave or two six-month study leaves every seven years. The seven-year period begins with the completion of a funded study leave.
8. The maximum for a Study Leave Relocation grant is 15% of the floor of the Assistant Professor salary every six years, or half the amount every three years.

NOTE: If members wish, they may claim full expenses for a half-year (6 months) leave. However, if the member relocates for a second 6 months, within that seven-year period, he/she may claim only the balance remaining of the maximum grant, i.e. remainder of 15% of the floor of the Assistant Professor salary not spent for the previous relocation.
9. The amount of Study Leave Relocation Fund will be \$35,000 per year. The amount will be reviewed by the Economic Benefits Committee before salary negotiations take place.

10. If the Study Leave Relocation Committee approves expenditure in excess of the funds in the Study Leave Relocation Fund in a given year, each applicant shall be awarded a proportion of their approved expenses. This proportion would be the ratio of the funds in the Study Leave Relocation Fund (bearing in mind regulations 9 & 11) to the total of the approved expenditures.
11. Funds received but not used according to the approved grant application and the rates in C.1 must be returned. Unspent monies are returned to a special Study Leave Relocation Surplus Fund and in years when the total amount to be awarded exceeds \$35,000, before any pro-rata takes place, up to one-third (normally) of the accumulated unspent monies may be added to the \$35,000. Particularly since funds may need to be awarded on a prorated basis, we strongly encourage you to work at getting the best possible rates for your particular mode of transportation and to give thoughtful consideration to putting your application requests together. What you don't need or use goes back into the Surplus Fund, not to others who could have used the full amount they were eligible for in that year.

DURING RESEARCH AND STUDY LEAVE

1. General Effect:

The authoritative general reference for this section is Article 21 of the Collective Agreement.

A member awarded research and study leave receives their regular salary during the period of leave. Premiums, contributions, fees and taxes are deducted from monthly salary in a normal fashion, enabling continuity of economic benefits. This method of paying necessary costs is assumed in discussions below unless otherwise stated.

The descriptions, which follow on University Group Benefit Plans, are provided in summary form only and represent only part of full policies available through Pensions and Benefits.

Faculty aged 65 and over are eligible for coverage up to 30 days out of province travel only and may be subject to limitations under the following benefit plans. Please note Schedule B of the Collective Agreement or contact your Pension and Benefits Department.

2. Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP):

AHCIP for a member awarded research and study leave are as for members pursuing regular duties. Coverage remains in force for in province or out of province, but any member leaving the province for more than one year must notify AHCIP (to include information re: location and purpose) to protect the validity of potential claims. **If you are on educational leave from employment for advanced training or study leave that takes you out of the country for more than 12 months (even one day more), to a maximum of 24 consecutive months from the date of departure, you must contact AHCIP for further requirements.** Your AHCIP (or similar provincial health care coverage) needs to be in force for the Out of Province Emergency Travel Benefits (see point 4) to remain valid.

AHCIP provides coverage for AHCIP insured physician and hospital services elsewhere in Canada. This coverage may be insufficient for some relocation locations and is supplemented by the Extended Health Benefits Plan.

3. Extended Health Benefits:

Outside Alberta, Extended Health Benefits provides coverage for hospital charges up to and including semi-private room rates after AHCIP provides emergency coverage for hospital charges or the difference between the benefits payable by the provincial hospital plan and the actual cost of semi-private accommodation. Ambulance services to the nearest hospital are also covered, and are not restricted to ground service. Quebec Health Insurance Plan does not recognize AHCIP. Therefore, payment will be required at time of treatment and employees will be required to submit forms to AHCIP for reimbursement.

4. Out of Province Emergency Travel Benefits

Of special interest to travelers, the Out of Province Emergency Travel applies to emergency out of province medical costs, after AHCIP credits have been applied. Out of Province coverage will cover the physicians' charges up to the level that is "reasonable and customary" or the area where the **emergency** costs are incurred to a maximum of \$5,000,000 per person.

If you are being treated outside Canada and your medical condition permits you to return to Canada, Blue Cross may request to transfer you to another hospital or to return you to Canada and will not pay for services if you refuse a transfer request. **The first contact is considered an "emergency" and is covered. Any further/ subsequent contact is not considered an emergency and therefore is not covered.** Depending on your destination you may wish to consider purchasing extra coverage.

Members should have their Blue Cross cards (emergency numbers are listed on the back) and obtain claim forms from Alberta Blue Cross before departure for a prolonged absence from Alberta. Forms are available from Alberta Blue Cross' website at ab.bluecross.ca.

Travel Assistance Service must be contacted within 24 hours. **For trips of 6 months or greater you must notify Alberta Blue Cross in advance, please see the Alberta Blue Cross Study Leave Guide prepared for the University of Lethbridge for more information.**

Send your Out of province medical claims directly to Alberta Blue Cross along with a completed "Travel Insurance Claim Form", making sure to complete an Alberta Government Insurance Claim Consent and Authorization form. Alberta Blue Cross will submit the relevant portion to AHCIP and pay their share without you having to wait for AHCIP to pay. If medical expenses are for dependants over 18 years of age, an Alberta Government Insurance Claim Consent and Authorization form must be signed by the dependent.

Visit www.travel.gc.ca to check for Travel Warnings. If a country is 'Red Flagged' travel insurance is VOID.

5. Dental Insurance:

Dental Insurance is affected by neither the member's leave status nor the locale where a claim originates. Coverage will be paid using the 2022 Alberta Blue Cross Dental Fee Schedule.

Dental treatment as a result of an accident must be rendered within one year under the extended health plan. An accident covers only sound teeth; the rest may be covered by regular dental insurance.

No additional costs are associated with leave coverage. Members should take obtain claim forms before leaving the province for a prolonged stay.

6. Group Life Insurance:

Level of coverage is not affected by leave status or locale **provided that Alberta Blue Cross is notified in advance if you will be outside of Canada more than 6 months.** Please refer to the Alberta Blue Cross Study Leave Guide for more information.

7. Long Term Disability Insurance:

The level of coverage is not affected by the leave status or locale. If you are totally disabled while temporarily assigned outside Canada, you may need to return to Canada in order to receive Long Term Disability Insurance Plan Benefits.

8. Professional Supplement:

A member awarded research and study leave qualifies for the Professional Supplement.

9. Academic Pension Plan:

Members who are currently participating in the Universities Academic Pension Plan continue to make contributions (as well as prior service) and have contributions made by the University on their behalf.

10. Accidental Death and Dismemberment:

- a. Employees travelling on University business, using the American Express Corporate card, will be provided with the following insurance coverage:

Travel Accident Insurance to a maximum of \$500,000 payable to the American Express cardholder/beneficiary; Car rental theft and damage insurance; Flight and baggage delay; and hotel/motel burglary insurance.

- b. If an insured sustains accidental loss of life for which an amount of Principal Sum becomes payable under the program, repatriation benefits up to \$10,000 will be paid for expenses incurred for the return home of the insured's body (including preparation charges for transportation). The death must occur at least 50 kilometers from the insured residence.
- c. If the employee is currently covered under SSQ AD&D premiums and coverage will continue. Again, it is recommended that members relocating on study leave review the medical cost of their new locale compared to Canadian costs, and determine if extra coverage is needed.

11. Tax Implications

Members traveling outside of Canada are responsible for any additional tax implications imposed by the host country.

Funds received to relocate family members are taxable benefits according to the rules and regulations of the Canada Revenue Agency and are taxed in the hands of the applicant. Members are advised to plan accordingly.

12. During Research and Study Leave

If university property such as equipment or computers funded from central, grant or research dollars are leaving Canada, please contact Financial Services to find out how to report the updated location for the asset as well as determine if any export regulations apply.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

TRAVEL FUND

Members relocating on study leave may apply for assistance from the Travel Fund on the same basis as other faculty members.

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FUND

Members relocating on study leave may apply to the University of Lethbridge Research Fund on the same basis as other faculty members.

PREPARING FOR RESEARCH & STUDY LEAVE TRAVEL (MISCELLANEOUS)

A member relocating on study leave should obtain claim forms for Extended Health Benefits and Dental Insurance or be able to access Blue Cross website to print online. If the member is leaving Canada for any more than one month, they should obtain a travel insurance claim form.

If the home of the member relocating on study leave is to be leased, consideration should be given to obtaining the services of a professional tax consultant. Please refer to Revenue Canada's Interpretation Bulletins tax folio S5-F1-C1 and IT-393, respecting resident vs. non-resident status and election to avoid capital gains tax on personal residence.

Current immigration guidelines require non-Canadians working in Canada by virtue of landed immigrant status or work permit to sign a declaration of intention before leaving the country for a period exceeding 183 days. If such a declaration is not signed, a prolonged visit outside Canada could jeopardize the individual's prior immigration status. Landed immigrants are required to have their Permanent Residency Card with them or may encounter problems re-entering Canada.

Lastly, as a supplement to the health and insurance package, arrangements for a comfortable emergency line of credit should be made with the member's bank.