



INTERNAL

Alumni Toolkit

Programs, Services, Benefits and Supports for our Alumni

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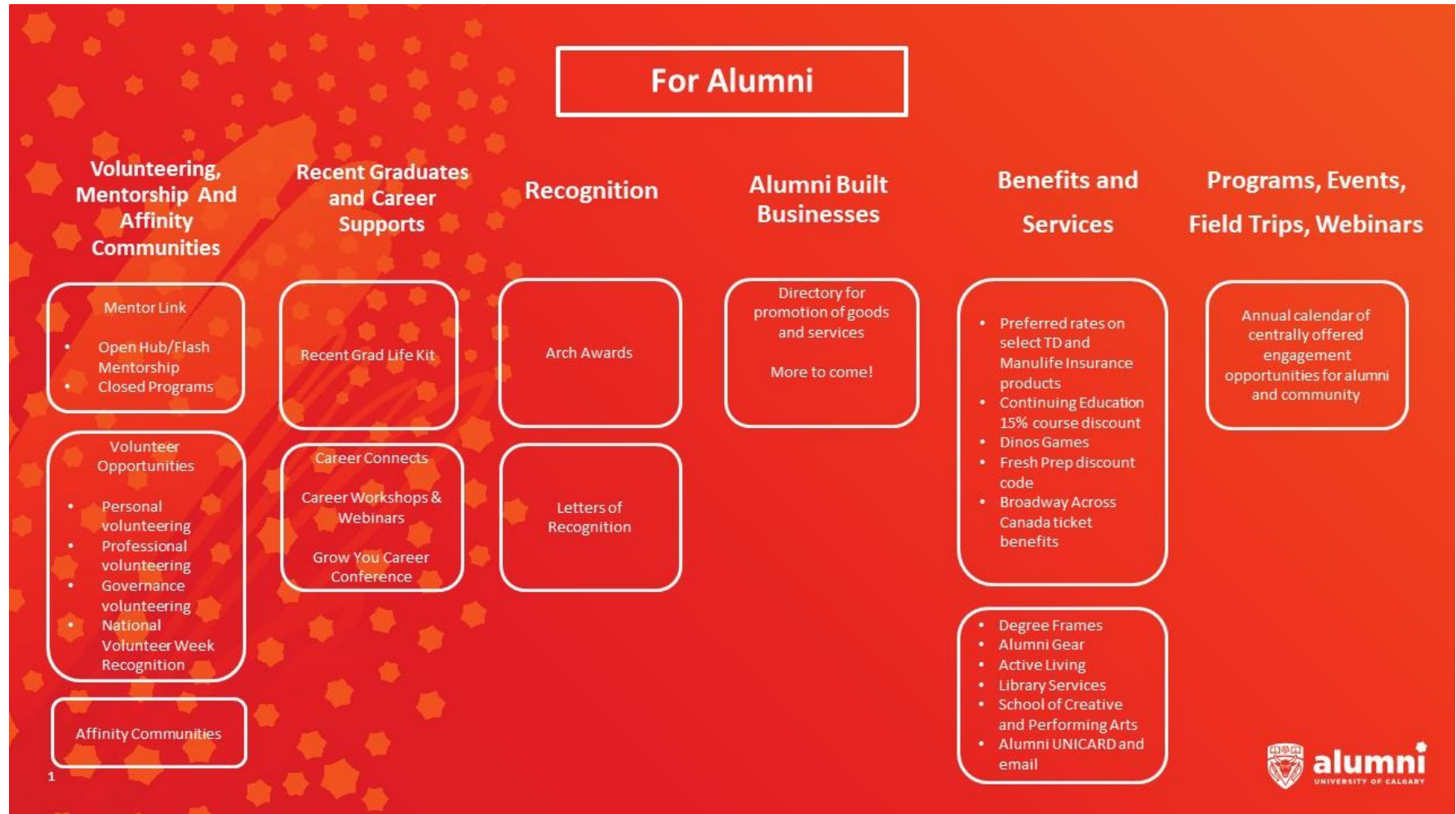
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Visualizing Programs, Benefits and Support for Alumni

This visual outlines the various ways in which Alumni Engagement offers, provides and supports our Alumni. The following toolkit will focus on the supports and details within the areas outlined in the visual. For all areas, relevant links and contact information are shared for utilization. If you are unsure what might benefit you, or who to contact, please connect with us at alumni@ucalgary.ca.



Volunteering, Mentorship and Affinity Communities

Volunteer Opportunities

Alumni can volunteer at UCalgary, or via UCalgary for a wide-range of campus and community initiatives. Volunteerism through UCalgary can be facilitated in many diverse ways and in many forms. Alumni Engagement defines three broad categories of volunteering, in which a number of opportunities fall under.

Personal volunteering

Personal volunteering is typically related to event supports. This could include events that are planned and led by the Alumni Engagement team, in collaboration with Alumni Engagement, or outside of Alumni Engagement.

Examples of events and initiatives that request personal volunteers:

- Alumni led programs, such as Skate with Santa, Alumni All-Access events, partnership events
- Campus events, such as Convocation
- Events hosted by other units, such as Trick or Eat
- Events hosted by community partners, such as Bike Swap

Professional volunteering

Professional volunteering is when the volunteer utilizes professional experience in a volunteer opportunity. This could include programs planned and led by the Alumni Engagement team, in collaboration with or outside of Alumni Engagement. Professional volunteering occurs across campus, in course settings, events, programs and other opportunities.

Examples of professional volunteering include:

- Speakers, panellists, presenters, mentors, judges, guest lecturers

Governance Volunteering

Governance volunteering includes volunteer positions of a governance nature in support of UCalgary councils, boards and committees. The UCalgary Alumni Association Board of Directors and committees to the board are one primary avenue in which alumni are engaged in governance volunteering.

Other governance volunteering includes Senate, Board of Governors, Dean's Circle, campus appointment search committees, and so on.

Where to find more information

To learn more about volunteering with Alumni Engagement, visit: <https://alumni.ucalgary.ca/volunteer>

To learn more about the UCalgary Alumni Association, visit: [Alumni Association | Community | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Mentor Link

Mentor Link is an online tool that Alumni Engagement supports facilitating across campus. Alumni can get involved with Mentor Link in two different ways.

Open Hub/Flash Mentorship

The 'flash' program is a 1:1 mentor-mentee informal relationship. Any alumni can sign up for Mentor Link, and build a profile to engage with students through.

Closed Programs

Closed programs are managed through different faculties and units on campus. The campus lead develops a mentorship program, that could be within or outside of a course or program, but typically has specific activities, milestones or deliverables that students in the program must complete.

Where to find more information

To learn more about Mentorship and to make a profile on Mentor Link, visit:

<https://alumni.ucalgary.ca/career-development/mentorship>

Please note that closed programs are facilitated by the host faculty or unit, not managed by Alumni Engagement. We can help connect you to them!

Affinity Communities

Affinity communities are alumni volunteer led groups to built around common interests, experiences, faculty affiliation and/or location. Alumni can plan activities and events to engage their group, volunteer and build connections.

Affinity Communities are recognized by the UCalgary Alumni Association, and have access to a variety of benefits, including funding to support group initiatives, invitations and more. Affinity Communities apply

through an online form, where a committee to the Alumni Association reviews and confirms the Community creation. To receive funding for activities, the same committee reviews applications, and staff in the Alumni Engagement office can support with purchasing and logistics.

Where to find more information

To learn more about Affinity Communities and to create one, visit: [Affinity Communities | Community | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

To learn more about the existing Affinity Communities, visit: [Existing Affinity Communities | Community | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Recent Graduates and Career Supports

Recent Grad Webpage

The Recent Grad page is a repository of information, resources, benefits and services available to our new alumni community. Much of the information on the page is drawn from other opportunities for our alumni to engage with us and on campus. This is a one-stop-shop for students as they graduate, and become members of the alumni community.

It includes messages from other alumni, connections to social media, an opportunity to update contact details to stay connected, a sign up for the alumni email account, a link for discounts, mentorship, career webinars, volunteering and more! All of the links on this page are also included elsewhere in this toolkit.

Where to find more information

Visit the Recent Grad webpage at: [Recent Graduates | Community | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Career Support

Alumni offers a number of tools, services, resources and programs to support you in every stage of your work journey. Early career, new opportunities, professional growth, career pivots, and winding down and preparing for your retirement are all areas that programming and supports are catered to.

Career Connect

Career Connect is a series of interactive discussions on current and relevant topics in career development.

Career Workshops and Webinars

Career workshops are virtual 1:1 or small group opportunities to meet with a career coach, coordinated around the topics of: career planning, career changes/pivots, resume writing resources, LinkedIn, and career wellness.

Career webinars are open to any alum, and are arranged by a variety of topics. Webinars occur throughout the calendar year, and recordings and resources on different topics are publicly available online.

Grow Your Career Conference

Grow your Career conference is an annual conference program, gathering inspiring professionals and thought leaders across career areas, with resilience and demonstrated impact to share their experiences and expertise with the alumni community. The conference includes a variety of topics, speakers, professionals and formats to engage across location and where you are in your professional journey.

Where to find more information

More information about all of alumni career programming, services and resources can be found at: [Career Development | UCalgary Alumni | Alumni | University of Calgary](#)

Visit the Grow Your Career Conference site at: <https://alumni.ucalgary.ca/career-development/grow-your-career-conference-2024>

Recognition

Recognizing the achievements, impact, success and veracity of the alumni community happens in a number of ways through communications and various programs. Two key ways that the Alumni Association and UCalgary Alumni seek to recognize the outstanding achievements of our alumni is through Arch Awards and Letters of Recognition.

Arch Awards

The Arch Awards are the highest honour awarded by the UCalgary Alumni Association, running since 1985. There are six categories of award:

- Early Career Achievement Award
- Alumni Service Award
- Community Commitment Award
- Career Achievement Award
- International Career Achievement Award
- Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement

To be considered, nominees must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Nominees must have earned a degree from UCalgary
- Former Distinguished Alumni Award recipients may not be nominated again
- Current Alumni Association board members are not eligible
- Current members of the UCalgary Alumni Awards and Recognition Committee and the UCalgary Alumni Arch Awards Sub-Committee are not eligible
- Elected members of public office are not eligible during their term.
- Faculty and staff of the university are eligible, however their contributions should be above and beyond those expected in normal duties
- Anonymous and self-nominations are not accepted
- Posthumous nominations will not be considered
- Nomination packages require a minimum of one letter of support to be eligible

Indicative timeline:

Nominations Open	Nominations Close	Recipients Determined	Recipient Communications	Awards
December	March	Spring	Spring/Summer	October

Where to find more information

To learn more about the Arch Awards, about past recipients, and to nominate an outstanding UCalgary alumni, visit: [Arch Awards | Community | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Letters of Recognition

The UCalgary alumni community receives many honours and accolades for their impact and achievements, both from UCalgary, and outside of it.

The UCalgary Alumni Association is dedicated to recognizing the achievements of our alumni, and does so through Letters of Recognition. Alumni receive letters for UCalgary awards and accolades, for Calgary, regional, national or international achievements.

If you know of alumni that have received an honour or recognition we should celebrate, please email the team at alumni@ucalgary.ca

Alumni Built Businesses

Alumni Built Businesses is a coordinated efforts to celebrate, recognize and support the strongly entrepreneurially minded community of graduates. The Alumni Business Directory is a repository of alumni submissions for their products, services, ventures and businesses. The Directory is a publicly available list, where any individual or organization can see your business as alumni owned and/or operated. Additionally, this list is leveraged by staff and faculty on campus to fulfill many of their goods and services.

This program is always evolving, and ideas and ways to engage with it are welcome.

Where to find more information

To learn more about the Alumni Built Businesses already in the directory, visit: [Alumni Built Business Directory | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

To join the Alumni Built Directory, visit: [Register Alumni Business Directory | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

To discuss opportunities with your business, learn more about the program and more, reach out to jeff.wallace@ucalgary.ca

Benefits and Services

External

As a UCalgary graduate, there are a number of alumni benefits for you. These benefits could be seasonal, or appear as offers are relevant, so checking our website and social media will keep you up to date.

The current, year-round discounts and savings for the UCalgary alumni community include:

- Preferred rates on TD Home and Auto Insurance
- Manulife Life and Health Insurance
- Fresh Prep
- Broadway Across Canada
- [Willful](#)

On Campus

There are a number of benefits available to alumni right on UCalgary campus. They include:

- A 15% discount on eligible Continuing Education courses
- Alumni gear at the bookstore
- Active Living membership discounts
- Library Services
- Discounts on most performances from the School of Creative and Performing Arts
- Alumni UNICARD and email

These benefits are subject to change and can evolve.

Where to find more information

For external benefits, visit: [Discounts & Savings | Benefits | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

For in-campus benefits, visit: [On-Campus Benefits | Benefits | Alumni | University of Calgary \(ucalgary.ca\)](#)

Programs, Events, Field Trips, Webinars

The Alumni Engagement Office develops a calendar of programs, events, field trips and webinars for our alumni community and their friends and family to engage with.

These activities are designed so that there is something for everyone – from family outings at the Oval, to tours of campus labs and interactive spaces, to evenings at a local pub, to a breakfast session on an issue you're passionate about – we have something for you!

In addition to one-off, or annual events, like scavenger hunts, tours and topical webinars, or the annual Skate with Santa, there are also two series of programs:

- Alum Night: a casual evening event, often hosted at a restaurant or bar, featuring one or two alumni hosts. An informal evening for networking and connections.
- Dig In!: an early morning session focused on increased learning and dialogue around a certain topic or issue. These are designed as panels and speakers, for alumni to learn a bit more about something topical.
- Field Trips: typically family friendly, these can include discounted offers for an 'Alumni Day' at a community partner or location. It could also include tours or behind the scenes experiences at Alumni Built Businesses or unique campus locations.

In addition to these series, the alumni office will host webinars for attendees anywhere in the world.

These opportunities are often in partnership with a campus partner or Alumni Built Business. Friends and family are often welcome.

Each year, a concentrated and coordinated series of programming, called Alumni All-Access, is held. Throughout the fall, and commencing with the Arch Awards, a number of programs are available for alumni and their friends and family.

Where to find more information

To learn more about current and upcoming programs, visit: [Events | UCalgary Alumni | Alumni | University of Calgary](#)

Please connect with us to share your ideas! We're always looking for new topics and locations to engage our alumni. Email alumni@ucalgary.ca

