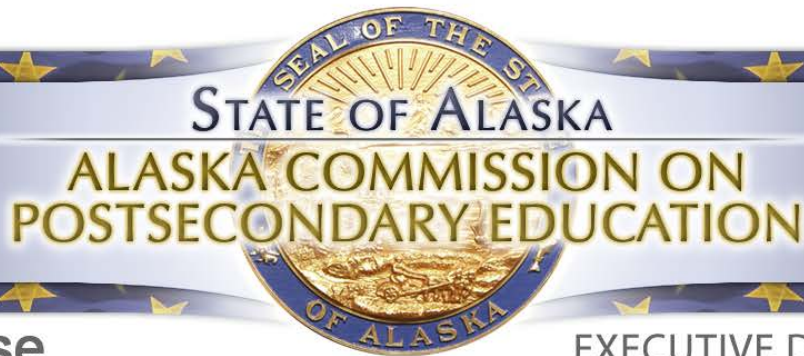


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Press Release

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 1, 2014

***Kids2College* Program Teaches Students to Plan for Their Future**

5th & 6th Grade Students Encouraged to Make Choices Today for Success Tomorrow

ANCHORAGE – This spring, nearly 2,000 Alaskan 5th and 6th grade students from 17 communities will take what for many will be first steps toward exploring their college and career interests.

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education and UA College Savings Plan have again partnered to take *Kids2College* across Alaska – offering students a six-lesson curriculum, professions/career panels, and, where available, a campus visit.

Kids2College students visiting college campuses will experience a day in the life of a college student, with fun, hands-on classes and age-appropriate lessons. Dissecting a sheep brain, powering a light bulb with a bicycle, and patching a wound are all ways *Kids2College* classes engage and stimulate career exploration and college preparation concepts.

To prepare for the visit, students explore various career pathways and present the information to their classmates. *Kids2College* also brings to the classroom volunteers from various professions to talk about their own college and career experiences. Along the way, students learn about academic options and the steps they can take today to prepare for college. *Kids2College* teaches students about high school graduation and test requirements, college admissions, and how to qualify for financial aid opportunities like the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

Now in 28 states, *Kids2College* encourages students to aspire to education and training beyond high school – whether it's an apprenticeship, a one-year technical program or a seven-year professional degree sequence, through its message that postsecondary training is important *and* attainable.

Kids2College alumni are more likely to discuss college preparation with parents and teachers, and to understand college is possible for them. For those children whose families may not have a college-going history, it's an opportunity to learn first-hand about the career avenues and life experiences college offers.

Students will visit the following college campuses between March 6 and May 6, 2014:

ANCHORAGE: Friday, April 11: University of Alaska Anchorage
Contact: David Tranberg: 907-786-1543; dktranberg@uaa.alaska.edu

ANCHORAGE: Friday, April 18: Alaska Pacific University
Contact: Brian McDermott: 907-564-8360; bmcdermott@alaskapacific.edu

BETHEL: Friday, April 25: UAF Kuskokwim Campus
Contact: Shelly Leary: 907-543-4599; spleary@alaska.edu

DILLINGHAM: Thursday, May 1: UAF Bristol Bay Campus
Contact: Cody Larson: 907-842-5109; cqlarson@alaska.edu

FAIRBANKS: Wednesday, April 23: University of Alaska Fairbanks
Contact: Ashley Munro: 907-474-1934; akmunro@alaska.edu

JUNEAU: Tuesday May 6: University of Alaska Southeast
Contact: Eric Ramaekers: 907-796-6312; esramaekers@uas.alaska.edu

NOME: Friday, April 4: UAF Northwest Campus
Contact: Miranda Musich: 907-443-8427; mbmusich@alaska.edu

PALMER: Friday, April 18: UAA Mat-Su College
Contact: Amy Seamans: 907-745-9799; aseamans@matsu.alaska.edu

SITKA: Thursday, March 6: UAS Sitka Campus
Contact: Bob Love: 907-747-7777; rwlove@uas.alaska.edu

VALDEZ: Friday, April 18: Prince William Sound Community College
Contact: Heidi Franke: 907-834-1626; hafranke@pwsc.edu

To schedule a media visit to a local *Kids2College* event, please contact the local coordinator.

For more information on the statewide program, please contact Shelly Morgan, K-12 Specialist with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education at 907-269-7972 or shelly.morgan@alaska.gov

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