Strategic Plan:

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

# SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR ALASKA'S

# **FUTURE WORKFORCE**





### **ACPE'S 4 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

- **1** Become the education lender of choice in Alaska and for Alaskans.
- 2 Increase access to, and utilization of, federal and state education funding sources.
- Operate a sustainable organization responsive to students, customers, stakeholders, and employees.
- Position ACPE to help bridge the education gap in Alaska's current and future workforce needs.



# Letter from Commission Chair



### DEAR ALASKA'S EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS,

For over 45 years, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) has held the great privilege and responsibility of delivering financial products and resources to support Alaskans in their pursuit and attainment of postsecondary education. ACPE and Alaska has experienced a great many transitions across the education landscape, resulting in programmatic and organizational responsive changes.

The global COVID-19 pandemic, changes in student loan needs, and workforce demands have created an opportunity for ACPE to reassess how to best serve our students, families, postsecondary institutions, and the greater Alaska workforce. As a result, ACPE embarked on a strategic planning initiative with the intent of developing a responsive, collaborative, and effective new direction. Throughout this intentional process, ACPE held internal and external stakeholder listening sessions, deployed borrower/stakeholder surveys, and more to help guide our path forward.

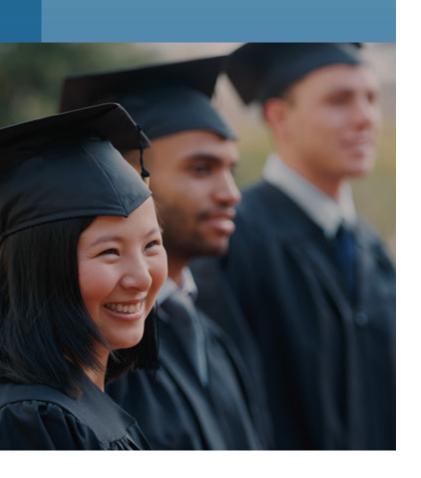
ACPE's Strategic Plan incorporates a redefined **Mission and Vision**, bringing to light ACPE's larger connection and commitment to the educational and workforce needs of our State. Additionally, this plan incorporates ACPE's Guiding Principles and Strategic Priorities which serve as the foundational framework to guide our decision-making and identify the overarching priorities we seek to achieve in the coming years. Our Plan reinvigorates ACPE's role as a vital, trusted partner, not only for Alaska's education stakeholders, but for Alaska's students and families.

As always, we thank you for the continued support, feedback, and collaborative engagement you provide ACPE. We look forward to strengthening and developing new opportunities together as we operationalize this revitalized Strategic Plan.



# **COMMISSIONERS:**

ACPE is overseen by a fourteen-member body established by law, representing educational bodies and the general public. Guided by the Commission, the Executive Director and staff develop and implement programs and policies to increase access to the benefits of higher education.



# **JOHN BROWN**

Chair | General Public

### VACANT

Proprietary Higher Education

## DR. BARBARA ADAMS

General Public

# REPRESENTATIVE JULIE COULOMBE

House of Representatives

# **LORRI VAN DIEST**

Board of Education

# **DONALD HANDELAND**

General Public

### DR. KEITH HAMILTON

Private Higher Education

## **JUSTINA HAMLIN**

Student Representative

# **PAULA HARRISON**

UA Board of Regents

# **KARLA HEAD**

General Public

# **KAREN PERDUE**

UA Board of Regents

# **SENATOR LÖKI TOBIN**

State Senate

# **TRISH ZUGG**

Alaska Workforce Investment Board

# **VACANT**

Community College



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# acpe.alaska.gov

For more information contact: acpe@alaska.gov

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# Where We Came From

# Where We Came From

# THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (ACPE)

ACPE was established in 1974 through federal mandate to coordinate the development of educational programs and to provide regulatory oversight of all private and proprietary postsecondary institutions within the State of Alaska.

As a federally required agency, ACPE works in coordination with the State of Alaska, who appoints the members of the Commission, to fulfill its state and federal obligations. In addition to its development and regulatory responsibilities, ACPE also manages scholarship and grant programs on behalf of the state and for the benefit of Alaskans, some of which have been in existence since their creation by the Alaska Legislature in 1968.

In the mid 1980s, state funding of ACPE and its programs faced uncertainty due to the decrease in state oil revenues. To offset this risk the Legislature established and capitalized the *Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC)* in 1987 to provide a mechanism to fund the Commission's loan programs through tax-exempt bond sales.

Today, ASLC is still the primary funding mechanism for ACPE and its programs, and plays a significant role in the ACPE story and strategy to offer educational benefits to all Alaskans.

# COMMISSION HISTORY

Alaska Legislature establishes the State's *first scholarship loan program* to help educate its citizenry.

Legislature creates the Alaska
Commission on Postsecondary
Education to manage financial
aid programs, coordinate the
development of educational
programs, and regulate postsecondary institutions in the State
for the well being of all Alaskans.

Declining oil prices and state revenues result in lack of funding for state programs, and the legislature preserves citizen access to programs through creation of the *Alaska Student Loan Corporation* to raise alternative financing through revenue bond issuance.

Resulting from legislation in 2004, ACPE develops and implements the *need-based Alaska Education Grant program (AEG)*. The AEG offers \$500-\$4,000/year to eligible Alaska students.

2007

Through an initial partnership with the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, ACPE implemented the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS). Available at no cost to all Alaskans, AKCIS offers a platform to explore educational and career opportunities where Alaskans can build Personal Learning & Career Plans.

2011

Established in Alaska Statute, the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) is a merit-based scholarship awarding eligible Alaska students up to \$4,755/year. To earn the APS, during high school students must complete a specified rigorous curriculum, earn a minimum GPA, and get a qualifying score on the ACT, SAT, or WorkKeys.

2018

ACPE introduced the *Alaska Higher Education Almanac* **publication**. Distributed annually, the Almanac offers snapshot information about Alaska's postsecondary institutions, enrollment and completion trends, as well as timely articles regarding the state of higher education in Alaska.

2022

to 2023

ACPE partnered with CampusDoor and American Education **Services** for education loan processing and servicing. These cost-saving measures allow ACPE to offer education loans at the lowest rates possible.

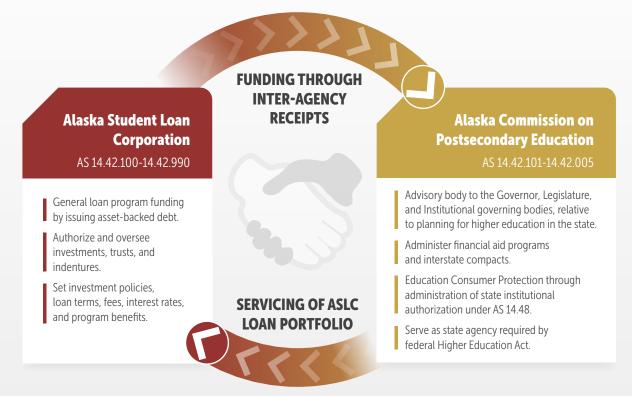
# **ACPE'S RELATIONSHIP** TO ASLC -

ASLC, a public corporation and enterprise instrumentality of the State of Alaska, funds the Commission's programs through bond sales. It has a legal existence independent of the State. The Corporation is governed by a Board of Directors separate from that of ACPE.



The Corporation was established by the Alaska State Legislature in 1987 to provide an alternative to using State funds to finance education loans to its residents and students attending Alaska postsecondary institutions.

# Relationship Between ASLC & ACPE



# THE BOARD'S PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

**1** Authorize and oversee investments

**2** Fund the Commission's education programs

**3** Set investment policies, loan fees, interest rates, and program benefits

The administrative staff of the Commission serve as the staff of the Corporation. They carry out ASLC activities through the delegated authority of the ASLC Executive Officer, who is also the Executive Director of ACPE.

# **An Existential Shift**

The landscape of postsecondary education and its financing has shifted significantly in the last five to 10 years. Costs of education and training after high school increased, degree completion rates decreased, the financial need gap increased, and perceptions around

student lending and postsecondary education became concerning. The status quo was no longer effective or sustainable for ACPE. It became clear that significant changes were necessary for ACPE to remain responsive and relevant to Alaska's students and workforce needs.

# CHANGE IN The Business of Student Loans -

Regulatory changes to student loan programs at the federal and state level drastically changed how education loan programs operate and how they are accessed by students. The elimination of the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), which provided students federally backed loans funded by private companies, heavily impacted ACPE as FFELP loans were the foundation of the organization's loan products. Further federal actions including prohibiting institutions from having preferred student loan lenders negatively impacted ACPE's loan originations and volume.

Markets external to student loans also impacted how the student loan industry previously operated. Subprime mortgage practices resulted in a wide-scale revision of underwriting practices in the financial lending industry, including for student education loans. Implementing FICO score requirements on non-federal

# LOAN PROGRAM HISTORY

1974

ACPE began *originating* loans on behalf of the State under a program created by the State in 1968.

1988

ASLC began *financing* loans directly, using the proceeds of its first bond issue, entering into an agreement with ACPE for loan servicing.

2002 to 2010 ASLC originated *federally guaranteed (FFELP) loans* until the program was terminated, using proceeds of several bond transactions.

2017

ACPE launched the *Education Refinance Loan Program (REFI)* in which borrowers can refinance their private, state, and federal education loans into one loan with repayment terms of their choosing.

2022

ACPE finalized a regulation change project related to their Supplemental and Family Education Loan Programs. Loan program changes *increase loan limits* to better meet the cost of education for students as well as *increase access to lending programs* for borrowers.

2023

Since its creation in 1987, ASLC has issued debt of approximately **\$1.6 billion** to finance its education loan activities.

student loans meant that many students no longer had access to the student loans they needed to cover the cost of education.

As the FICO score requirement was imposed, the cost of higher education also began to increase at an alarming rate. Students saw a widening gap between the federal education funding they received and the remaining costs of their educational expenses. While on the surface, imposing a FICO score requirement on non-federal student loans would be seen as a measure to protect students, concerning forprofit lending practices emerged. As a result, nationwide, for-profit lenders offer higher student loan amounts with substantially higher interest rates based on their FICO scores. The consequence of this practice alongside the everincreasing cost of education is a substantially higher debt burden for students to carry.

ACPE is not a for-profit lender and does not condone or follow the student lending practices of for-profit lenders. However, the concerning and negative perception by the public around these lending practices has further exacerbated the loan-averse nature we see across Alaska.

As a not-for-profit, state education lender, ACPE has remained committed to ensuring its loan programs offer education funding at the lowest rate possible to cover the cost of education expenses. With ACPE loans, there are checks in place to ensure:

Our students do not borrow more than they need,

Our students make satisfactory academic progress towards their degree, and

The institution receiving the funds meets appropriate educational authorization and/or accreditation standards as a measure of student consumer protections.

Although ACPE education loans incorporate these effective and responsible lending practices, there is a continued and substantial challenge around distinguishing between ACPE's not-for-profit, consumer protection-based lending practices and for-profit lenders. There is still work to be done to reclaim the public's trust in transparent, not-for-profit student lending organizations.

Since inception, ACPE has provided over a billion dollars in financial aid to Alaskans pursuing higher education.

### **Totals Awarded:**

Alaska Performance Scholarship:

\$105 Million

Alaska Education Grant:

\$61 Million

Education Loans:

\$1.6 Billion

# CHANGE IN THE PERCEPTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION



The path to pursue higher education and its workforce-connected outcomes has seen tremendous change

and upheaval since the early and mid-2000's. Since then, students have seen their cost of attendance increase year after year, been impacted by changes in education funding options, and experienced a misalignment of credential and degree attainment resulting in increased earning capacity in the workforce. As such, the pursuit of higher education credentials has been met with a more critical and concerned scrutiny than in previous decades.

When the COVID-19 pandemic entered into our reality, no sector of the economy was left unaffected – including postsecondary education. Programs had to make a quick pivot to online delivery, those that remained on-ground/in-person were met with ongoing challenges to ensure the health and safety of individuals on the premises, and regulatory and funding bodies had to quickly identify a solution to ensure continued funding for these new and increased costs

While COVID-19, for many, is in the past, its long standing ramifications remain ever-present in education circles. ACPE also has had to pivot and reimagine its operations and support of higher education as a result of COVID-19. Many of the challenges that rose to the surface during the pandemic existed before, but became a far more urgent matter to address. ACPE seeks to support students, families, and postsecondary education attainment in an intentional manner with the overarching goal of providing educational funding resources and solutions that are critical to Alaskans in building a stronger Alaska-driven workforce

# **ACPE Services**

# **Benefit Alaska Students**

\$8,000 to \$12,000

Potential savings for students with ACPE loans compared to other fixed rate private lenders.



ACPE loans have the approval rate than other private for-profit loans.

# 225,000+ Alaskans served by ACPE in outreach per year about

outreach per year about postsecondary education resources & options



# CH A JIM MI

# MEETING THE CHALLENGES

As we took a deep look into both internal operations and the external market drivers, **three themes** surfaced that inform the heart of our plan:

- We needed greater visibility. The awareness and understanding of all services we offer beyond loans and scholarships is low.
- 2 Creating responsive loan programs with customization options that are relevant to our current consumers is critical to the sustainability of ACPE.
- 3 Customer Service excellence, flexibility and speed are crucial to maintaining and growing consumer relationships.





# Alaska FAFSA Completion Initiative

acpe.alaska.gov/alaskafafsacompletion

FAFSA completion clearly links to postsecondary enrollment, persistence, and completion rates. Launching the statewide Alaska FAFSA Completion Initiative, ACPE works with a variety of education stakeholders across Alaska to inform, guide, and support increasing FAFSA completion rates.

FAFSA Ambassador Resource Guide

Shared calendar of Alaska's community-based FAFSA events

Communications to all Legislative Offices and Alaska school districts

# Only 3 in 10 Alaska High School Graduates Complete the FAFSA Application

Alaska has the lowest FAFSA completion rate in the US when compared to states with similar populations of high school graduates.

# \$6.78 Million Left Unclaimed

in Pell Grant money by Alaska's high school class of 2022 by not completing the FAFSA.

(National College Attainment Network)

# Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) Localizations & AKCIS 360 Enhancements

Alaska-specific updates to: Scholarships, Workforce Needs, Job opportunities, campus/institution virtual tours

Enhanced implementation in Alaska school-districts with required curriculum standards

Explore utilization opportunities with community organizations beyond school districts

### **ACPE Website User-Experience Enhancements**

Homepage redesign to streamline content

Increase visibility of program access points and agency-wide contact information

Incorporate consistency in design with attention to clarity for public

ACPE provides *sustainable solutions* for college, career and technical training.

# ACPE's

# **Programs & Services**

acpe.alaska.gov/planning

800-441-2962 acpe@alaska.gov

# ACAC

Training &
Resources for
FAFSA and college
& career planning

### **AKCIS**

Create personal learning & career plans, interest inventories, resume builders, & more

### Success Center

1:1 and group guidance for FAFSA, scholarships, and college/career

# PK-12 Programs

PK-12 Programs, Early Career Explorers, & Kids2Careers

Student, Family, & Refinance

**Financial** 

Literacy

& Loans

Institutional Authorization

Protection

### Scholarships & Grants

Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) & Alaska Education Grant (AFG)

# **/**

### **ACPE Education Loan Legislation**

Increase loan limits to fill cost of attendance gaps Enhance Alaska-residency access Immediate repayment options



# ACPE Institutional Authorization Regulation Changes

Approved IA regulation changes to enhance and promote clarity and consistency for institutional student outcomes reporting, financial soundness, and streamlining reporting processes both for IA staff and postsecondary institutions

Ensure processes and policies are adequately aligned to enhance consumer protections



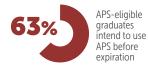
### **APS 10-Year Report & Recommendations**

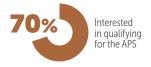
Ongoing Legislation under consideration to update Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) eligibility requirements:

- 1 · Remove Standardized Test Requirements
- 2 · Eliminate distinction between Collegiate and CTE Tracks
- 3 · Increase award amounts across all three tiers

# **Demand for the APS: 1,2**

Despite continued decline in use & eligibility, interest trends reflect a **significant unmet demand for APS.** 





# **APS Barriers:** 1

# **1** Test Scores

**7 in 10** of Alaska's graduating high school seniors who did not meet APS eligibility requirements fell short of the testing score requirement.

**2** Separate CTE Eligibility & Use Criteria Separate pathways require **different tests** and scores, restricting student aspirations.

**3** Declining Value of Award Award amounts have remained the same since 2011. With **rising education costs and inflation**, the value of the award has declined.

**1**-McDowell Group (now McKinley Research Group). 2021. Alaska Performance Scholarship Program, Review and Recommendations. Prepared for ACPE, January 2021. https://acpe.alaska.gov/Portals/3/APS/Pubs/ ACPE\_APS\_Program\_Review\_and\_Recs\_2021.pdf

**2**-Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. 2022. APS-Eligible Student Surveys. 249 responses from a population of 1,154 APS-eligible graduates (22% response rate).

# Defining a Vision for the Future



We knew that to address the challenges we were facing, and to reinvent ourselves as an agency that provides both individual and economic value to Alaska and Alaskans, we needed to rethink everything we thought we knew. We chose an approach to planning that framed our strategic thinking from a purpose, growth, and evolution perspective, using the following cornerstones:

Our purpose must be meaningful to both current and future stakeholders and consumers, with a vision and mission that clearly articulates the contribution of ACPE to the betterment of Alaskan students and their families and the larger communities and partners that drive Alaska's economy.

We must be intentional about the growth and stability of the agency, to meet the needs of Alaska and its residents, honor our fiduciary obligations to the State, and to nurture and develop our staff who have contributed their energy and expertise to deliver the Mission of ACPE. For us this means measuring growth in more ways than dollars and numbers, at the same time recognizing that fiscal balance is crucial to long-term sustainability.

Defining a Vision For the Future

We must anticipate and be agile in our own evolution to meet the needs of Alaska's students, communities, and employers. Accomplishing this means we must understand what those needs are, determining how we can meet them by thinking in a more holistic and innovative way.

In building the plan we tapped into our existing data intelligence systems, as well as employing additional outreach to students, partners, and employers. We also looked inward, working to target key opportunities for organizational improvement with staff and management. Even as this plan comes together in final form, we have designed mechanisms to ensure that this intelligence gathering continues on a regular basis to inform and shape future operations, programs, and offerings.

# ACPE'S **STRATEGIC PLAN**

is constructed with complementary layers that create a flexible framework for meeting its vision for the future:

At the heart of strategy is the long term Vision defined for the agency, together with the Mission that describes the day-to-day work we do to deliver on that mission.

Strategic priorities capture long term purpose, growth, and evolution priorities for the agency as it moves towards achieving its Vision and Mission.

Strategic Goals then support one or more of the Strategic Priorities, as framed by this Strategic Plan.

Annual business planning is captured through Strategic Objectives, each tying to Strategic Goals and are connected in a meaningful way to budget.

# THE VISION:

Alaskans are educated and skilled contributors to our vibrant communities and economy.

- In building a vision for the future, it was important for us to *focus on our primary stakeholders* − *Alaskan residents*. Ensuring a path of opportunity for Alaskans to increase their skills and knowledge to support a better life for themselves and their family is paramount.
- Our vision starts with the individual and expands to encompass the whole of Alaska touching every community and the larger economy of the State. We know a robust workforce supports a thriving economy, and a large piece of that puzzle is education and skill building.
- The key to achieving this future state is *ensuring*Alaskans have access to the education and training they need to pursue a career of their choice supporting families and communities right here in Alaska.

# THE MISSION:

ACPE provides sustainable solutions for college, career and technical training.

- We champion individuals and families through broad access to federal and state programs, grants, scholarships, and loans together with the tools and resources that allow them to make informed decisions about funding their education.
- As the *Higher Education Agency for the State of Alaska*, we advance policy and foster collaboration to build a skilled workforce that meets the needs of communities and employers, supporting economic development across the state.



We operate with integrity in everything we do. Every decision we make is based on *compliance, balancing fairness and responsibility to our customers* with our obligation to manage our financial resources to meet future needs.



# Mapping a Plan to Meet the Vision





# TO MEET THE VISION

We knew that to grow and evolve ACPE we would have to craft strategic priorities that were actionable and relevant to the change that we were looking to make and easily understood by every stakeholder group. Most of all, these priorities had to clearly capture the work it would take to move us closer to the Vision we had defined. With Vision and Mission capturing the purpose we set out to define, our strategic priorities had to answer the question on how we would grow and evolve to meet the changing needs of those we serve.

# -WHAT WE HEARD IN 2021 & 2022-

Through listening sessions across multiple stakeholder groups, as well as customer surveys, the following are key areas of interest that we captured and took into consideration when building the Plan.

### Financial Aid/Access:

- Scholarships & loans should cover total education costs, not only tuition
- Increase loan program access regarding qualifications and program requirements/limitations
- Everyone supporting Alaskan students is struggling with FAFSA completion
- Customer service and ease of use of the website and system are paramount to consumer happiness
- Competitive rates and flexible repayment options are a high priority for customers
- Nearly half of those responding were unaware of ACPE's refinance options

# Strategic Priorities 2024-2026

# **Outreach Resources & Programming**

- Coordinate with stakeholders regarding availability of workforce funds
- Implement campaign about postsecondary planning and preparation
- Increase awareness & Alaska-based content of the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS)
- ACPE College and Career Guides equivalent or more training support in that area
- Streamline website
- Financial Literacy resources require a multi-faceted approach based on age/phase of life
- For Alaska Native institutions, materials that reflect cultural themes and language would be very helpful

### Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS)

- Expand marketing and awareness campaign
- Increase funding to increase competitiveness
- Earlier award notice
- Continue to help address barriers such as FAFSA Completion and testing requirements or funding for tests

# **Strategic Priorities** 2024-2026

1 Become the education lender of choice in Alaska and for Alaskans.

Becoming the education lender of choice means that we are answering the changing needs of student borrowers with loan products that are competitive, flexible, and supported by outstanding customer service and consumer protection education.

Increase access to, and utilization of, federal and state education funding sources.

Alaskans leave far too much money on the table when it comes to education funding. We rank near the bottom for the entire US for FAFSA completion rates, equating to the potential loss of millions in funding opportunities for Alaskan students. We realize there are many reasons for this that will require the coordinated efforts of the State, school districts, educational institutions, and Alaska Native organizations to bridge this gap.

Operate a sustainable organization responsive to students, customers, stakeholders, and employees.

We have a fiduciary responsibility to operate and manage the agency for the benefit of all involved. Sustainability means we meet the needs of the future as well as today, and so we work to continually improve, streamline and nourish robust internal competencies. Growth and evolution have both external and internal components, and we embrace a living organization philosophy that values the contributions made at every level that benefit all those we serve.

# Position ACPE to help bridge the education gap in Alaska's current and future workforce needs.

Our agency exists to provide education funding, resources, and education to Alaskans so that the communities throughout the State may thrive. Healthy communities require a skilled and educated workforce to address many needs – bridging that gap requires that we find ways to support Alaskans seeking to improve themselves and the lives of their families, whether that be in traditional college education or technical training.

# **Measuring** Progress



To support the strategic priorities established, we created seven Key Strategic Goals with relevant Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that we will be tracking and reporting on an annual basis.

	Key Strategic Goals:	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):
1	Increase visibility, understanding and awareness of ACPE and its products, resources, partnerships, and programs.	KPIs: (a) Year-Over-Year increase in Alaska market share based on annual in-school loan originations. (b) Year-Over-Year increase in in-state and out-of-state and refinance loan volume.
2	Offer loan programs responsive to consumer and organization needs.	<b>KPIs: (a)</b> Year-Over-Year increase in in-state and out-of-state and refinance loan volume.
3	Modernize and streamline the customer experience.	<ul> <li>KPIs: (a) Positively impact trends in customer satisfaction ratings. (b) Positively impact trends in application completions.</li> <li>Positively impact trends in application completions.</li> <li>Positively impact trends in declined loan applications</li> <li>Decrease in incomplete application metrics</li> <li>Positively increase web engagement trends</li> </ul>
4	Enhance and refine financial planning resources appropriate for target audiences.	<b>KPIs: (a)</b> Increase utilization of financial planning resources.
5	Foster an environment where employees thrive as the agency evolves.	<b>KPIs: (a)</b> Positively impact trends in employee satisfaction ratings. <b>(b)</b> Meet or exceed employee retention for industry standard.
6	Improve financial sustainability of ACPE.	KPIs: (a) Maintain operational cost as an established percentage of income generating assets. (b) Increase non ASLC funding sources.  · Year-Over-Year increase in in-state and out-of-state and refinance loan volume (\$/#)

· Percent complete of oversight and monitoring project

# Conclusion

Identify the current state

and resources in Alaska.

of higher education programs

ACPE looks forward to attaining our Vision where Alaskans are educated and skilled contributors to our vibrant communities and economy. We are motivated and driven by the path we are on that will lead us into the future. We believe our new Vision, Mission, and Guiding Principles offer a strong and collaborative roadmap to better serve our students and our workforce.

This 2024-2026 Strategic Plan serves as the foundational plan for ACPE to build, grow, and evolve from over the years to come. This plan is created to position ACPE towards long-term Vision attainment and its ability to serve Alaska and Alaskans for decades to come.



# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2024-2026

- 1 Become the education lender of choice in Alaska and for Alaskans.
- **3** Operate a sustainable organization responsive to students, customers, stakeholders, and employees.
- 2 Increase access to, and utilization of, federal and state education funding sources.
- 4 Position ACPE to help bridge the education gap in Alaska's current and future workforce needs.

# Acknowledgments

ACPE extends its *profound* gratitude and appreciation to the many, many internal and external stakeholders who have informed, guided, supported, and developed this Strategic Plan. From participating in listening sessions to providing survey feedback and suggestions, we thank you for the time and insightful perspectives you offered. Special thanks to *Erin Sedor of Black Fox Strategy*, for her guidance and facilitation throughout this entire strategic planning process. Thank you to the current and former ACPE Commissioners and ASLC Board for your ongoing support and leadership as we navigated strategic planning. We also thank ACPE staff and senior management team for their commitment and dedication to ACPE.

And finally, we thank you, Alaskans! ACPE was created to serve and support the people of this great state. You are at our core and the heart of all we do. We thank you for the support and trust you have shown us for more than 45 years and we look forward to the many more years of service ahead.



### **ACPE Resources:**

### **ACPE Downloadable Materials**

acpe.alaska.gov/planning/request-materials

### **ACPE Educational Loans**

acpe.alaska.gov

### **FAFSA Completion**

acpe.alaska.gov/AlaskaFAFSACompletion

# **Interstate Compacts & Reduced Education Costs**

acpe.alaska.gov/LOANS/Other-Loan-Options

### **WICHE Exchange Programs**

Western Undergraduate Exchange Western Regional Graduate Exchange Professional Student Exchange

# Schedule an Appointment with ACPE:

acpe-successcenter.youcanbook.me/

This Report was prepared by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education March 2024

# acpe.alaska.gov

For more information contact: acpe@alaska.gov

