

Important Dates For High School Seniors:

Oct 1 (or soon after)
Go to fafsa.gov to complete the FAFSA annually.

Feb 15

Scholarship applications are due at UAA, UAF, UAS, APU, and the UA Foundation.

Submit a FAFSA for priority financial aid at many schools.

June 30

Submit a FAFSA by June 30 for the state grant and/or scholarship (APS* & AEG*)

Help for Parents:

AKCIS.org explains commonly used terms and concepts

- Choosing a School
- Paying for School
- Job Search

Attend College Goal Alaska events and Financial Aid Nights in your community (collegegoalak.org)

Tools for Counselors, Teachers, and Users

Resources in AKCIS improve your experience including:

- national & Alaska curricula
- implementation
- · user guides
- · tutorials and more

AKCIS.ORG

AKCIS Helpline:

800-441-2962

(option #3)

or in Juneau 465-2962

akcis@alaska.gov

PARENT GUIDE

Alaska Career Information System

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR STUDENT'S COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING

AKCIS.org provides PLCP* resources to help parents stay involved

Connect with your child about important decisions for education and career choices

Model a **positive attitude** about school, work, education, and career goals

Engage in education and career exploration to prepare your child to be successful in the workforce

Nurture dreams and self-confidence

Help identify your student's **interests**, **abilities**, and **lifestyle goals** and pay attention to how these evolve during high school

Encourage discussions about career plans and education

Register or request training at AKCIS.org



*Acronyms To Know

AKCIS: Alaska Career Information System → plan for your future PLCP: Personal Learning & Career Plan → create your Portfolio

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid → gain access to grants, loans, and work-study funds for college or career school

TERC: Testing & Education Resource Center → find test prep materials APS: Alaska Performance Scholarship → money for college or training

AEG: Alaska Education Grant → need-based financial assistance

Parent Guide for Education & Career Planning

AKCIS.org is an online tool to help build your student's Personal Learning & Career Plan (PLCP):



STAR HERE

Student:

☐ Create a Student Portfolio through the school's site account, in AKCIS.org**

Parent:

☐ Register a Parent Account to review your student's progress, reflections, & choices.**

1) GETTING STARTED (TYPICALLY 7TH - 9TH GRADE)

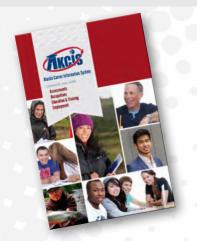
- ☐ Complete Assessments: Discover how interests, skills, & values match occupations.
- ☐ Record education, employment, skills, achievements, & test scores for easy retrieval with the Resume Creator.
- ☐ Explore Career Clusters, Occupations, & Industries with your learner: Access helpful occupational information.
- ☐ Examine Programs of Study: Explore the many options available.
- □ Compare school & training program offerings: Learn about costs, demographics, & more.
- ☐ Set Goals: Personal, academic, & career. Update Goals in AKCIS annually.

2) DIGGING DEEPER (TYPICALLY 10TH - 11TH GRADE)

- □ Evaluate postsecondary education & training options available in AK and outside.
- ☐ Financial Aid Sort: Create a list of local, state, & national scholarships & grants.
- ☐ Track scholarship & school requirements, meetings, campus tours, & career fairs with the Application Tracker.
- ☐ Visit APS.alaska.gov for APS information Checklist: Does your student meet the GPA, testing, & curriculum requirements?
- ☐ Consider attending Financial Aid Events: Sessions are delivered locally & by webinar.

3) NEXT STEPS (TYPICALLY 12TH GRADE)

- ☐ Plan secondary & postsecondary course work to meet goals using the Course Planner.
- ☐ Gather parent & student financial documents to complete the FAFSA at FAFSA.ed.gov.
- □ Access parent/student checklists by grade level & college entrance exam prep sites by visiting TERC http://bit.ly/1CWOG7P.
- □ Take Placement Tests ACT, SAT, WorkKeys: Use the Application Tracker to record dates & results.
- □ Request Letters of Recommendation: Scan & save these letters in Saved Files & Links at AKCIS.org.
- □ Attend College Goal Alaska and Financial Aid Events: Sessions are delivered locally & by webinar.^^
- ☐ Review Award Letters: Remember to "accept" the aid! Update results in the Application Tracker.
- ☐ Hone interview skills with the Job Search section: Get ready for school, scholarship, & career interviews.



- ** Site administrative tools are provided for counselors/advisors to assist students with college & career planning.

 Contact your school or the AKCIS Helpline for more information.
- ++ Counselors/advisors create Parent Accounts. Contact your student's school or the AKCIS Helpline for more information.
- ^^ Register at CollegeGoalAK.org, contact your school's counselor, or visit ACPE.alaska.gov for more information.

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