Alaska Student Loan Corporation

2,348 students used APS
2,543 students received AEG
664 loans originated

72 participating communities
369 events across the state
15,508 individuals reached
Fellow Alaskans…

In Fiscal Year 2013-14 we were extremely proud of the forward-looking endeavors and accomplishments to which agency resources have been devoted. These include:

- **Successful advocacy for Senate Bill 195,** which increased Alaska Education Grant and Alaska Education Loan annual and aggregate award maximums and modified program terms creating incentives to improve Alaskans’ on-time graduation rates.

- **Rallying education advocates from across Alaska to lead in the development of the Alaska Postsecondary Access Completion Network (Network) to explore and promote, through sustained collaboration, strategies to grow a college-going culture in Alaska.**

- **ANSWERS, Alaska’s P-20W SLDS,** now under development, has engendering interest and enthusiasm within the education community where there is considerable appetite for the information and reports that will be possible once the ANSWERS project is complete. To increase awareness of the Alaska resource, project personnel launched its “What is ANSWERS?” video. The short video provides a high-level, plain-language overview of how the system will assist Alaskan practitioners and policy makers with identifying and analyzing education and workforce outcomes—enabling them to use that knowledge to guide state investment and policy.

- **Ensuring Alaskans’ broad access to online education options through Alaska’s participation in the national institutional State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA).** SARA participation not only benefits Alaskans seeking education and training but also provides a streamlined method for Alaska-based education providers to broaden the market for their online programs to students in other participating states (currently 17 states).

We are confident that this work, in addition to delivery of our outreach and financial aid services, directly supports and enhances the Commission’s capacity to meet its mission. We remain committed to providing Alaskans with the information and assistance necessary for them to become productive and thriving citizens through higher education and training.

Respectfully,

Jim Johnsen  
ACPE Chair

Randy Weaver  
ASLC Chair

Diane Barrans  
ACPE Executive Director

ASLC Executive Officer

To track our progress, please visit us online at  
ACPE.ALASKA.GOV
The Legislature created ACPE in 1974 to centralize planning for higher education and administer financial aid programs. Guided by the 14-member Commission, the Executive Director and staff develop and implement programs to increase Alaskans’ access to the benefits of higher education. ASLC, a public corporation and enterprise instrumentality of the State of Alaska, was created by the Legislature in 1987 to fund the Commission’s operation and loan programs through tax-exempt bond sales. It has a legal existence independent of the State and is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board’s primary responsibilities are to authorize and set investment policies, loan terms, and borrower benefits. The Commission staff serve as staff to the Corporation. They carry out ASLC activities through the delegated authority of the ASLC Executive Officer, who is also ACPE’s Executive Director.

OUR CORE SERVICES

- Programs promoting early preparation for postsecondary success
- Education planning tools and resources
- Advocacy and support for postsecondary participation in Alaska
- Financial aid for college and career training
- Education consumer protection through institutional authorization and complaint investigation
- Information management and analysis to evaluate return on investment in higher education

WHY THIS WORK MATTERS

A better-educated workforce – including technical and collegiate education – will support and grow a strong state economy that benefits all Alaskans. The Commission’s programs are a suite of financial aid and outreach services designed to promote and facilitate the education access and attainment Alaskans need to maximize their opportunities for success.
ANNUAL GRANT AND LOAN MAXIMUMS INCREASED, FOCUS SHARPENS ON GRADUATION

Senate Bill 195, sponsored by Senator Anna MacKinnon (Fairclough), and unanimously passed by both the House and the Senate during the 28th legislative session, contained components which substantially expanded the Commission’s tools to better serve and motivate Alaskans engaging in education and training beyond high school. Specifically, the bill increased annual and aggregate award caps on the Alaska Education Grant and Alaska’s state education loans. It also introduced into the state aid programs the concept of an “on-time” enrollment status for students taking 30 credits each year – an enrollment level documented to greatly increase the odds the students will complete their programs with a credential. The highest award amounts will be available exclusively to otherwise eligible “on-time” students.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the 2015-16 academic year, Alaska Education Grant (AEG) changes will be implemented. In addition to the potential for higher award amounts, AEG terms are being modified to better incent students to become and remain highly engaged in their pursuit of their postsecondary credential. That will mean attending full-time and maintaining that enrollment level from year to year -- actions that substantially increase the likelihood of degree completion.

Under the new awarding protocols the focus will be students who:

- have substantial financial need;
- are grant recipients who continue to enroll from one year to the next;
- attend at least full-time; and,
- apply early each year by completing the FAFSA.

In addition to managing the new grant process, the new Alaska Student Aid Portal (ASAP) is being developed to improve the school enrollment certification process for both the AEG and the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), and to provide students with continued secure and easy access to their eligibility and funding status, as well as a means to update their information online and in real time.

Photos included in this annual report were taken in Wales, Alaska on April 23, 2014 by Barbara Mongar, ACPE Community Liaison. Mongar spent her time in Wales presenting at a career fair to students of all ages.
THE NETWORK—ALASKANS COLLABORATE TO INCREASE ACCESS & COMPLETION

Late in 2013, participants in the Alaska College Access and Success Summit committed themselves to exploring and designing an Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (The Network). These participants were formed from a cross-section of leaders who have since served as the initiative’s planning team. The overarching Network goal is fostering an Alaska-wide environment that results in marked increases in the percent of state residents, with credentials and degrees (particularly in fields which are central to our state economy), from 47% to 65% by 2025.

During this first year’s activities, ACPE has served as the Network’s incubation site. The effort is funded through ACPE's federal College Access Challenge Grant, with consultative support from the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). To date, the Network has produced a draft strategic plan and formed an Executive Committee leadership structure.

LOOKING AHEAD

After extensive discussions the Network planning team determined sustained efforts should align with four identified major challenges:

1) fostering strong academic expectations in which students aspire to and plan for education beyond high school graduation;
2) preparation for postsecondary and career success;
3) postsecondary education financing; and,
4) scaling services to meet Alaskans’ unique needs.

Information on The Network’s development can be found at http://acpe.alaska.gov/Access.

ANSWERS—IT’S ABOUT ALASKA’S OUTCOMES

ANSWERS, soon-to-be Alaska’s P-20W SLDS (early learning through workforce Statewide Longitudinal Data System), is on track for timely implementation mid-2015. ANSWERS creates a secure longitudinal data system that links existing information from K-12, college and career training, and workforce/industry together to better understand the education-to-workforce continuum in Alaska.

In June 2014, Alaska’s project team received a positive review during an oversights visit from staff of the grant’s administrative organization, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). During their visit to ascertain progress on the $4M SLDS project, team members noted the soundness of Alaska’s project approach and progress, specifically in terms of stakeholder engagement, governance and the strong relationship among the partner organizations.

LOOKING AHEAD

Following implementation, ANSWERS will produce outcomes information through report creation, data visualization in the form of dashboards, and other information products designed to provide the right information to the right people, in the right formats to better inform decision and policy-making.

Visit www.acpe.alaska.gov/ANSWERS for more information.
### Summary of FY 2014 Low-Cost Education Loan Volume (ASEL, FEL, and TEL Programs *) as of 6/30/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Level</th>
<th>In-State Loans</th>
<th>Out-of-State Loans</th>
<th>Total Loans</th>
<th>In-State Dollars</th>
<th>Out-of-State Dollars</th>
<th>Total Dollars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vocational</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>$444,983</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>$457,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>$1,596,788</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>$2,554,127</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>$4,150,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$77,928</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$147,889</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>$225,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals:</strong></td>
<td><strong>310</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,119,699</strong></td>
<td><strong>354</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,715,016</strong></td>
<td><strong>664</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,834,715</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alaska Supplemental Education Loan, Family Education Loan, and Teacher Education Loan

Schools that participate in APS only with no FY2014 awards:
- A Head of Time Design
- AK Technical Center
- Amundsen Educational Center
- Galena City School District
- Metroasis Advanced Training Center

### Alaska Education Grant and Alaska Performance Scholarship Disbursements FY2014 Participation by Institution of Attendance as of 6/30/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>AEG Number</th>
<th>AEG Amount</th>
<th>APS Number</th>
<th>APS Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AK Bible College</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$11,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK Christian College</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$3,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APU</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$28,500</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$36,263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVTEC</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>$31,000</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$47,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Career College</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$7,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter College</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>$92,348</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$2,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilisagvik College</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Industrial Training</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TrendSetters</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAA</td>
<td>1,647</td>
<td>$2,282,000</td>
<td>1,355</td>
<td>$4,365,372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAF</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>$991,500</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>$2,964,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAS</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>$221,986</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>$377,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayland Baptist</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>$22,338</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals:</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,543</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,890,170</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,348</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,824,057</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alaska Supplemental Education Loan, Family Education Loan, and Teacher Education Loan

Schools that participate in APS only with no FY2014 awards:
- A Head of Time Design
- AK Technical Center
- Amundsen Educational Center
- Galena City School District
- Metroasis Advanced Training Center

### FY2014 WICHE Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alaska Participants</th>
<th>Total Participants’ Tuition Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,355</td>
<td>$11,001,038</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“I grew up in a small community and I am the first person in my family to go to college. As excited as I was to go to college, I was uncertain about how I could possibly afford to pay for it. I was so happy to receive the Alaska Education Grant and am grateful to have this financial assistance as I pursue my bachelor’s degree from UAA.”

– Christian Tofson
Seward High School Graduate 2014
College: University of Alaska Anchorage
Major: Journalism & Communications

Photo provided by Christian Tofson
Management Team
Diane Barrans
Executive Director/Executive Officer
Worth Barthel
Human Resource Officer
Stephanie Butler
Director of Program Operations
Kenneth Dodson
Director of Information Support Services
Rebekah Matrosova
Director of Outreach & Early Awareness
Charlene Morrison, CPA
Chief Finance Officer
Kerry Thomas
Internal Auditor
Rochelle Rogers
Commission/Corporation Secretary

Commissioners
Jim Johnsen, Chair
General Public
Patricia Jacobson
University of Alaska Board of Regents
Jerry Covey
General Public
Sue Linford
Private Higher Education
Joey Crum
Proprietary Education
Jim Merriner
State Board of Education & Early Development
Ray DePriest
Community Colleges
Randy Weaver, Vice Chair
General Public
Senator Mike Dunleavy
State Senate
Representative Tammie Wilson
House of Representatives
Jo Heckman
University of Alaska Board of Regents
Mike Woods
Alaska Workforce Investment Board
Rebecca Huggins
General Public
Vacant
Student

ASLC Board
Randy Weaver, Chair
ACPE Member
Jim Johnsen, Vice Chair
ACPE Member
Sheldon Fisher
Commissioner of Administration
Fred Parady
(Designee: Cathy Jeans)
Acting Commissioner of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Randall Hoffbeck
(Designee: Jerry Burnett)
Commissioner of Revenue

Governor
Bill Walker

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
PO Box 110505, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0505
800-441-2962 • in Juneau 907-465-2962 • TYY 907-465-3143
ACPE.ALASKA.GOV

ACPE provides its programs and services to all persons without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, political affiliation, or disability. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.