



Fellow Alaskans:

Continuing its leadership in student success initiatives, in 2010 the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education/Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ACPE/ASLC) partnership focused on expanding the functionality of informational tools and availability of resources to expand our students' access to and preparation for higher education.

Primary to this endeavor has been ASLC's efforts to ensure ongoing funding for ACPE programs subsequent to the transition of all federal education lending to the Ford Direct Lending Program. The result has been the preservation of ASLC's ability to offer Alaskans the lowest cost fixed-rate education loans and ACPE's ability to provide key programs and services to Alaska's students and those who serve them.

Building upon 2009 initiatives, ACPE has received federal grants in excess of \$1.5 million to provide programs and services to achieve college and career readiness goals. Additionally, ACPE was provided funded technical assistance from the National Center for Education Statistics, to perform initial analyses relative to developing an educational statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS). One of only a few states that cannot answer basic education productivity questions such as which programs and interventions are most effective, Alaska is unable to document how our state's higher education dollars may effect the most benefit at the lowest cost. A SLDS will leverage ACPE's organizational agility and operational strengths to serve the state in new ways that measure the impact of education programs on student success over their entire education and career lifespan.

ACPE has also engaged with regional and national experts on the unique challenges of access to higher education for Alaska's students, with the goal of identifying Alaska-specific options to address preparation, price, and persistence. As a result, Commission contributions to the work of the Alaska Advisory Task Force on Higher Education and Career Readiness and the Alaska Higher Education Funding Task Force, and their associated recommendations to the full Alaska Legislature, reflect a focus on program efficiency and effectiveness.

Of particular significance to the agency mission and to our state's students is the new Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), proposed by Governor Parnell and endorsed and enacted by the Alaska Legislature. APS is expected to transform Alaska's education system by germinating a widespread, grassroots demand that our students be prepared for successful, meaningful careers. APS is an invitation and a reward for students who plan for success, as well as an unprecedented opportunity to enrich our economy by producing our own skilled workforce. Not only will a job-ready workforce attract new business and industry, but – most importantly – it will provide a locally trained, culturally relevant workforce, not imported talent who lack community roots and investment.

As Alaska weaves the basic tenants of APS into the fabric of our education system, we urge your continued support of this essential program. We sincerely appreciate the foresight of the Parnell Administration and Alaska Legislature in creating a platform and tool to encourage student performance in education. Together, we will see Alaska's students shine.

Please visit us online at www.akadvantage.alaska.gov or at our school or community events to learn more about how the ACPE/ASLC partnership is delivering on its mission.

Respectfully,

David Rees, Chair
Alaska Commission
on Postsecondary Education

Lydia H. Wirkus, Chair
Alaska Student
Loan Corporation

Diane Barrans, Executive Director/Officer
ACPE/ASLC



David Rees, *Chair*
Alaska Commission on
Postsecondary Education



Lydia H. Wirkus, *Chair*
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Diane Barrans,
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Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

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Rebecca Huggins, *Vice Chair*
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Alaska Student Loan Corporation

Lydia H. Wirkus, *Chair*
Hugh Grant, *Vice Chair*
Commissioner Bryan Butcher (Designee: Jerry Burnett)
Commissioner Becky Hultberg
Commissioner Susan Bell (Designee: Cathy Jeans)

Management Team

Diane Barrans, *Executive Director/ Executive Officer*
Worth Barthel, *Human Resources and Administrative Officer*
Stephanie Butler, *Director of Program Operations*
Kenneth Dodson, *Director of Information Support Services*
Lora Jorgensen, *Director of Outreach and Early Awareness*
Charlene Morrison, CPA, *Chief Financial Officer*
Kerry Thomas, *Internal Auditor*
Donna Vargas, *Commission/Corporation Secretary*

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education/ Alaska Student Loan Corporation

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For complete information and financial statements,
visit our Web site at AKAdvantage.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. Upon request, information contained in this publication will be made available in an alternate format.



Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
Alaska Student Loan Corporation

Annual Report to Alaskans

Year Ended June 30, 2010



"With the Alaska Performance Scholarship, each Alaska student can earn the opportunity to achieve their educational dreams and, at the same time, be part of changing Alaska for the better."

—Governor Sean Parnell

Statistic

Number of students receiving education financial aid awards

Success

One student's life changed or one student prepared for a career

Transformation

All Alaska students prepared for a successful future and a strong economy

2010 Program Statistical Summary

Summary of FY2010 Low-Cost Education Loan Borrowing

Stafford, PLUS, ASEL, FEL, and TEL Programs

Student Level	IN-STATE		OUT-OF-STATE		TOTAL	
	Loans	Dollars	Loans	Dollars	Loans	Dollars
Vocational	923	\$3,701,595	95	\$418,933	1,018	\$4,120,528
Undergraduate	9,034	\$42,228,867	2,468	\$14,578,624	11,502	\$56,807,491
Graduate	707	\$5,546,009	489	\$5,083,757	1,196	\$10,629,766
Total	10,664	\$51,476,471	3,052	\$20,081,314	13,716	\$71,557,785

Summary of FY2010 AlaskAdvantage Education Grant Funding

Population Characteristic	Total FAFSAs	Total Alaska FAFSAs	Eligible Population	Tentatively Awarded	Certified & Disbursed
# of Students	21,238	17,284	4,960	1,543	870
Average Age	27.5	27.8	27.7	30.3	32.6
Average Recipient AGI	\$52,122	\$53,954	\$34,994	\$18,527	\$16,617
Average Unmet Need	\$8,592	\$8,333	\$10,966	\$14,965	\$14,538

Total Grant Disbursements by Institution of Attendance

	# Students	Total Dollars Disbursed
APU	3	\$5,000
AVTEC	7	\$12,340
Career Academy	9	\$14,000
Charter College	52	\$33,630
Ilisagvik College	0	\$0
UAA	568	\$544,000
UAF	179	\$199,000
UAS	46	\$45,000
Wayland Baptist (Anchorage)	6	\$3,825
Total	870	\$856,795

Summary of FY2010 AlaskAdvantage Outreach Activities

In FY10 ACPE staff participated in **618 events** in **276 communities** serving almost **40,000 Alaskans**, and direct mailed education planning resources to over 49,000 Alaska students.

Summary of FY2010 WICHE Exchange Program Savings for Alaska Students

WICHE Western Undergraduate Exchange Program Participation	Alaska Participating Students	Total Alaska Tuition Savings
	1,534	\$13,151,751

For detailed program statistics, financial statements, and general information, visit us online at AKAdvantage.alaska.gov

"We need to have a life plan for every person leaving high school. Every youth should know their next step and be empowered to take it."

—Anonymous Alaska Educator

Appreciation from Alaska's Students

"The AlaskAdvantage Grant program is wonderful, and those of us who have received its benefit thank you."

"It helped me pay for my tuition and books, which I wouldn't have been able to afford...."

"...Helped me pay my tuition. This means I don't have to work as much and have more time to study, which has helped me excel in school...."

"The AlaskAdvantage Grant has made it possible for me to finish my schooling as well as enjoy time with my son. It has made a huge impact on my family."



Mission

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, funded by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, promotes access to and success in education and career training beyond high school.

Core Services

- programs creating early awareness of the importance of preparing for success in higher education
- 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

The Commission's Programs

AlaskAdvantage Programs are a suite of financial aid and outreach services, designed to provide educational access necessary for Alaskans to become peak performers, regardless of their financial status. A better-educated workforce will provide a stronger Alaska economy that benefits all Alaskans.

The Legislature created ACPE in 1974 to centralize planning for higher education and administer financial aid programs. In 1987, the Legislature established and capitalized ASLC to provide a mechanism to fund the Commission's programs through tax-exempt bond sales.

Guided by the fourteen-member Commission, the Executive Director and staff develop and implement programs and policies to increase access to the benefits of higher education. ASLC, a public corporation and enterprise instrumentality of the State of Alaska, funds the Commission's activities through tax-exempt bond sales. It has a legal existence independent of the State. The Corporation is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board's primary responsibilities are to authorize and oversee investments, fund the Commission's operation and loan programs, and set investment policies, loan fees, interest rates, and program benefits.

The administrative staff of the Commission serves 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.