

## ANSWERS – Alaska Navigator: Statewide Workforce and Education-Related Statistics

**Mission:** Deliver outcomes information to Alaska stakeholders to assess, evaluate and improve the state's education and career development spectrum

**Purpose:** To provide critical information to Alaska's policymakers, educators, and general public about Alaska's education and workforce spectrum, including:

- ★ Student transitions, such as high school to postsecondary education, postsecondary education to the workforce, etc.
- ★ Performance in education and workforce systems, and evaluation of education program outcomes
- ★ Return on investment, enhancing ability to measure program costs as related to outcomes

### Why is ANSWERS needed?

- ★ ANSWERS will provide a more secure method for transporting and storing existing data.
- ★ ANSWERS will lower the current cost to access and analyze information.
- ★ ANSWERS combines multiple processes into a highly-secure, efficient, and automated process.
- ★ ANSWERS provides greater access to information and better capacity to respond to requests from parents, policymakers, educators, researchers, and the public, without compromise to data privacy.

### ANSWERS Project Overview

- ★ Federal grant - \$4 million over four years (July 2012 to June 2016) Originally three-year project; received one-year no cost extension
- ★ Project to link existing State of Alaska K-12, postsecondary and workforce data for use in developing Alaska-specific analyses of education program outcomes

### ANSWERS Timeline, Progress, and Outcomes

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Established and implemented governance structure</li> <li>★ Developed business and technical requirements</li> <li>★ Design and development contract near completion</li> <li>★ System stabilization, final testing, and documentation are the focus of current efforts</li> <li>★ Sustainability and Program Management Office (PMO) plan development is continuing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Completed analysis of existing systems</li> <li>★ Partner agreement on system design, platform, and processes</li> <li>★ ANSWERS website is scheduled to launch by early 2016</li> <li>★ Development of ANSWERS proof-of-concept information products are underway based on stakeholder input</li> </ul> |
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### ANSWERS Program Implementation and Sustainability Plan

There is not currently a dedicated ANSWERS budget available subsequent to completion of the grant. During the immediate post-grant period, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) will host ANSWERS and the ANSWERS PMO while seeking long-term program funding. The goal during this period is to produce proof-of-concept reports that demonstrate the value of ANSWERS to potential funders, including federal, state or private sources.



*ANSWERS is a collaboration of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, University of Alaska, Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, and Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development.*

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