



**Alaska
Commission on
Postsecondary
Education**

COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING • FINANCIAL AID • CONSUMER PROTECTION
Promoting Higher Education & Training for Alaska

Spring Quarter Commission Meeting

April 6, 2022

ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting #: 885 8261 9421

Password: ACPE

Teleconference: (888) 788-0099; Code: 885 8261 9421 #

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

1. 10:00 a.m. Convene/Roll Call
- 2.* Adoption of Agenda
 - *Suggested Motion: move to adopt the agenda of the April 6, 2022, Commission Meeting.*
3. Ethics Disclosure Relative to Adopted Agenda
- 4.* Election of Officers
 - *ACPE Bylaws Article III, Section 3.01, **Election of Officers**. The election of officers must take place at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the current fiscal year. Newly elected officers will be seated immediately after election at that same meeting.*
- 5.* Resolutions of Appreciation
 - *Suggested motion: move the Commission to adopt the Resolutions of Appreciation as written for Cheryl Edenshaw and Dale Anderson.*
6. Welcome New Member
 - New Board of Regents Designee Darroll Hargraves
- 7.* Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 12, 2022
 - *Suggested motion: move to approve the meeting minutes from the January 12, 2022, Commission meeting.*
- 8.* Determine April 2023 Meeting Date
 - Wednesday, April 5, 2023
 - Wednesday, April 12, 2023
 - Wednesday, April 19, 2023
 - *Suggested motion: move the Commission to hold its spring 2023 quarterly meeting on April (dd), 2023.*
9. Public Testimony:
 - Individuals: 3-minute limit
 - Group Representatives: 5-minute limit

ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

- 10a.* 10:30a.m. Compliance Activities Report – Tyler Eggen, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator
- 10b.* Institutional Standards and Evaluation – Tyler Eggen, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator
11. 11:30 a.m. Executive Director Report – Sana Efird
12. Noon Break
13. 1:00 p.m. Alaska Native Initiative Presentation: Dr. Pearl Brower, University of Alaska Senior Advisor: Alaska Native Success, Institutional Diversity and Student Engagement
14. 1:50 p.m. Management Team Reports:
- a. Finance – Julie Pierce
 - b. Program Operations – Kerry Thomas
 - c. Communications and Outreach – Kate Hillenbrand
 - d. Information Support Services – Jamie Oliphant
 - e. Human Resources – Written Report
15. 2:10 p.m. University of Alaska Update – President Pat Pitney
16. 2:30 p.m. Commissioner and Department Reports:
- a. Alaska Student Loan Corporation – Barbara Adams
 - b. Board of Education and Early Development – Keith Hamilton
 - c. Board of Regents – Lisa Parker
 - d. Community Colleges – Karla Head
 - e. Student Representative – Rodolfo Garcia
 - f. Alaska Workforce Investment Board – Vacant
 - g. Alaska Access and Completion Network
17. 2:50 p.m. Miscellaneous:
- a. Administrative Action Log
 - b. Commission Members' Affiliations
 - c. ACPE Commonly Used Acronyms
 - d. Future Scheduled Meeting Dates
 - 1. July 21, 2022
 - 2. October 27, 2022
- 18.* 3:00 p.m. Adjournment
- *Suggested Motion: move the Commission adjourn the April 6, 2022 meeting.*

***Action Required**

State of Alaska

Commission on Postsecondary Education

Resolution of Appreciation 2022.02

WHEREAS, Commissioner Cheryl Edenshaw, as the Designee of the Alaska Workforce Investment Board, faithfully served on the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education from May 22, 2020 through _____; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Edenshaw demonstrated strong commitment to promoting access to and the development of education and training programs as a member of the Commission, and helped facilitate collaboration and communication between the AWIB and the Commission to the benefit of these entities and their missions to the public; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Edenshaw generously volunteered her valuable and extensive education experience and knowledge to the Commission, providing invaluable perspective and helping to enrich Alaska as a whole with ample opportunities for postsecondary education and training; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Edenshaw's extensive experience as Director of the Alaska Training Center has been an invaluable asset to the Commission and she has demonstrated her keen abilities and passion for improving vocational education in Alaska and engaging and collaborating with all Alaskans to improve their employability skills and further the mission of the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education and its staff officially recognize Commissioner Edenshaw's service as a member on the Commission and extend their statement of appreciation for her support and contributions to the Commission's efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that their Resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed to Commissioner Edenshaw with a copy to be incorporated in the official minutes of the April 6, 2022, meeting of the Commission.

Joshua Bicchinella, Chair

Sana Efird, Executive Director

State of Alaska

Commission on Postsecondary Education

Resolution of Appreciation 2022.03

WHEREAS, Commissioner Dale Anderson, as a representative of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, faithfully served as a member on the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education from February 2015 to _____; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Anderson has served as an engaged and committed liaison between the University of Alaska Board of Regents and the Commission benefiting the efforts and missions of both entities; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Anderson greatly benefitted the Commission by providing his extensive expertise in both the private and the public sectors and readily shared his insight and knowledge to assist in the Commission's efforts to promote access to and success in education and career training; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Anderson consistently demonstrated his deep regard for Alaska's youth and strongly supported ways and means to improve and expand programs and services that ensure all Alaskans access to quality postsecondary education and training to enhance their lives.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education and its Staff officially recognize Commissioner Anderson's service as a member on the Commission and extend this statement of appreciation for his support and contributions to the Commission's efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that their Resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed to Commissioner Anderson with a copy to be incorporated in the official minutes of the April 6, 2022, meeting of the Commission.

Joshua Bicchinella, Chair

Sana Efird, Executive Director



Darroll Hargraves

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

Seat: Board of Regents Designee

Term:

Governor Dunleavy appointed Darroll R. Hargraves in 2019.

He moved to Barrow, Utqiagvik, in 1966 with his wife, Savannah and their two children. His career as an educator took him to Kivalina and Gambell. Regent Hargraves served as superintendent of schools in Nome, Ketchikan, and Tok, and was a consultant superintendent in five other districts. He was appointed by Governor Hammond to serve on the Task Force on Effective Schooling.

Regent Hargraves served as the executive director of the Alaska Association of School Administrators.

He was the director of the Division of Statewide Services at the University of Alaska 1971 - 1974. He also taught school finance and magazine article writing as an adjunct professor at the University of Alaska.

Regent Hargraves has served on numerous commissions, boards and councils. He has received three Legislative Citations for Meritorious Services. He was appointed to serve on the Local Boundary Commission by four different governors. He is a member of the Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce and Commonwealth North and has been involved with several private business ventures, including the development of the Country Ridge Estates near Wasilla.

Regent Hargraves received a bachelor's degree and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Oakland City University, and a masters and an education specialist degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. His wife and three children have attended the University of Alaska system.

ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
Quarterly Meeting Summary of
January 12, 2022

A meeting of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE), conducted via distance delivery, originated from the office of the Commission at 3030 Vintage Blvd. Juneau, Alaska on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Chair Joshua Bicchinella called the meeting to order at approximately 10:08 a.m.

ATTENDEES

Commission members present for all or portions of the meeting: Chair Bicchinella, Vice Chair Lisa Parker, Dr. Barbara Adams, John Brown, Rodolfo Garcia, Lindsay Hallam, Keith Hamilton, Donald Handeland, Karla Head, Donn Liston, Senator Mia Costello, and Representative Andi Story.

Commission members absent: Dale Anderson and Cheryl Edenshaw.

Commission staff present for all or portions of the meeting: Sana Efird, Executive Director; Julie Pierce, CPA, Chief Finance Officer; Kerry Thomas, Director of Program Operations; Kate Hillenbrand, Director of Communications and Outreach; Jamie Oliphant, Director of Information Support Services; Tyler Eggen, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator; Susan Sonneborn, Assistant Attorney General; and Kordel Thompson, Interim Executive Secretary.

Presenters in attendance: University of Alaska President Pat Pitney and Vice President for Academics, Students & Research Paul Layer.

Institutional representatives in attendance: Jennifer Deitz, President of Alaska Career College; Sabine Thomas, Area Director, and Mary Stone, Associate Dean of Central Texas College; Heather Allen, Director of Regulatory Affairs, and Joel Nelson, Vice President of Academic Operations for Charter College; Autumn Pease-Dygert, owner, and Perri Lajoie, Administrative Assistant for Glenda's Training Center; Danielle Tromblay, owner and operator of Trend Setters; Gayle Warner, Senior Vice President of Northern Industrial Training; and Sarah Dybdahl, Senior Director, and Krista Staveland, Coordinator for Vocational Training & Resource Center.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the agenda of the January 12, 2022, Commission meeting. Commissioner Story seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

ETHICS DISCLOSURE

Chair Bicchinella declared a conflict of interest for agenda item ten involving Charter College and abstained from discussion and voting in that matter. Commissioner Head likewise

declared a conflict of interest for agenda item ten, and abstained from discussion and voting on matters concerning Northern Industrial Training.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Executive Director Efird read aloud the Resolution of Appreciation prepared for departing commission member Dr. Pearl Brower, highlighting her four years of service and dedication to the Commission.

Commissioner Story moved to approve the Resolution of Appreciation as written for Dr. Brower. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion to accept the Resolution carried.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Karla Head, Director of Alaska Technical Center (ATC), was welcomed as the new Community Colleges representative to the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Costello moved to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2021 commission meeting as written. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

Discussion:

MEETING DATE

Commissioner Adams moved to schedule the Winter 2023 commission meeting on January 11, 2023. Commissioner Story seconded the motion. During discussion, Commissioner Costello moved to amend the motion on the table in order to change the Winter 2023 meeting date to January 12, 2023. Commissioner Liston seconded the motion to amend. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion to amend the Winter 2023 meeting date carried. The members were then called to vote to approve the amended motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The amended motion to set the Winter 2023 commission meeting date for January 12, 2023 carried.

Discussion: *Commissioner Hallam commented that the 18th or 19th of January would be better dates for commission members working at college and university campuses, as the meeting wouldn't be taking place during the first week of classes for the year. Commissioner Story countered that legislative session would be starting the week of the 18th & 19th of January, so legislative members would be hard pressed to attend those dates. Commissioner Costello suggested that January 12th might be a better date for all involved, and moved to amend the date being motioned to the January 12, 2023.*

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chair Bicchinella opened the public testimony period. There was no one waiting to testify at the appointed time for public comment. After Executive Secretary Thompson asked if there was anyone wishing to comment multiple times with no response, Chair Bicchinella closed the public testimony period.

PROFESSIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE LOAN PROGRAM FIELDS OF STUDY

Operations Director Kerry Thomas spoke to the Commission about the WICHE Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP) fields of study, referring members to her memo on page 18 of the meeting packet. She explained that the PSEP makes qualifying professional education available to students when opportunities are not available in their home states. By participating in the PSEP, students generally pay a reduced tuition rate to their school, as well as a PSEP support fee, in compensation for the schools reserving slots for PSEP students and any reduction in tuition cost. The Commission finances the support fee costs for participating Alaskan students in the form of a PSEP loan, which the student must repay upon completion of the program of study.

Per 20 AAC 18.007, the Commission is required to biennially certify the fields of study for which PSEP loans are available to Alaskan students. Whether a field is selected for eligibility is based on the following criteria:

- Non-availability of that professional program of study in Alaska
- Documentation of an Alaska labor shortage in that profession; and
- Documentation that the salaries in the given professional field are sufficient for a PSEP graduate to repay the associated PSEP debt

As explained by Director Thomas, ACPE has traditionally supported the following fields of study through Alaska's participation in the WICHE PSEP:

- Dentistry
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Optometry
- Physician Assistant
- Pharmacy
- Podiatry

Director Thomas relayed staff's recommendation that the Commission re-approve ACPE participation in these seven programs.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Professional Exchange Loan Program Fields of Study as recommended by staff. Commissioner Liston seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

Discussion: *Commissioner Costello asked why the average salary and forecasted growth information is not included in the chart for the Podiatry field. Director Thomas explained that*

the data was not available from the information source they used for the other fields, and that they chose not to expend that effort to look for other sources since they did not currently have any students pursuing that field. Commissioner Brown inquired whether they could survey existing PSEP students on how critical the support fee was in their decision to pursue their chosen program, as well as whether there was additional outreach that could be performed to try and reach more students who might be interested in the PSEP. Director Thomas responded that yes, they can reach out to ask students what role the program plays in their ability to pursue their professional studies. She added that they already provide information and counseling to students considering participation in PSEP, especially as the resultant tuition cost varies by institution and may not always be more cost-effective than paying out of state tuition. She also mentioned that PSEP was working with Outreach & Communication Director Hillenbrand and her department to increase the marketing and awareness of this program, so they may see some increases from those efforts. Commissioner Adams inquired if there were ever any additional fields offered or if any could be added. Director Thomas responded that the only other field offered by PSEP is Veterinary medicine; however, ACPE has neither previously nor currently recommended the addition of that field, due to the low forecast in job openings in Alaska, high level of resultant student debt, and comparatively low wage forecasts. Commissioner Story wanted to know what annual tuition looked like for these fields of study. Director Thomas explained that tuition varies by both field and institution, so that information is not included in the report, but that most institutions charge PSEP student out-of-state tuition minus the support fee. Commissioner Costello wanted to know whether staff has an email list of high school counselors around the state to reach out to with information about these kind of programs, or how that information is disseminated. Executive Director Efird responded that ACPE is in conversation with PSEP program officials about additional ways that the commission can be educating students about these programs, but that staff are primarily concerned with ensuring that students are making the best financial choice in deciding whether to participate in PSEP. Director Hillenbrand added that ACPE does maintain an extensive email and contact list for counselors, teachers, and other district contacts throughout the state of Alaska, and that they email a variety of information on financial assistance programs to these contacts, including information on PSEP.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA UPDATE

University of Alaska (UA) President Pat Pitney expressed that she was excited to have Dr. Brower join them at UA, and that Dr. Brower would remain “attached” to ACPE through her Student Engagement roles and that ACPE should feel free to use her as a resource. She brought up UA’s Alaska Native Success initiative, expressing that it was important to have those influences of diversity in terms of age, race, sex, and background on all of Alaska’s boards and commissions, and that she wanted to keep that issue front and center. She followed up on the prior discussion of the PSEP study fields, explaining that UAF partnered with Colorado State University seven years ago to provide an in-state degree for Veterinary medicine that functions similarly to WWAMI without the subsidy, and that it has been a very successful program with a lot of student demand.

She went on to discuss the issue of the Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF) lawsuit. She went over how the prior Parnell and Walker administrations hadn't considered the HEIF as part of the Constitutional Budget Reserve sweep from a policy perspective, and that over the last six months they've worked to show the current administration why those previous policy calls were made. In the absence of any traction on that front, the current student lawsuit was entered; they expect to have a superior court decision by February 22, 2022, and that they anticipate both parties advancing to the supreme court if the result is an adverse decision. She emphasized that it was important to still find a legislative solution to restoring the HEIF, and that there were a number of bills introduced that would either restructure the HEIF or adjust & refine the affected scholarship programs; she encouraged the members of the commission to lend their support to these efforts to increase their chances of successful passage.

She then touched upon a number of UA's current priorities and areas of focus, chief among those being workforce and economic development, especially in light of the infrastructure bill and additional pending relief items such as Build Back Better. High on their list is the EDA Build Back Better grant that UAF and UAS have been working on for over a year with the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference for workforce and economic development on mariculture. She relayed that they are having a conference on mariculture in February to discuss the potential for economic development and resultant workforce and research needs. UA is also working with the Department of Labor on a separate EDA grant to expand programs related to construction and construction management, as well as fisheries and ocean sciences. Lastly, she concluded her update by discussing how UA is working with ACPE on improving FAFSA completion, as well as partnering with the Department of Labor to have job centers encourage and introduce their constituents to the value of submitting the FAFSA to help with access to postsecondary education.

Discussion: *Commissioner Costello wanted to know where one could get more information on the construction programs at UA, as well as asking for clarification on where to find additional info about the FAFSA. President Pitney explained the FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which students can use to apply for Pell grants and is required to qualify for the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) and Alaska Education Grant (AEG). She continued that Alaska is the state with the lowest FAFSA completion rate. She also said that she would get the information on the Construction Industry Report to Executive Director Efir for distribution to the Commission.*

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION COMPLIANCE REPORT

Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator Tyler Eggen referenced his written report on recent compliance activities starting on page 22 of the meeting packet. Information in the report included:

- Institutional monitoring
 - Thomas Edison State University (TESU) will not be renewing its institutional authorization with ACPE, and will allow its status to expire on July 31, 2022.
- State Board of Education and Early Development Regulation Change

- The proposed regulation change, presented at the December 9, 2021 State Board of Education and Early Development meeting, would allow for applicants from nationally accredited institutions of higher education to obtain their teaching certificate.
 - Under the current regulations described in 4 AAC 4, applicants seeking teaching certification must have received a degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education.
 - A thirty (30) day public comment period regarding the proposed change was opened at the December 9th meeting.
 - ACPE will continue to monitor the regulation change and provide an update at the Spring Quarter Commission meeting.
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Entry Level Driver Training
- On February 7th, 2022, the new Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) mandate set by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) will be in effect. The ELDT regulation sets the baseline for training requirements for entry level drivers. All Commercial Driving License (CDL) training providers will have to apply and be approved by the FMCSA for students seeking to obtain their CDL, upgrading from Class B to Class A CDL, and HAZMAT, Passenger, and School Bus endorsements for the first time. If a person possesses a CDL or endorsements prior to February 7, 2022, these new requirements will not affect them.
 - State of Alaska, Department of Administration, Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has opened up the public comment period regarding a revision to reflect this change, and altering the requirements for commercial driving schools to register with ELDT rather than the Professional Truck Driving Institute (PTDI), which will cease providing and recognizing PTDI certification after February 7, 2022.
 - ACPE has been in regular communication with the DMV and authorized institutions regarding this matter.
- Learning Community Grant – Regulations and Outcomes
- In February 2020, a \$15,000 grant was awarded to the Commission from the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO), with an 18-month window to complete work in two areas, the modernization of institutional authorization regulations and the development of standardized outcome metrics. The project is on schedule to meet the goal of adoption by the Commission in 2021. The proposed changes were submitted to the Department of Law for a legal review, and their review is now complete. The proposed regulations are substantial, including approximately forty pages of regulatory changes. In June 2021, ACPE Staff met with the Institutional Standards and Evaluations Committee, along with members from our authorized institutions to present and discuss the proposed changes. The proposed changes went before the Commission at the July 2021 meeting, where the Commission approved the motion to open the public comment period, which has since ended. At the October 2021 Commission meeting, the Commission adopted the proposed regulation changes. The adopted

regulations have been submitted to the Department of Law for a final legal review. Upon completing the review, the Department of Law will either approve or disapprove the regulations and transmit them to the Lieutenant Governor's office for filing.

- Unless returned by the Lieutenant Governor, the Lt. Governor's office files the approved regulations, which become effective 30 days after filing.

- Complaints

- When complaints arise, our regulatory complaint procedure requires that students attempt to resolve matters with their institution through the institution's grievance policy. Generally, there is resolution at this point. However, if resolution cannot be reached, the student may file a formal written complaint with the Commission.
- Starting last quarter, IA staff received one written complaint that could not be resolved at the institutional level. The complaint has yet to proceed through the mediation and conciliation phase. The details of the complaint will remain confidential and staff will provide you with an update on this complaint at the April commission meeting.

INSTITUTIONAL STANDARDS AND EVALUATION RECOMMENDATIONS:

➤ Renewal of Authorization

- Alaska Academy of Advanced Cosmetology & Massage Institute - Juneau

Commissioner Story moved to approve a temporary renewal of authorization for three months. Commissioner Costello seconded the motion. By roll call vote, two members voted aye, while nine members voted nay. The motion was denied.

Commissioner Story moved to grant a one month extension of renewal. There was no second, and the motion was lost.

Commissioner Brown later officially moved to deny renewal of authorization for AAC [Academy of Advanced Cosmetology]. Commissioner Hamilton seconded the motion. By roll call vote, ten members voted aye, while one member voted nay. The motion to deny renewal of authorization carried.

Discussion: *Commissioner Hamilton expressed that three months seemed generous, considering the lack of response and missed deadlines compared to other, more compliant institutions that have also been recommended to receive a three-month extension. He inquired what would it mean for the institution if the extension was denied. Mr. Eggen explained that without a renewal of authorization, the institution would be subject to school closure under AAC 2.20.17.117. They would have to provide notice of closure to the Commission and each student, provide a teach out plan for each student to be approved by the Commission, and provide all scholastic records to the Commission within 30 days of closure. Commissioner Hamilton commented on the concerning lack of attendance by the*

owner at this meeting. Commissioner Adams echoed Commissioner Hamilton's comments and concerns, and that she was not supportive of granting an extension. Commissioner Head agreed, as she was also concerned about the displayed lack of compliance and lack of attendance. She commented that the timeline thus far suggests that the issue will not be resolved in another three months, and she is not supportive of granting the extension. Commissioner Costello stated that is the Commission's duty to put the students first and they wouldn't really be served by renewing a dysfunctional school not meeting operational standards. She then asked for confirmation that there would be a plan in place for each student should the motion to renew fail. Mr. Eggen reiterated his summary of the administrative code, verifying that each student would have to sign off on any alternative plan presented for them to continue their study; if such a plan were not provided, they would have the possibility of getting various levels of refunds. Commissioner Story advised that she was supportive of the extension, as they were the only cosmetology school in Southeast Alaska, the owner has some steps and efforts as recently as Jan. 6 towards doing what they need to, and it was only for three months, at the end of which it was her understanding that authorization then wouldn't continue at that time if they hadn't become compliant. Commissioner Brown did not support an extension or reauthorization, but he was interested in hearing a report at a later time how the issue was ultimately resolved and what the outcomes were for any enrolled students, as a way of reviewing the consequences of the decisions made by the Commission. Commissioner Story asked for confirmation of how many students whose program and enrollment would be affected by the action being considered, as well as asking why the staff recommended a 3-month extension instead of denying authorization. Executive Director Efird stepped in to respond that Mr. Eggen has done as much as possible to try and gather all the information needed and to help this institution. She stated that it's never the goal to shut down a viable business, and since the owner did finally start to provide some of the needed documentation, they wanted to open up the conversation to the Commission to come to the best decision for the consumer protection of the students. Mr. Eggen followed up by saying the enrollment numbers weren't fully clear as that piece was part of the information he hadn't been able to procure yet. Commissioner Story asked why he recommended an extension instead of immediate suspension. Mr. Eggen stated that not only are they trying to provide flexibility during the current time we are living in, but that there was no prior precedent for issuing a recommendation to deny authorization, and that he and Executive Director Efird had gone back and forth many times over which recommendation to put forth. Commissioner Story asked what it would take to reapply and restart if renewal wasn't extended, and Mr. Eggen stated they would need to start from the beginning by submitting a complete application for initial authorization and all that entailed.

- Alaska Career College - Anchorage

Commissioner Brown moved to approve renewal of authorization for five years, through January 31, 2027. Commissioner Costello seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. Commissioner Hamilton was not present for this

vote; however, the remaining members present still constituted a quorum. The motion carried.

- Central Texas College – Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Fort Wainwright

Commissioner Story moved to approve renewal of authorization for five years, through January 31, 2027. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. Neither Commissioner Hamilton nor Commissioner Costello were present for this vote; however, the remaining members present still constituted a quorum. The motion carried.

- Charter College – Anchorage, Wasilla

Commissioner Costello moved to approve renewal of authorization for five years, through January 31, 2027. Commissioner Hamilton seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye, with Chair Bicchinella abstaining. The motion carried.

➤ Initial Authorization due to Ownership Change

- Glenda's Training Center - Wasilla

Commissioner Adams moved to approve a two-year initial authorization [through January 31, 2024]. Commissioner Liston seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

- Trend Setters - Anchorage

Commissioner Brown moved to approve an authorization for three months for Trend Setters, through April 30, 2022, contingent upon maintaining a teach-out plan, providing disclosure notice of financial status with Commission for student signature, and maintaining full bonding. Commissioner Costello seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

➤ Program Amendments

- Northern Industrial Training - Palmer

Commissioner Costello moved to approve authorization of eighteen programs in the amended application through October 31, 2023, to match the current period of authorization for Northern Industrial Training. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye, with Commissioner Head abstaining. The motion carried.

- Vocational Training & Resource Center - Juneau

Commissioner Story moved to approve authorization of program Administrative Assistant Level Two through July 31, 2023. Commissioner Hallam seconded the motion. By roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.

PRESENTATION – OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Kate Hillenbrand, Director of Outreach and Communications, gave a presentation on Outreach Initiatives, Staffing, and Resources from 2017 to present, starting on page 56 of the meeting packet. The intent of the presentation is to provide context to the changes in Outreach over the past five years, to bring clarity to some of the ongoing challenges ACPE is navigating, and to introduce information about ACPE's future outreach efforts and support of postsecondary attendance and completion in Alaska.

She began with an overview of ACPE's mission and the ways the Outreach department puts the mission into action, through such efforts as:

- Financial aid & loan programs for college and career training
- Education planning resources for students, schools, families, stakeholders
- Early postsecondary outreach programming for grades K-8
- Advocacy and support for postsecondary participation in Alaska
- Institutional Authorization & Consumer Protection

She went on to address how Outreach used to have a staff of fourteen to help perform these actions, including multiple College & Career guides, several College and Career specialists, dedicated marketing & publication staff, and additional managerial positions. By 2021, staffing was reduced to six positions.

Moving on to programming and initiatives, she went over some of the previous programs ACPE used to have, such as the College & Career guide program, Success Center, and the UAA One-Stop site. Previously they were able to travel extensively to host trainings and present to various school districts, including holding College Goal Alaska Events to promote FAFSA completion, and there was much more extensive marketing going on, especially of loan programs. Now each remaining position essentially oversees and runs an entire program on their own, through a mostly virtual platform, though they are still able to cover quite a bit of ground. She discussed their current programming slate, going over the ACAC Coordinator, Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS), Early Career Explorers, Kids2College, Virtual Success Center, K-12 Bridging Pilot Program, and continued work on FAFSA completion.

Looking at marketing efforts, she explained that in prior years, there was a much larger focus and effort on print marketing, such as infographic postcards, direct mailers for both ACPE's loan program and for the APS/AEG, and a College & Career Training in Alaska Magazine. Regarding recent & ongoing efforts, there are fewer direct mailers sent to more targeted populations, and print publications have been reduced across the board, with more of a focus on making resources available online. Social media campaigns have continued in a

decreased capacity, as issues with cost and lack of return-on-investment have required re-strategizing.

Addressing the impact of COVID-19, has had a profound effect on every aspect of postsecondary education but especially on high school seniors and their plans for continuing education. In a survey of 607 students across 59 communities, 33% stated that their postsecondary plans were impacted by COVID, with ~19% indicating they would not be pursuing higher education in the year following high school graduation. Working with the Department of Education & Early Development on how the pandemic was affecting eligibility for the APS, it was decided to waive the testing requirements for both the 2020 and 2021 graduating classes due to test cancellations and site closures. She noted that while this resulted in an increase of qualified potential recipients, there was still a decline in use of the APS. As another result of the pandemic, all Outreach resources transitioned to virtual delivery options

Recent efforts in dealing with the pandemic have led to a significant increase in cross-collaboration with the Commission's strategic partners in supporting enrollment and completion. Going forward, they will work to identify even more and various ways to build our partnerships and collaborations, creating pathways and feedback to determine what is working, what isn't, what is missing, how we can be more supportive, etc. Towards this end, they have hosted a number of stakeholder feedback meetings regarding APS recommendations, strategic planning sessions, and cross-sector collaboration through partnerships with various other groups and state agencies. These conversations have resulted in three driving pillars in supporting enrollment: creating & enhancing education pathways; AKCIS localizations project; and FAFSA completion. Additionally, they have developed three corresponding pillars to drive support of completion: enhanced student preparation; increased awareness of self & opportunities; and coordinated collaborative efforts. She ended the presentation by sharing where to find the various resources she had mentioned and discussed throughout her presentation.

Discussion: *Commissioner Costello asked where the Outreach staff is located, to which Director Hillenbrand relayed that they operate out of the Anchorage office. Commissioners then asked how many staff are in Anchorage, to which Director Hillenbrand answered that all six outreach staff are located there, as well as a small number of ISS staff but she didn't have those numbers. Commission Costello sought to clarify that most staff are then located in Juneau. Executive Director Efird advised there is an HR report with staffing numbers and locations in her report on page 51, and briefly went over those numbers. Commissioner Story brought up sending out information to high school juniors and not just seniors, as students are making their postsecondary decisions earlier these days. She also asked about the College Guides program, and whether they had considered asking the Commissioner of Education for federal dollars to help restart this program. Executive Director Efird responded that they have put in a number of requests to the Governor by way of the Commissioner of Education for both ARPA and GEER (Governor's Emergency Education Relief) funds, and they were approved for \$75,000 towards FAFSA completion initiatives, as well as \$40,000 to help localize the AKCIS platform for Alaska jobs and careers. While they did request funds for the College and Career Guides, that has not been approved yet; however, the K-12 Bridging pilot program being implemented this year will serve a similar function in getting students on the pathway to higher education earlier on.*

Director Hillenbrand reiterated the goal of the K-12 bridging program is to reach younger students and promote postsecondary opportunities earlier on, while they also do get messaging out to seniors and juniors, as well as give high school presentations and community events throughout the year. Commissioner Adams stated that she had the opportunity to attend one of these outreach sessions in her capacity as a school board member, and they did a great job of sharing and listening. Considering the varied range of philosophies in Alaska of thinking about postsecondary education, growing the workforce, and what progress means, that is going to be very important and informative as they continue to look at ways of reaching out.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Efird decided to just highlight a few important items from her written report, which starts on page 49 of the meeting packet. Starting with a budget update, she stated that the Governor released his proposed budget for FY23 on December 15, 2021, and relayed that ACPE's budget remained effectively the same as what was discussed during executive session at the October 20, 2021 commission meeting. Included in the budget is a reduction of four additional vacant PCNs from the Juneau office, and she stressed how the commission is trying to manage downsizing through this method of removing vacant positions. Also reflected in the budget was an increase to the WWAMI contractual obligation to account for inflation, and a structure change to how the Alaska Education Grant is budgeted to better identify those funds as pass-through grants not operating dollars.

She brought up the issue of the HEIF, how ACPE's proposed budget originally included funding for the APS, AEG, and WWAMI programs. However, without the reverse Constitutional Budget Reserve (CBR) sweep being enacted, the HEIF has no funds so the Governor switched the funding source to unrestricted general funds for the current budget, allowing those programs to continue. This does not address the issue of the more than \$420 million that was previously in the HEIF, however. There are a number of bills being considered which concern the HEIF, including HB 229, which would put the investment and management of the HEIF under the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, though still without an appropriations vehicle at present. She is hoping to have a work session at some point where commission members can come together to discuss which legislation may be moving forward on the HEIF and how the commission can support and advocate for its success. She also highlighted HB 114 and SB 94, the ACPE backed bills currently going through legislative committee, which propose changes to ACPE's loan programs that would allow them to better meet the needs of students and institutions. She ended by again mentioning the possibility of a work session, encouraging commission members to contact the Executive Secretary with their interest and availability for setting something up.

Discussion: *Commissioner Story commented that the Department of Revenue had yet to sweep the HEIF out of the 38% earnings to go into the 2% general fund. In a week or two they will complete an audit of the fund, after which the funds would then be swept. With the lawsuit mentioned by UA President Pitney expected to have a decision by February 22nd, she wondered if it might not be best for them to delay the sweep until a decision was made. She understands the concern revolving around the HEIF not having a funding source after the sweep, and she thanked the Executive Director for working on this for those students who have put the time and effort in to earn the APS. Executive Director Efird mentioned HB 48, the bill that Representative*

Story introduced during the last legislative session that would make a number of improvements to the APS, which stemmed from recommendation that came out of the 10-year review of the APS. Commissioner Story asked for clarification on the reports from earlier in the meeting, which mentioned staff had been unable to travel – she wanted to know whether this was due to the budget or the pandemic. Executive Director Efird explained that it was a combination, largely due to the ongoing complications of COVID-19 but also stemming from the Institutional Authorization budget being funded through fees. She further explained that ACPE has been attempting to reduce their dependence on the Alaska Student Loan Corporation to fund activities outside of the corporation's purview.

MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORTS

➤ Finance

Julie Pierce, CPA, Chief Finance Officer, referred to the table of the Governor's proposed FY23 operating budget on page 78 of the meeting packet, as well as a detailed summary of the adjustments on the next page, in case there were any additional questions about the budget after Executive Director Efird's discussion. She highlighted a summary of the Interagency operating budget compared to actual expenditures and obligations (page 80). She concluded by touching upon the November 4, 2021 meeting of the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, the primary purpose of which was to review and accept the Corporation's annual audited financial statements for fiscal year 2021.

➤ Program Operations

Kerry Thomas, Director of Program Operations, addressed that her report starts on page 81 and covers statistics and related information at length, culminating in a timeline on page 92. She expressed that she primarily wanted to discuss the ongoing outsourcing project, and would be open to answering any questions about her written report at the end. ACPE has been working for the past year to outsource the originations and servicing of their state loans, including having a vendor perform all the duties of processing applications and dispersing payments to schools, and then transferring that information to a servicing vendor for the life of the loans. Being such a major project requiring significant internal resources and coordination, the decision was made last quarter to delay the cutover to Campus Door to handle originations until April 1, 2022. Director Thomas relayed that they are on track to meet the new deadline, and are currently preparing to perform system testing with both Campus Door and American Education Services (AES), who will be taking over loan servicing. The next phase would be the servicing conversion to AES, which involves transferring all servicing data off ACPE's servicing system over to AES, who will then maintain that data and servicing for the duration of the contract.

This multi-agency project involves nearly half of ACPE's staff, with 22 dedicated team members, 50 % of whom are dedicated primarily to the project while the rest contribute as needed based on the subject matter expertise. The coordination between ACPE and Campus Door has been going well, with effective communication and project management ensuring timely completion of project requirements. ACPE has a number of unique program requirements compared to other state lenders, which pose additional challenges requiring

extra time and complexity to complete. To reduce these issues, ACPE has exercised creativity in being open to adjusting those processes that have proven difficult, and which are not bound by compliance with either state or federal law. She concluded her report by reviewing the project timeline on page 92, advising commission members that they can expect agency staff to be very involved and busy focusing on this project for the remainder of the calendar year.

Discussion: *Commissioner Story asked if there was information on what ACPE would be paying annually to the outsourcing vendors, if there was a certain page on the budget that shows what Campus Door and AES will be receiving, in order to better understand the cost savings involved. Director Thomas replied that while customization of the service is incurring costs, at this point ACPE is not paying anything to Campus Door as they aren't performing the work yet. They do expect an overall cost reduction, similar to what was realized when the federal loan portfolio was outsourced to AES two years ago, which reduced the agency's overall budget by about a million dollars. She also relayed that she would work with Executive Director Efird to provide something regarding budget line items and the cost analysis to commission members after the meeting.*

➤ Outreach and Early Awareness

Kate Hillenbrand, Director of Communications and Outreach, whose report starts on page 93 of the meeting packet, highlighted her division's work to continue developing new partnerships and enhance & strengthen programs built to serve Alaskans. As mentioned in her earlier presentation, they have put a lot of focus on engaging with stakeholders. She discussed the K-12 bridging program, whose intent is to engage students earlier and more often in their education concerning postsecondary opportunities and planning. Through research and working with partners, they have come up with activities for students to complete each year starting as early as 7th grade. At this time, they have identified stakeholders in Southeast Alaska who will pilot the program, with the potential to expand it later on. They are hoping to see this plan implemented in 2022. She reported that Outreach has seen a substantial increase in the reach and attendance of sessions this quarter, reflecting that multiple school districts have incorporated AKCIS into their curriculum. Director Hillenbrand concluded by relaying that there was a great deal of time and effort put into building FAFSA completion initiatives during the fourth quarter of last year, to begin rolling out in early 2022.

Discussion: *Commissioner Brown asked Director Hillenbrand if 3000 was the correct number in additional completed FAFSA applications. Director Hillenbrand confirmed that number, attributing it to the FAFSA completion initiative they had undertaken in concert with Federal Student Aid, having access to one of their outreach personnel. They received a lot of support from the UA system and other institutions around Alaska in hosting virtual training sessions, while also updating the FAFSA initiative's website through ACPE. Commissioner Brown sought further clarification on whether that number represented an increase and whether there was a baseline number to compare it to. Director Hillenbrand replied that while she didn't have those statistics readily available, she could go back to their federal outreach contact to get a baseline number. Commissioner Brown commented that it sounds like the initiative was a tremendous success, and wanted to know if ACPE was seeing any*

traction through the FAFSA Time Alaska online resource. Director Hillenbrand indicated there has been moderate success and it continues in its mission to increase FAFSA completion, but it has gone through challenges especially with COVID, due to it requiring a community participant or high school counselor, etc. to take the responsibility to carry it out. Commissioner Brown commented that it was encouraging that districts are reaching out for more information on the personal learning plan resource, and asked whether they were seeing an increase in the emphasis local districts are putting on using a formal PLCP in preparing students, or if it has maintained the same level of interest. Director Hillenbrand replied there was a lot of name brand recognition with the AKCIS program, and there is a consistent and dependable level of service that districts have come to know and depend on through the efforts of their program coordinator. Additionally, districts recognize that implementation is simple with AKCIS as the resources and systems are already in place, integrated and ready to go, so they don't have to pay for additional technology or create the structure themselves. Commissioner Brown commented that he always felt like it was an underutilized program when he was a teacher, and he was hoping that it was starting to be better recognized and used more throughout the state. Director Hillenbrand responded that the program found an unseen benefit during the pandemic, with it being available as a virtual platform that allowed for large-scale curriculum implementation during a time when educators needed to pivot quickly, and they are hoping that more districts will come on board once they see that success. Executive Director Efird followed up that they are consistently expressing what ACPE supports in terms of enrollment and completion at every conference and meeting they go to, and AKCIS is being picked up by many of those groups who are then sharing that information across districts. She relayed that at a recent business education compact meeting, a participant relayed how well AKCIS supports economic and workforce development in the State. She then stated that they intend on creating talking points just like the sheet on ACPE's bills included in the meeting packet, for commission members to be able to talk to friends or present at meetings so that they can also share that information. Commissioner Liston commented that AKCIS is a tremendous resource, but went on to say the FAFSA is notoriously cumbersome and difficult; he wondered how they were able to overcome that and get to the completion numbers they were seeing. Director Hillenbrand indicated that there was no one simple answer, that Federal Student Aid has put forth a number of changes and resources for the FAFSA in recent years in order to simplify and streamline it. In regards to ACPE's FAFSA initiative, she thinks that was so successful due to the collaboration between different agencies and institutions working together to offer a variety of platforms and opportunities for students to complete it. All while expressing a consistent message on the importance of the FAFSA, a clear message on what students need to do for it, and where to find the resources to do so.

➤ Information Support Services

Jamie Oliphant, Director of Information Support Services (ISS), highlighted a couple things from her report, which starts on page 98 of the packet. She started with the outsourcing project, which ISS staff is greatly involved in to help support that project and keep it moving forward. Another primary concern for ISS is cybersecurity and monitoring. There was high-risk vulnerability that became known for the State of Alaska in December, which they took immediate action to mitigate the risks of. ACPE was ultimately unaffected,

but ISS continues to monitor and work with the State security office to ensure that remains the case.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Alaska Student Loan Corporation – Commissioner Liston reiterated CFO Pierce’s report on the recent ASLC meeting, that the corporation reviewed and accepted the annual audited financial statements at the November 4th meeting. He also mentioned that the next corporation meeting will be held on February 10, 2022.

Board of Education and Early Development – Commissioner Hamilton reported on Board of Education activities, including:

- The Board approved the FY2022 budget.
- They authorized the Commissioner of DEED to negotiate and enter in an agreement to sell property associated with Mt. Edgecumbe High School.
- They approved the application for the charter amendment of Eagle Academy Charter School.
- The Board approved the University of Alaska Southeast teacher preparation programs through the spring of 2025.
- At the December 21, 2021 State Board meeting, they voted to send three sets of regulations out for public comment regarding teacher certification, assessment participation guidelines, and Alaska native languages.
- They also had a delayed vote on provisional approval of the Initial Educator Program in early Childhood Education at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) School of Education. The Board will continue working with UAA prior to voting on full approval of the program.
- Two new members were added to the Board: Lieutenant James Fowley, United States Air Force Military Advisor; and Madelyn Brokaw, an Eagle River High School Senior appointed as a student leader.

UA Board of Regents – There was no Board of Regents report, due to both Commissioner Anderson and Vice Chair Parker being unable to attend.

Student Representative – Commissioner Garcia did not have much to report, other than students seem to be settling into school with the beginning of the new semester for the most part.

Alaska Workforce Investment Board – There was no AWIB report, due to the absence of Commissioner Edenshaw.

Network Report – written report provided in the meeting packet.

CLOSING COMMENTS

- Commissioner Hamilton relayed his appreciation to Executive Director Efrid and Commissioner Hallam for their work during his sabbatical, especially with the University of Alaska Fairbanks regarding student credit transfers. He highlighted the meeting they’d

had with Vice President Paul Layer a few days before about moving forward with establishing a process for much easier transfer of credits between ACPE authorized schools and the University System, using Alaska Christian College's AA degree programs to pilot that.

- Commissioner Story wanted to remind everyone that the regular legislative session starts on January 18th. She indicated that legislators are getting ready to tackle important issues, such as providing relief funds and helping to strengthen those communities that need it. She is hopeful that they will address items such as the reverse sweep and HEIF fund, which were not resolved during the special sessions. She is also hoping that with the infrastructure bills that some deferred maintenance things for the university will be taken care of. With everything happening at the Commission, she wanted to take the time to thank the Staff for all their hard work. She relayed how there's so much discussion of making the most of our resources when talking about budget and policy matters, and the staff are "our pipeline of people" at ACPE. She relayed she really enjoys learning about the institutions that help the youth in Alaska and provide job training for adults, and that she really appreciates the Commission and its Staff trying to get the information out about the opportunities available for Alaskans. She concluded by saying it was going to be a busy session, and that she hopes the Commission will be actively involved in it.
- Chair Bicchinella expressed that the Commission is grateful for all that their members representing the House and Senate, Representative Story and Senator Costello, are doing for the legislature. He also wanted to again thank Dr. Pearl Brower for her service to ACPE, that it has been wonderful to be on the Commission with her for the last couple of years, and that he is looking forward to working with her in her new role.
- Executive Director Efird thanked the Chair and members of the Commission for all their input, and that she is humbled to be able to serve. She noted that she crossed her one-year mark as Executive Director, and that she is in awe of the Staff at ACPE every day. She reiterated that though ACPE is small, they are mighty, and she appreciates the Commission acknowledging all the hard work and effort by Staff as they deal with the ongoing projects and contribute above and beyond their normal activities. She concluded by thanking the members of the Commission for their service

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Liston moved to adjourn. Commissioner Costello seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, all members present voted aye. The motion carried.


The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Approved by:

Chair


Date

April 2023

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THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Alaska Commission on
Postsecondary Education**

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION

P.O. Box 110505
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acpe.alaska.gov

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Members
THROUGH: Sana Efird, Executive Director
FROM: Tyler Eggen, Institutional Authorization Program Coordinator
DATE: March 18, 2022
RE: **Compliance Activities Report for March 18, 2022**

Quarter Applications

- Renewal of Authorization

Alaska Bible College
Trend Setters
- Initial Authorization due to Ownership Change

The Esthetics District
- Program Amendments

Alaska Driving Academy
Charter College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- Institutions qualifying for exemption from authorization in the quarter.

Location	Initial Certification	Recertification
Alaska	4	0
Out-of-State	2	5

Commission Meeting
April 2022

Institutional Monitoring

The **Alaska Academy of Advanced Cosmetology & Massage Institute's** application for Renewal of Authorization was denied by the Commission at the January 12, 2022 quarterly meeting. The Institute was provided notice of the decision, including the ability to appeal the Commission's decision to the Department of Administration, Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). The Institute has elected to appeal the decision, and correspondence between the Institute, ACPE, and OAH are ongoing. The decision by OAH is not expected to be determined until later Spring 2022. As of January 31st, 2022, which was when the Institute's authorization was set to expire, AAAC had one actively enrolled student who achieved the necessary training and hours to sit for their professional licensure exam.

The **Alaska Nail & Skin Academy**, which has been operating as an authorized cosmetology school specializing in manicuring since 2018 has elected to cease operations. The Academy, which was operated by Aaron Boutsomsi, elected to cease operations due to personal reasons. At the time of closure, there were no enrolled students. ACPE is working with the Academy to obtain scholastic records for preservation.

Alaska Pacific University (APU) announced that it appointed Dr. Janelle Vanasse as its next president, effective June 1, 2022. The Commission can expect an Amendment to APU's Authorization for this change in management at the July 2022 Commission meeting. Dr. Vanasse will be taking over duties from Provost Dr. Hilton Hallock, who has been serving as Interim President since Valerie Davidson's departure this past spring of 2021.

Charter College has informed ACPE of its desire to move its "main campus" designation from Vancouver, WA back to Anchorage, AK. In the years 2016-2017, the College moved its main campus designation from Anchorage to Vancouver when it changed its accreditor from the Accrediting Council for Independent College and Schools (ACICS) to the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). The College will proceed with the transition after it renews its accreditation with ABHES, which will be determined at the August 2022 ABHES Commission meeting. The College and ACPE will be in communications with ABHES, United States Department of Education, the Washington Student Achievement Council, and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA).

Additionally, the College has announced a change in management and leadership structure at its Anchorage and Wasilla campuses. The campuses were previously lead by a Campus President position, located at Anchorage campus. The College now has created a Campus Manager at each campus. The Campus Manager

reports to the Vice President of Student Services. When permanent Campus Managers are selected, the College will submit an Amendment to Authorization for this change in management.

Kenai Peninsula Driving Instruction (KPDI) has elected to change its status with ACPE to operate as an institution that is “exempt” rather than “authorized.” This was predicated on the recent Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) regulatory change regarding requirements to operate a commercial truck driving school. Those regulation changes, which are still ongoing, would require institutions to follow Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrations (FMCSA) Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements rather than the Professional Truck Driving Institute (PTDI). As a result of the regulation change, there is no hour requirement for theory or behind the wheel instruction. KPDI elected to change the hours for their authorized programs to qualify for exempt status. All students enrolled in the authorized programs completed their programs of study prior to KPDI making the switch.

Vocational Training & Resource Center has changed their name to **Generations Southeast Community Learning Center** after years of examination of its program offerings and rebranding efforts. As stated in its press release:

Through a rebranding process, the VTRC has transformed into Generations Southeast, a comprehensive center for all people that is rooted in our traditional tribal values. “Generations Southeast was born from the vision we’ve always had for the VTRC,” said President Richard Chalyee Éesh Peterson. “We’re excited to see this new focus and effort roll out to provide greater opportunities for our people to reach their educational and career goals. Whether you’re looking for vocational training or cultural classes to learn our languages and arts, the Tribe is committed to truly meeting our citizens where they’re at.”

ACPE staff has been in communication with staff from the institution of required documents needed for this transition to be in compliance.

National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement – State Renewal

ACPE application for a renewal as a state participant in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA) will be heard on March 23, 2022, by the Western Regional Steering Committee. NC-SARA applies only to oversight of postsecondary distance education. It is a regional approach with uniform processes for approving eligible institutions. Participating states agree to work in concert with SARA institutions in other states to protect students and benefit both the states and

institutions in providing distance education. ACPE is the designated state portal entity for Alaska, serving currently four universities (APU, UAA, UAF, & UAS).

State Board of Education and Early Development Regulation Change

On March 2nd, 2022, the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development held a meeting where they adopted the proposed regulation changes regarding teacher certification and educator preparation programs. The proposed regulations under 4 AAC 12.308 will allow for educator preparation programs to be offered by a regionally or nationally accredited institution of higher education. Once the changes to 4 AAC 12.308 are reviewed by the Department of Law and the Lt. Governor's office, the State Board will consider proposals from nationally accredited institutions of higher education to be approved as a teacher preparation program.

When the changes to 4 AAC 12.308 become effective, the Board will be able to provisionally approve a program that is offered by a nationally accredited institution if the institution has made substantial progress obtaining programmatic accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation, substantially meeting the Professional Standards for the Accreditation of Teacher Preparation Institutions, and other State Board requirements. To gain full approval, a teacher preparation program will need to obtain programmatic accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.

Once a nationally accredited institution has been granted provisional approval by the State Board for its teacher preparation program, the institution's graduates will be able to obtain their teacher certificate.

ACPE will continue to monitor the regulation change and provide an update at ACPE's next Commission meeting.

Learning Community Grant – Regulations and Outcomes

In February 2020, a \$15,000 grant was awarded to the Commission from the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) to support the modernization of institutional authorization regulations and the development of standardized outcome metrics. At the October 2021 Commission meeting, the Commission adopted the proposed regulation changes which were submitted to the Department of Law for a final legal review. In March 2022, the Department of Law completed their review and informed staff of questions, concerns, and areas needing refinements. Due to the sheer number of proposed changes, it is possible that a re-adoption of the proposed regulations may be presented at the July 2022

Commission Meeting
April 2022

Commission meeting. After which time, it would be resubmitted to the Department of Law for either approval or disapproval of the regulations. If approved they would be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor's office for filing. Unless returned by the Lieutenant Governor, the Lt. Governor's office files the approved regulations, which become effective 30 days after filing.

Complaints

When complaints arise, our regulatory complaint procedure requires that students attempt to resolve matters with their institution through the institution's grievance policy. Generally, there is resolution at this point. However, if resolution cannot be reached, the student may file a formal written complaint with the Commission.

There are no Formal Complaints this quarter.



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Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION

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Staff Report Alaska Bible College Renewal of Authorization

Summary

Alaska Bible College (ABC) is a small institution nationally accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) since 1982. Historically, ABC operated in Glenallen before moving locations in 2014 to Palmer. ABC offers five programs, two certificates and three degrees that prepare students to work in Christian ministry. Degree students have a choice of emphasis on children, youth, intercultural or pastoral ministry, or enrollment in the Elementary Education program.

Chief Administrator	David Ley	Financial Statements	Financially Sound
Address	248 E Elmwood Ave Palmer AK 99645	FY20 Tuition Revenues	\$357,520
Year Founded	1966	FY 2021 Enrollment	FA21- 42 SP22- 42
AK Branch Authorized Since	1977	FY 2021 Complaints	0
Surety Amount/Type	\$80,000 / Bond	FY 2021 Completion Rate*	50%
Fee Paid	\$2,500	FY 2021 Retention Rate*	80%

*completion and retention statistics are based on full-time, non-transfer students. Due to the small number of full-time students enrolled in each program, those statistics do not provide a meaningful measurement and are not included in this report.

Review

Since ABC's last renewal by ACPE in April 2019, the institution has added the Bachelors of Arts in Elementary Education program, which was conditionally authorized in October 2020 with a number of requirements. Since then, the institution has applied with the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and is set to complete the second set of application requirements by May of this year. One specific requirement was for the institution to pursue institutional accreditation with the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), as it was a requirement under Department of Education & Early Development (DEED) that graduates from a teacher preparation program must graduate from a regionally accredited institution. This requirement became moot as a result of ongoing regulatory changes and DEED providing an avenue for historically nationally accredited institutions to offer teacher education programs leading towards licensure.

ABC's next accreditation visit is scheduled for Fall 2022, followed by a review to reaffirm the institution's accreditation in February 2023. Also of note, in June 2021, the institution sold its Glenallen property.

Program name	Program length	Tuition and Fees
Bible Certificate	30 credit hours	\$13,450
Bible and Ministry Certificate	60 credits hours	\$26,900
Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies	60 credit hours	\$26,900
Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry	120 credit hours	\$53,800
Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education	120 credit hours	\$53,800

Site Visit

A virtual review of student records was conducted during the renewal of authorization application process with no issues identified. A physical site inspection will take place when staff are authorized to travel.

Staff finds the application is in compliance with applicable statutes and regulations.

Evaluation

Minimum Standards Component - AS 14.48.060	Staff Evaluation/Comments
1. Program and courses meet stated objectives	Institution is accredited by the ABHE
2. Adequacy of space, equipment, and resources	Verified
3. Appropriateness of staff/faculty credentials	Compliant licenses

10b. Institutional Standards and Evaluation Recommendations

4. Catalog/brochure compliance	Compliant
5. Credential compliance	Certificate and diploma
6. Adequacy of records	Reviewed at remote site visit
7. Compliance with applicable laws	Fire inspection received; no observations of non-compliance with other applicable laws
8. Financial soundness	Compliant
9. Advertising and sales	Compliant
10. Administrators are of good reputation	Compliant
11. Student housing, if any	Appropriate, Safe and Adequate
12. Refund policy compliance	Reviewed and documented
13. Costs and charges compliance	Compliant

Recommendation

Staff recommends a four year authorization of Alaska Career College, through April 30, 2026.

Motion Needed:

“Move to renew authorization for Alaska Bible College through April 30, 2026.”



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GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION

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Staff Report The Esthetics District Initial Authorization

Summary

The Esthetics District was first authorized in October 2016 and last renewed by the Commission in April 2020. The previous owner, Heather Harvey, sold the school to Annisa and Scott Eastepp. Annisa Eastepp has been affiliated with the school for years prior to taking ownership. In addition to purchasing the institution, there was purchase of the affiliated business Brow Chica Brow Bar, which generates additional revenue through services and sales from products. Eastepp is licensed to instruct Esthetics, which is the only program of study at the institution, which is also regulated by the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers.

CEO & Program Director	Annisa Eastepp	Financial Statements	Financially Unsound
Address	600 E Northern Lights Blvd, #130 Anchorage, AK 99503	FY21 Tuition Revenues	\$19,566
Year Founded	2016	FY 2021 Enrollment	17
AK Branch Authorized Since	2016	FY 2021 Complaints	0
Surety Amount/Type	\$30,000 / Bond	FY 2021 Completion Rate	100%
Fee Paid	\$2,500	FY 2021 Placement Rate	100%

Review

The Esthetics District offers a 1:4 student to faculty ratio to focus on a more personalized approach to education in Esthetics. Students who enroll in the 350 hour program are able to obtain licensure through the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers. The institution has had a strong track record of the students obtaining licensure, and while no longer the owner and operator, Heather Harvey remains affiliated with the institution as an instructor.

Program name	Program length	Tuition and Fees
Esthetics	350 hours	\$8,000

Site Visit

A virtual review of student records was conducted during the renewal of authorization application process with no issues identified. A physical site inspection will take place when staff are authorized to travel.

Staff finds the application is in compliance with applicable statutes and regulations.

Evaluation

Minimum Standards Component - AS 14.48.060	Staff Evaluation/Comments
1. Program and courses meet stated objectives	Industry- recognized and approved curriculum preparatory for licensing exams
2. Adequacy of space, equipment, and resources	Approved by Board of Barbers and Hairdressers
3. Appropriateness of staff/faculty credentials	Verified through Board of Barbers and Hairdressers
4. Catalog/brochure compliance	Compliant
5. Credential compliance	Certificate and diploma
6. Adequacy of records	Reviewed at Remote Site Visit
7. Compliance with applicable laws	Fire inspection received; no observations of non-compliance with other applicable laws
8. Financial soundness	Do not meet regulatory soundness requirements
9. Advertising and sales	Compliant
10. Administrators are of good reputation	Background check-no adverse findings
11. Student housing, if any	N/A
12. Refund policy compliance	Reviewed and documented
13. Costs and charges compliance	Compliant

Financial Soundness

As part of the Authorization application process, Elgee Rehfeld, CPAs reviewed FY 2021 compiled financials. Their report found that the financial statements showed 91.23 days of cash on hand, but due to having recurring operating losses (\$6,654) and negative cash flows from operations(\$10,711), it resulted in having negative equity largely in part due to the business loan needed to acquire the institution and to start operations under a new owner.

An institution that is found to be financially unsound must meet certain requirements per regulation, which are as follows:

20 AAC 17.045. Bonding Requirements

(h) For a postsecondary educational institution that is not financially sound, the amount of the required surety bond, cash deposit, or commission-approved negotiable securities is the greater of

(1) the highest amount of revenue received by the institution for all students enrolled in all programs during an academic or a vocational program period, term, or semester of the previous year

(j) An institution considered not to be financially sound must maintain a commission approved, detailed teach-out plan as well as document surety to cover all costs of delivery of the proposed teach-out plan. An institution that continues to operate in other than a financially sound status must annually update its detailed teach-out plan and required surety.

20 AAC 17.117.

(g) An institution that has been found by the commission to be financially unsound shall clearly and conspicuously disclose that finding to all students and applicants and provide information on how to contact the commission for more information.

The Esthetics District's surety bond is already at \$30,000, which would cover the amount of student refunds if the institution was unable to obtain further approval of institutional authorization, as there are various refund options available under 20 AAC 17.117. The institution has already provided documentation of a detailed teach out plan and a disclosure of notice to current and prospective students that institution has been found by the Commission to be financially unsound that includes contact information for the Commission. The notice must be obtained with a student's signature, no more than seven days for currently enrolled students after the April 6, 2022 Commission meeting, and prior to a prospective student signing an enrollment contract, to be put in the student's file.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends an authorization for one year for The Esthetics District, through April 30, 2023, contingent upon maintaining a teach-out plan, providing disclosure notice of financial status with the Commission for student signature, and maintaining full bonding.

Motion Needed:

“Move to approve authorization for The Esthetics District, through April 30, 2023, contingent upon maintaining a teach-out plan, providing disclosure notice of financial status with the Commission for student signature, and maintaining full bonding.”



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORIZATION

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Staff Report Alaska Driving Academy- Truck Driving Division Program Amendment to Authorization

Summary

Alaska Driving Academy Truck Driving Division (ADATDD) has been in operation for three and a half years offering authorized instruction in professional truck driving. ADATDD was founded by Ed Martin III in November 2017. The 160-hour course, Entry Level Truck Driving (ELDT), is registered through the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA). Driver training is also overseen by the Alaska Department of Administration, Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). ADATDD was approved in March 2018 by the DMV as a commercial driving school and a road skills test facility, which allows their licensed staff to conduct road skills exams. In the summer of 2021, ADATDD began offering a 120 hour Basic Civil Construction (BCC) course for those needing more complete training in the operation of Heavy Equipment. Chris Lisenby serves as the Director of Operations and Misty Lisenby as the Operations Manager.

Mr. Martin is also part owner of Kee Construction LLC, a family business founded in 2008. Through that business he owns the needed equipment (dump truck and tractor trailer), and has access to a private range where student drivers can practice skills before driving on public roads, and a large shop that allows students to conduct vehicle inspections inside.

Owner & Administrators	Ed Martin- Owner Chris Lisenby- Director of Operations Misty Lisenby- Operations Manager	Addresses	44332 Sterling Hwy Ste 16B Soldotna, AK 99669
Year Founded	2017	Authorized Since	2018
Surety Amount/Type	\$30,000 / Bond	Fee Paid	\$100

Commission Meeting
April 2022

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- New Programs

Program or degree name	Program length	Tuition/Fee Cost
Fundamentals of Heavy Equipment Operations	240 hours	\$14,000

Review

The Fundamentals of Heavy Equipment Operations program has been a result of the enrollment demands of the Basic Civil Construction (BCC) 120 hour course, as well as to develop an applicant's skill level required for employment in the construction and heavy equipment industry. The core curriculum is based on the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER), which is a nationally recognized and highly respected standard in the construction industry. ADA-TDD will be applying with NCCER to have the program accredited, which is expected to take at least a year as the program will need to be implemented before NCCER can audit and observe shortcomings. Due to the rigorous full-time course load, no more than eight students will be enrolled at any one given time to ensure personal attention and a high level amount of practical operation time with each piece of equipment. The result of this program will allow graduates to become entry-level heavy equipment operators.

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's employment forecast for Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators indicate a projected growth of 5.85% of openings, which was forecasted in 2018, prior to the introduction of the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The required application and supporting materials were reviewed by commission staff and comply with statutes and regulations.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends authorization of this program amendment for Alaska Driving Academy- Truck Driving Division, through October 31, 2024, which is commensurate with the current period of authorization.

Motion Needed:

"Move to approve the program amendment for Alaska Driving Academy- Truck Driving Division's authorization."



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Staff Report Trend Setters Initial Authorization

Summary

Trend Setters School of Beauty has been training students in Alaska to become Hairdressers for almost fifty years. It recently moved locations to the University Center Mall in Midtown Anchorage and the Millhouse family has sold the school to Danielle Tremblay, who began as a student at the School in 2005 and has served in many roles at the school. Tremblay is a licensed Hairdresser under the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers and is in the process of obtaining her Instructor license.

Chief Administrator	Danielle Tremblay	Financial Statements	Undetermined
Address	3901 Old Seward Hwy #28, Anchorage, AK 99503	FY20 Tuition Revenues	\$110,134
Year Founded	1972	FY 2020 Enrollment	18
Authorized Since	1978	FY 2020 Complaints	0
Surety Amount/Type	\$70,000 / Bond	FY 2020 Completion Rate	88%
Fee Paid	\$2,500	FY 2020 Placement Rate	100%

Review

Trend Setters has classes starting every four weeks, which hold a capacity of two to ten students per class, with a maximum of 60 students. With the new location, Trend Setters has reviewed and revamped its program to better reflect the changing world of the beauty industry.

Program name	Program length	Tuition and Fees
Hairdressing	1650 hours	\$8,500

Site Visit

A virtual review of student records was conducted during the renewal of authorization application process with technical assistance provided and required changes. A physical site inspection will take place when staff are authorized to travel.

Staff finds the application is in compliance with applicable statutes and regulations.

Evaluation

Minimum Standards Component - AS 14.48.060	Staff Evaluation/Comments
1. Program and courses meet stated objectives	Industry-recognized and approved curriculum preparatory for licensing exams.
2. Adequacy of space, equipment, and resources	Approved by Board of Barbers and Hairdressers
3. Appropriateness of staff/faculty credentials	Compliant licenses
4. Catalog/brochure compliance	Compliant, technical assistance provided and required changes.
5. Credential compliance	Certificate and diploma
6. Adequacy of records	Reviewed at remote site visit, technical assistance provided and required changes.
7. Compliance with applicable laws	Fire inspection received; no observations of non-compliance with other applicable laws
8. Financial soundness	Undetermined
9. Advertising and sales	Compliant
10. Administrators are of good reputation	Background check - no adverse findings
11. Student housing, if any	N/A
12. Refund policy compliance	Reviewed and documented
13. Costs and charges compliance	Compliant

Financial Soundness

At the January 2022 Commission meeting, Trend Setters was determined to be financially unsound, due to a lack of acceptable financials statements, a financial soundness test could not be performed. As a result, as no financial soundness can be determined, and by default, the institution is considered to be financially unsound. An institution that is found to be financially unsound must meet certain requirements per regulation, which are as follows:

20 AAC 17.045. Bonding Requirements

(h) For a postsecondary educational institution that is not financially sound, the amount of the required surety bond, cash deposit, or commission-approved negotiable securities is the greater of

(1) the highest amount of revenue received by the institution for all students enrolled in all programs during an academic or a vocational program period, term, or semester of the previous year

(j) An institution considered not to be financially sound must maintain a commission approved, detailed teach-out plan as well as document surety to cover all costs of delivery of the proposed teach-out plan. An institution that continues to operate in other than a financially sound status must annually update its detailed teach-out plan and required surety.

20 AAC 17.117.

(g) An institution that has been found by the commission to be financially unsound shall clearly and conspicuously disclose that finding to all students and applicants and provide information on how to contact the commission for more information.

Trend Setters complied with the Commission requirements for a detailed teach out plan and disclosure of notice to current and prospective students, regarding Trend Setters being found by the Commission to be financially unsound, which included contact information for the Commission. Additionally, Trend Setters had their financial statements audited by a licensed CPA, and ACPE submitted them to the contracted third party auditor for a financial soundness test.

Recommendation:

At the time of writing this report, ACPE has not received the financial audit for soundness from the third party auditor. It is anticipated that ACPE will have knowledge of the institution's soundness at the April 6, 2022 Commission meeting. Below are two recommendation options for the institution, depending on financial soundness results:

**If financially sound, staff recommends a two year authorization for Trend Setters, through April 30, 2024, per AAC 17.020(g), which allows for up to two years for initial authorizations.*

**If financially unsound, staff recommends an authorization for one year for Trend Setters, through April 30, 2023, contingent upon maintaining a teach-out plan, providing disclosure notice of financial status with the Commission for student signature, and maintaining full bonding.*

Motion Needed:

**If financially sound, "Move to approve authorization for Trend Setters, through April 30, 2024."*

10b. Institutional Standards and Evaluation Recommendations

**If financially unsound, "Move to approve authorization for Trend Setters, through April 30, 2023, contingent upon maintaining a teach-out plan, providing disclosure notice of financial status with the Commission for student signature, and maintaining full bonding."*



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Staff Report Charter College Amendments to Authorization

Summary

Charter College currently offers 22 programs through its Anchorage and Wasilla campuses. The offerings include seven certificate, nine associate, and four baccalaureate degree programs. Most degrees are offered online, but there are a variety located in Alaska that are delivered via blended delivery. The College is owned and operated by Prospect Education, LLC, of Reno, Nevada, with 12 additional campuses located in Washington, California, Montana and New Mexico. The College is nationally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) with the Nursing program accredited through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Charter College is an NC-SARA participant through the state of Washington, however, Alaska residents are enrolled through Charter College Anchorage.

The institution is seeking authorization to add two programs.

Chief Administrator	Joshua Swayne, CEO, Prospect Education		Addresses	2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. Anchorage, AK 99508
Local Administrator	Tabi Jayd, Interim Campus Manager, Charter College Anchorage Charlie Soule, Campus Manager, Charter College Wasilla			5911 Old Seward Hwy Anchorage, AK 99518 721 W. Parks Hwy Wasilla, AK 99654
Year Founded	1985		Authorized Since	1985
Surety Amount/Type	\$250,000 / Bond		Fee Paid	\$200

- New Programs

Program or degree name	Program length	Tuition/Fee Cost
AAS in Applied Technology*	90 quarter credit hours	\$13,500
AAS in Paralegal*	108 quarter credit hours	\$35,640

*To be offered online

Institutional Update:

Charter College has informed ACPE of its desire to move its “main campus” designation from Vancouver, WA back to Anchorage, AK. In the years 2016-2017, the College moved its main campus designation from Anchorage to Vancouver when it changed its accreditor from the Accrediting Council for Independent College and Schools (ACICS) to the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). The College will proceed with the transition after it renews its accreditation with ABHES, which will be determined at the August 2022 ABHES Commission meeting. The College and ACPE will be in communications with ABHES, United States Department of Education, the Washington Student Achievement Council, and the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA).

As a result of the designation move, along with Alaska to be serving as the State Portal Entity for distance education purposes under NC-SARA, the College will need to have these programs authorized in Alaska.

Review

The Associate of Applied Science in Applied Technology program is designed for trade and craft professionals with a certificate of substantial coursework in trade program such as welding, plumbing, electrician, construction, Computer Aided Design (CAD) and, Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC). The program consists of 36 additional quarter credits that combined with a graduates certificate program credits meets the requirements for an associate’s degree. The College has been offering this program to its graduates, who would like to advance their education and knowledge, for over ten years at its Vancouver, Washington Campus, which annual job placements average around 75%.

Previously, the College offered this as an authorized program in Alaska, ceasing enrollment in 2017 due to the climate in the employment community, financial sustainability of the program, and declining enrollments. Based on current enrollments of trade students in Alaska, the College anticipates Alaska students to comprise no more than 37% of the program, based upon current enrollments of all trade students from all of the College’s campuses. The College anticipates 10-15 students enrolling in this program yearly, with 3-5 Alaskan students enrolling. According to Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce development projections, the area of First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, and Repairers are forecasted for employment

growth of 7.14%, and other Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations are to see a 4.8% increase.

The Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal program is designed as a 108 quarter credit hour program to prepare students to secure employment as paralegals in various law practices, including law firms, corporations, as well as government and state entities and administrative agencies. The College formerly had offered Paralegal Studies in the form of a Certificate and Associate's programs in Alaska before being taught out during the 2010s due to a variety of factors.

Based on a recent survey sent to potential employers to determine if there was a demand to restart the Associate's program, of respondents, 75% indicated that they have demand for Associate's prepared paralegals in the coming years. According to Department of Labor and Workforce Development forecasts, employment in this area is looking to decrease 10.94% between 2018 and 2028, however, looking to increase 12% during that same time nationally. The College is aware that the demand for Paralegals in Alaska is lower than in the continental United States, and plans to market this program accordingly, however, it would still be possible for students in Alaska to enroll. However, as mentioned above, the program will need to be authorized by the Commission for NC-SARA purposes. Once approved by ACPE, the College will follow through with the steps needed for ABHES recognition.

The required application and supporting materials were reviewed by commission staff and comply with statutes and regulations.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends authorization of two programs in this amendment application through January 31, 2027, which is commensurate with the current period of authorization, contingent on accreditation approval.

Motion Needed:

"Move to approve the two program amendments to Charter College's authorization."



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Staff Report Embry-Riddle University Program Amendments to Authorization

Summary

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) is a private, nonprofit university specializing in aerospace education and applied research. Founded in 1926, ERAU main campuses are in Daytona Beach, FL, and Prescott, AZ, and 135 branch locations worldwide, a large number of which are on military bases, as well as online programs. All campuses are regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

Embry-Riddle has two locations that are located on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER), one as Embry-Riddle Anchorage Campus and the other as Embry-Riddle Fort Richardson Campus. Both campus locations offer associate, bachelors, and master's degrees, as well as undergraduate certificates. The courses are taught through a series of learning modalities, including online, classroom, and virtual classroom instruction. The campus serves military members and their families, as well as civilians cleared to enter the base. With ERAU's main campus located in Florida, ERAU is a NC-SARA participating institution through that state, allowing students to enroll in additional courses via distance education that may not be offered at the branch campuses located in Alaska.

The institution is seeking authorization to add six programs.

Chief Administrator	Dr. John R. Watret		Address	Anchorage- 4109 Bullard Avenue, Suite 114, JBER, AK 99506 Fort Richardson- 7 Chilkoot Avenue, Suite 220, JBER, AK 99505
Year Founded	1926		Authorized Since	2014
Surety Amount/Type	\$50,000 / Bond		Fee Paid	\$600

- New Programs

Program or degree name	Program length	Tuition/Fee Cost
Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics	120 credit hours	\$60,450
Bachelor of Science in Engineering	128 credit hours	\$64,525
Bachelor of Science in Leadership	120 credit hours	\$60,450

*To be offered at both Anchorage and Fort Richardson Campuses

Review

The Bachelor of Science in Business Analytics focuses on concepts of evidence based management to source, manipulate, and analyze data, which results in the creation of infographics, visualizations, and executive reports for the business audience. Using aviation and aerospace examples and case studies to break down large volumes of data, students will look through a business lens to generate new insights to influence key business decisions.

The Bachelor of Science in Engineering is designed from a multidisciplinary perspective with subject matter from mechanical, electrical, aeronautical, and systems engineering. The program trains engineers to enter into research, develop, and design careers. ERAU offers the Bachelors of Science in Engineering Technology, which has some overlapping course requirements, but focuses on the application of technologies including two concentrations for degree obtainment. As such, it meets the Requirements for Degrees and Degree Programs found under 20 AAC 17.225.

The Bachelor of Science in Leadership develops students to be a holistic leader through comprehensive and practical leadership education, focusing on foundational leadership theories, complexities, ethics, critical thinking, communication, culture and diversity, decision-making, and coaching/mentoring. The program is found under the College of Business, which includes both the Common Business Core and Leadership Core requirements to obtain this degree.

All three programs have been provided through ERAU's main campuses, enrolling over 780 students in 2021-2022 Worldwide.

The required application and supporting materials were reviewed by commission staff and comply with statutes and regulations.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends authorization of six programs in this amendment application through April 30, 2026, which is commensurate with the current period of authorization.

Motion Needed:

"Move to approve the six program amendments to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's authorization."



11). Executive Director Report

**Alaska Commission on
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
FROM: Sana Efird, Executive Director
DATE: March 17, 2022
SUBJECT: Executive Director Report

This quarter has been focused on legislative activities including presenting to multiple committees, providing bill analysis and fiscal note information for bills introduced that affect ACPE, meeting one on one with legislators and their staff to provide information on ACPE's proposed legislation, and gathering information to respond to legislative inquiries on multiple topics. Additionally, the Executive Director's Office has worked with staff on our two large and very detailed outsourcing projects; and attended numerous meetings with staff, partners, and stakeholders.

Budget Update:

ACPE presented our FY2023 Proposed Budget to the House Finance Subcommittee on January 31, 2022. On March 16, the full House Finance Committee adopted an Operating Budget Committee Substitute for HB 281 which incorporates items from all of the House Finance Subcommittees. For ACPE, all the Governor's proposed budget items are included in the House Operating Budget bill. The one item that was deleted during the House Finance Subcommittee meeting was the unrestricted general fund (UGF) increment of \$1,647.5 to expand the WWAMI program from 20 to 30 students per year. However, the House Finance Committee reinstated this funding and changed the increment to a multi-year appropriation for FY2023 and FY2024, acknowledging that the logistics of expanding the WWAMI program will take time to implement. Additionally, House Finance recapitalized the Higher Education Investment Fund at \$394.6 million and changed the funding source of the Alaska Performance Scholarship, Alaska Education Grant, and WWAMI back to Higher Education Investment Funds instead of UGF.

UA Student Lawsuit to Protect the APS/AEG Higher Education Investment Fund:

An Anchorage Superior Court Judge ruled in favor of the State in the HEIF 'Sweep' Lawsuit on February 17, 2022. The lawsuit filed on January 4, 2022 by four University of Alaska Students sought to protect the endowed HEIF from being swept into the Constitutional Budget Reserve. According to the Department of Law, the students reasoned that the fund should be protected from the sweep because the money within should be considered designated for a specific use and not "available for appropriation under the law." The Court Judge agreed with the State's reasoning that the HEIF money is in fact available for appropriation by the Legislature. This will

not impact the existing HEIF grants and currently HEIF scholarships have been fully funded throughout Governor Dunleavy's Administration, including the FY23 Budget.

For our current FY2022 budget, Senior Managers continue to meet consistently to review and revise our operating expenditures to ensure oversight, monitoring and control.

Legislative Session Update:

My focus has been meeting one on one with Legislators to provide information and answer questions regarding ACPE's legislation that was introduced during last session as HB 114 and SB 94 - *An Act relating to the education loan program and Alaska supplemental education loan program; and providing for an effective date*. Chair Bicchinella travelled to Juneau in February to support these efforts. While he was in Juneau, we met with as many legislators as possible to share information on our legislation, advocate for reinstating the Higher Education Investment Fund and educate them on the mission of ACPE. I continue to meet with legislators and hope to meet with each of them before session is adjourned. Corporation Board Chair Anna McKinnon has also been meeting with legislators to support passage of our bills.

As of today, HB 114 is in House Rules waiting to move to the House Floor for a vote. Representative Grier Hopkins has agreed to facilitate the bill on the Floor. SB 94 is scheduled to be heard in Senate Finance on March 23.

Along with ACPE's legislation, other bills that could affect ACPE include:

- [HB 48 An Act relating to the Alaska performance scholarship program](#)
- [HB 229 An Act relating to the Alaska higher education investment trust fund; and relating to the Alaska Student Loan Corporation](#)
- [HB 147 An Act relating to the teacher education loan program](#)
- [SB 10 An Act establishing a grant program to provide to essential workers and laid-off workers the tuition and fees to attend certain postsecondary institutions](#)

A list of bills of interest that have been introduced during the 32nd Legislature is also attached.

The 2022 Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) Outcomes Report was released and sent to the legislature. The 2022 Alaska Higher Education Almanac is in production and will be published soon. Both of these publications will be shared with commission members and higher education stakeholders.

Outsourcing Projects Update:

Staff continue to be immersed in the loan servicing and loan origination outsourcing projects. The project is on track to convert new loan originations on April 18, 2022 and then the focus will be preparing for the legacy loan servicing conversion in October 2022. This is a very complex project which requires participation from a large number of ACPE staff, the originations vendor CampusDoor, the servicing vendor American Education Services, and a contract project manager to coordinate project activities among all the participants.

Human Resources Update:

Recruitment efforts and staff changes over the last quarter resulted in the separation of one employee, with former Financial Aid Specialist Dakota McLaughlin having separated as of February 11th, and the hire of one employee, with Dannielle Erickson transferring from the Governor's Office as of February 16th. There have been no other appointments or separations as of March 16, 2022.

Currently, there are ten vacant positions, including: one in the Executive Office, one in Finance, one in Postsecondary Planning Activities - Outreach, and seven in Program Operations. There are currently two active recruitments: one for the College Intern position, and one for a Financial Aid Specialist position. There are no immediate plans to take action on the eight remaining vacancies, but management retains the flexibility to do so if needed to provide support for agency initiatives. At present ACPE has 47 positions filled: 11 in Anchorage, 36 in Juneau. The breakdown of those positions by division is as follows: ISS-11, Finance-13, Program Operations-15, Postsecondary Planning Activities - Outreach-6, and Executive Office-2.

COVID-19 Update:

As COVID cases are decreasing and alert levels have been reduced, all staff are now required to be in the office in Juneau and Anchorage every Wednesday. This in-office time will provide opportunities for much-needed reconnection with coworkers, in-office collaboration for project teams, and reestablishment of the close relationships and welcoming culture that ACPE benefited from prior to COVID. As always, we are committed to the health and safety of all our staff and encourage healthy habits while in the office.

Strategic Planning

I am excited to share that ACPE has signed a contract with Black Fox Strategy to support our strategic planning efforts. This will encompass a comprehensive planning effort which will include staff, stakeholders, and commission members. The anticipated timeframe will be between May and December 2022, culminating with a formal 3-5 year strategic plan to include implementation guidance. The Commission will hear more on this process at the next meeting.

Juneau and Anchorage Lease/Space Update:

We are working with State of Alaska leasing to negotiate a smaller footprint in our current Juneau office space.

Alaska Student Loan Corporation Meeting:

The Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC) Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on February 10, 2022. During this meeting, the Board approved and adopted Loan Program Fixed Interest Rates for FY2022-2023.

Professional Organization Meetings/Presentations:

I attended regular monthly and semi-monthly meetings with the Education Finance Council, State Higher Education Officers Association, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), and the Alaska Business Education Compact.

Other Meetings:

- Continued meetings with Alaska Association of School Boards and a group of Southeast Alaska organizations to discuss partnering with ACPE to support and develop a 7-12 Grade Bridging Framework
- Meetings with Lee Donner from Hilltop Securities
- WWAMI discussions with University of Washington Medical School
- In-person legislative meetings and participation in numerous legislative committee hearings to present of answer questions
- Virtual orientation presentations for new Commission members
- Marketing discussions with contractor and leadership
- Presentation to Tribal Workforce Roundtable Group
- Attended UA President Pat Pitney' State of the University Address
- Participated in the SHARP Council quarterly business meetings
- Participated in the Alaska Statewide Education Leaders Collaboration meetings
- Participated in the Teacher Recruitment and Retention work group

As always, it is my pleasure and I am humbled to serve the Commission and lead this talented team of individuals to support Alaskans and their access to higher education opportunities. I am continually amazed at the dedication our staff exhibits to meeting the needs of our customers and constituents. I want to acknowledge and commend their efforts. I always invite your feedback and discussion and encourage you to reach out to me any time.

Attachments:

1. Bills of Interest Chart 2022 (Updated)
2. APS Outcomes Report Press Release



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BILLS OF INTEREST 2021

Bill	Short Title	Sponsor	Status	Last Action
HB 18	TEACHERS: NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION	KREISS-TOMKINS	(H) RLS	2/7/2022
HB 19	LIMITED TEACHER CERTIFICATES; LANGUAGES	KREISS-TOMKINS	(S) L&C	01/26/2022
HB 25	PUBLIC SCHOOLS: SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL LEARNING	HOPKINS	(H) STA	05/19/2021
HB 43	EXTEND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY	STORY	(H) FIN	03/26/2021
SB 19		STEVENS	Passed	06/29/2021
HB 48	AK PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP; ELIGIBILITY	STORY	(H) EDC	02/28/2022
HB 49	APPROP: EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS	STORY	(H) EDC	02/18/2021
HB 60	PUBLIC SCHOOLS: MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION	CLAMAN	(H) FIN	02/07/2022
SB 80		GRAY-JACKSON	(S) FIN	03/15/2022
HB 69	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS	GOVERNOR (Rules)	CHAPTER 1 SSSLA 21	01/18/2022
SB 49			(S) FIN	01/25/2021
HB 71	APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET	GOVERNOR (Rules)	CHAPTER 1 FSSLA 21	08/16/2021
SB 51			(S) FIN	01/25/2021
HB 76	EXTENDING COVID 19 DISASTER EMERGENCY	GOVERNOR (Rules)	Passed	02/11/2022
SB 56			(S) FIN	02/12/2021
HB 78	FUNDING FOR CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAMS	GOVERNOR (Rules)	(H) EDC	02/18/2021
SB 58			(S) EDC	03/03/2021
HB 108	CONCURRENT SECONDARY & TRADE SCHOOL	MCCARTY	(H) EDC	04/09/2021

HB 114	EDUCATION & SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN PROGRAMS	GOVERNOR (Rules)	(H) RLS	01/31/2022
SB 94			(S) FIN	04/23/2021
HB 129	ALASKA PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT	FIELDS	(H) EDC	03/08/2021
HB 132	SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIP PROGS; TAX CREDITS	(H) L&C	(S) EDC Then, L&C, FIN	1/18/2022
HB 147	RURAL DEF. TEACHER EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAM	ZULKOSKY	(H) EDC	03/09/2022
HB 229	ALASKA HIGHER EDUCATION INVESTMENT FUND	JOSEPHSON	(H) FIN	02/14/2022
HB 2001	APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET/LOANS/FUNDS	GOVERNOR (Rules)	(H) FIN	6/23/2021
SB 2001			(S) FIN	6/23/2021
HB 3003	APPROP: OPERATING; PERM FUND; EDUCATION	GOVERNOR (Rules)	CHAPTER 1 TSSLA 21	10/04/2021
SB 3001			(S) FIN	8/23/2021
SB 8	PRE-K/ELEM ED PROGRAMS/FUNDING; READING	BEGICH	(S) EDC	02/03/2021
SB 10	FREE/REDUCED TUITION FOR ESSENTIAL WORKER	BEGICH	(H) FIN	02/28/2022
SB 15	OPEN MEETINGS ACT; PENALTY	COSTELLO	(S) FIN	04/21/2021
SB 20	OUT OF STATE TEACHER RECIPROCITY	STEVENS	(H) FIN	02/28/2022
SB 32	COLLEGE CREDIT FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS	STEVENS	(H) RLS	03/02/2022
SB 34	STATE-TRIBAL EDUCATION COMPACT SCHOOLS	STEVENS	(S) EDC, Then JUD	01/25/2021
SB 42	VIRTUAL AND EARLY EDUCATION, READING	HUGHES	(S) EDC, Then FIN	01/25/2021
SB 72	SEC. SCHOOL CIVICS EDUCATION	STEVENS	(H) EDC	03/11/2022
SB 111	EARLY EDUCATION; READING INTERVENTION	(S) EDC	(S) FIN	04/26/2021

<u>SB 225</u>	TEACHER REGISTERED APPRENTICE PROGRAMS	SENATE EDUCATION	(S) EDC Then L&C, FIN	03/04/2022
<u>SJR 10</u>	CONST. AM: IN-PERSON PUBLIC EDUCATION	COSTELLO	(S) EDC, Then JUD	03/10/2021

Updated March 21, 2022



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 17, 2022

Alaska Performance Scholarship – Outcomes Report 2022

JUNEAU – The annual Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) Outcomes Report for 2022 is now [available](#). This report, prepared by McKinley Research Group, highlights critical information regarding the following topics:

- APS Eligibility Definitions & Requirements
- APS Awarding Breakdowns by Population
- APS Eligibility – Student Survey
- Impacts of COVID-19
- APS & Postsecondary Outcomes
- APS Recipients in the Alaska Workforce

The 2022 Outcomes Report reflects that 69% of APS eligible students say the APS award is seen as a motivator for improving grade achievement while 70% said that APS influenced their decision to stay in state for education. Additionally, of the first-time APS recipients who enrolled in the University of Alaska System, 93% were prepared to take college-level coursework, compared to 72% of non-recipient first-time students.

“The Alaska Performance Scholarship provides an opportunity for higher education goals to be realized for thousands of Alaskan students. As confirmed in the Outcomes Report, the APS is a critical component to reduce financial stress and increase the opportunity for Alaskans to attend postsecondary programs,” said ACPE Executive Director, Sana Efird.

ABOUT THE ALASKA PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP:

APS provides an opportunity for Alaska high school graduates to earn a scholarship to help cover the cost of an Alaska postsecondary education. By meeting curriculum, GPA, and testing requirements, Alaskan students may earn the APS to attend qualified Alaska colleges, universities, or career and technical education programs.

ABOUT THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION: ACPE promotes access to and success in education and career training beyond high school.

THE COMMISSION PROVIDES:

- 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

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Dr. Pearl K. Brower

B.A. Anthropology and B.A. Alaska Native Studies from University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2004. Masters in Alaska Native and Rural Development from University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2010. Ph.D. in Indigenous Studies, with an emphasis in Indigenous Leadership from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, May 2016.

Brower joined the University of Alaska in August of 2021 and serves as the Senior Advisor for Alaska Native Success, Institutional Diversity and Student Engagement. In October of 2020, Dr. Brower left the Presidency of Iñisuk College, Alaska's only Tribal College where she had been in administration at the college for 13 years, the last 8 serving as President.

Dr. Brower grew up in both Barrow, Alaska and in northern California practicing a subsistence lifestyle in both areas. She and her husband, Jesse Darling, have two daughters, Isla and Sindri. Brower was named one of Alaska's Top 40 Under 40 in 2015, the First Alaskans Institute Young Alaska Native Leader in 2019, and received the 2019 YWCA Women of Achievement award. Brower is active around Alaska. She serves as the Alaska Native representative on the Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network, serves on the Alaska Airlines Community Advisory Board, on the Foraker Group's Operations Board as Chair, a board member on the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Board of Directors, and serves her village corporation as a Board Member for Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation.



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Alaska Commission on
Postsecondary Education**

FINANCE OFFICE

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

THROUGH: Sana Efird, Executive Director

FROM: Julie Pierce, Chief Finance Officer

DATE: April 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Finance Report

FY2023 Operating Budget

Following is a summary of the Commission's FY2023 operating budget request included in the Governor's proposed budget released December 15, 2021. The FY2023 operating budget is still moving through the legislative process.

Budget Line	Interagency (ASLC Receipts)	Unrestricted General Fund	General Fund Program Receipts	Statutory Designated Program Receipts	Total
Personal Services	\$ 6,521.7	431.5	22.4	-	\$6,975.6
Travel	32.4	-	-	-	32.4
Contractual	2,981.9	82.8	29.2	150.0	3,243.9
Supplies	108.2	-	-	-	108.2
WWAMI		4,942.4			4,942.4
AEG	-	5,841.8	-	-	5,841.8
APS	-	11,750.0	-	-	11,750.0
Total	\$ 9,644.2	23,048.5	51.6	150.0	\$ 32,894.3

Positions	51.74	-	0.26	-	53.00
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Changes from FY2022 Management Plan budget:

- **Interagency Receipts** (ASLC receipts)
 - Personal services line
 - A decrease of \$142.0 due to the elimination of 4 vacant and no longer needed PCN's offset with overall annual personal service cost increases.
 - An increase of \$80.0 for health insurance, SBS and risk mgt. rate changes.
 - A decrease of \$230.7 for PERS actuarial rate adjustment.
 - An increase of \$160.0 to align authority with anticipated expenditures
- **Unrestricted General Fund** – This category represents funding for WWAMI, AEG and APS programs that were previously funded by Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund (AHEIF).
 - An increase of \$36.9 related to the WWAMI contractual obligation.
 - An increase of \$1,647.5 to expand the WWAMI Medical Education Program by 10 Students from 20 to 30 Students
- **General Fund Program Receipts** – no change. This category represents funding received from institutional authorization fees.
- **Statutory Designated Program Receipts** – no change. These receipts represent private grants to support ACPE's Postsecondary Planning Activities programs.
- **Budget Structure Change** - Creation of new RDU for State Financial Aid Programs including AEG and APS.

FY2022 Summary Operating Budget and Actual Expenditures/Obligations

Following is a summary of the Interagency (ASLC Receipts) FY2022 operating budget adjusted internally between line items and approximate actual expenditures/obligations for the period ended February 2022.

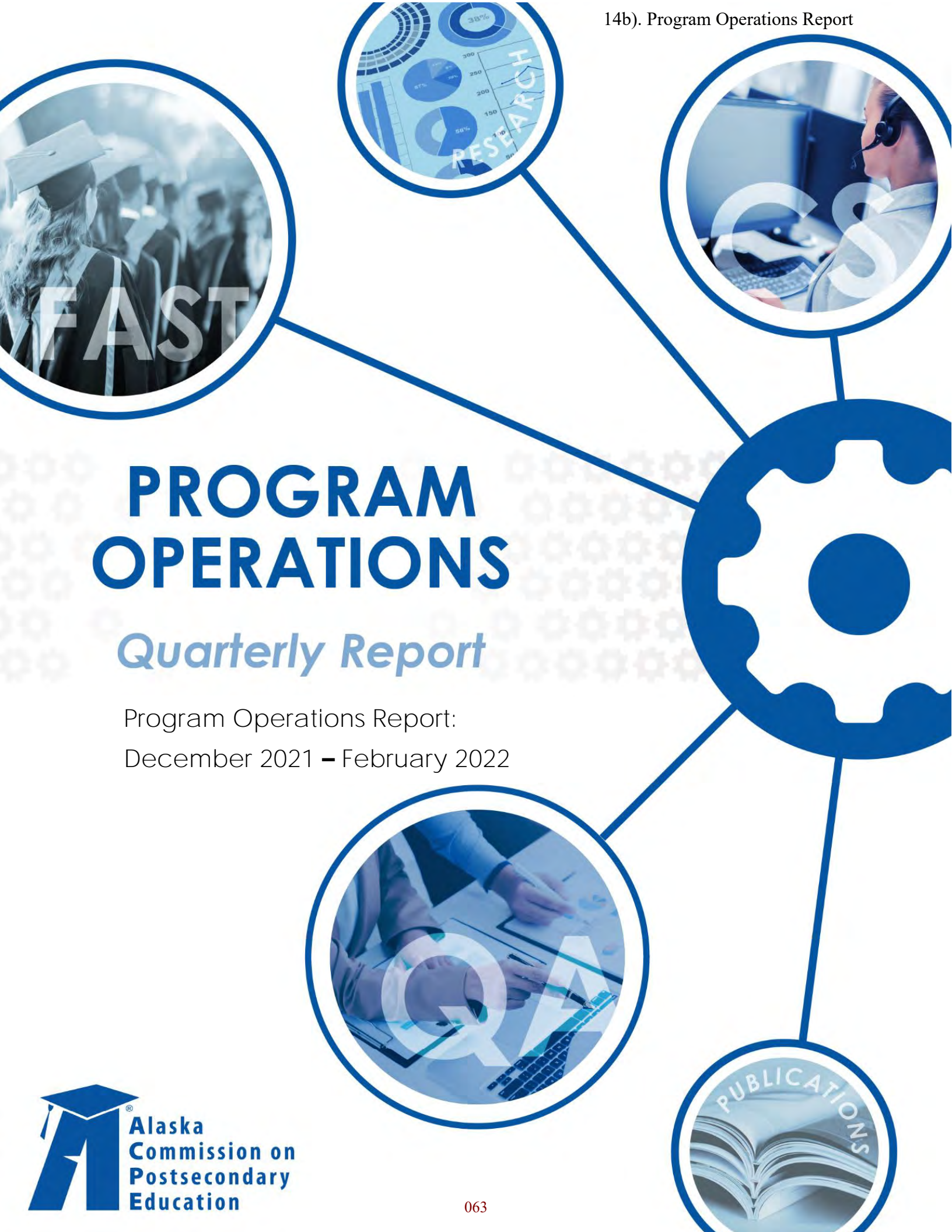
Fiscal Year 2022 - for the period ended February 2022			
Interagency (ASLC Receipts)			
Summary Budget and Actual Expenditures/Obligations			
Category	Budget	Total Actual Expenditures or Obligations	Unobligated Balance
Personal Services	6,654,000	5,756,200	897,800
Travel	32,400	16,800	15,600
Contractual	3,111,050	2,050,250	1,060,800
Commodities	139,050	6,050	133,000
Total	9,936,500	7,829,300	2,107,200

Alaska Student Loan Corporation

The Corporation Board met on February 10, 2022 to review fixed interest rates. The Board approved a motion to approve the staff proposed fixed interest rate recommendations. There were no proposed rate changes for ASEL, FEL and PSEP loan programs compared to prior year. There was a proposed 50bp increase in Refinance loan rates from rates currently being offered for all term and FICO score tiers.

The next Corporation Board meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2022 to review variable interest rates.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this report further, please do not hesitate to contact me at 907-465-6757 or at julie.pierce@alaska.gov.



PROGRAM OPERATIONS

Quarterly Report

Program Operations Report:
December 2021 – February 2022



DIVISION OF PROGRAM OPERATIONS-QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

Education Loan Updates

We continue to see declines in in-school loans compared to one and two years ago. Alaska Supplemental Education Loans (ASEL) and Family Education Loans (FEL) are down 16% and 47%, respectively, compared to this time last year. The largest decline in in-school loans is at Alaska institutions.

Alternatively, refinance loans continue to increase and are up 279% compared to this time last year. Of the \$4.9M in refinance loans originated this year, \$3.5M are borrowers refinancing ACPE loans to a lower interest rate and \$1.4M are external debt refinanced with ACPE.

Project Updates

The outsourcing project continues to take up significant staff resources and be the priority project at ACPE. The project is on track to convert originations on April 18, 2022 and then the focus will be preparing for the legacy loan servicing conversion in October 2022. This is a very complex project that requires participation from a large number of ACPE staff, the originations vendor CampusDoor, the servicing vendor American Education Services, and a contract project manager to coordinate project activities amongst all the participants. A more detailed update about the process changes and improvements will be provided at the July commission meeting.

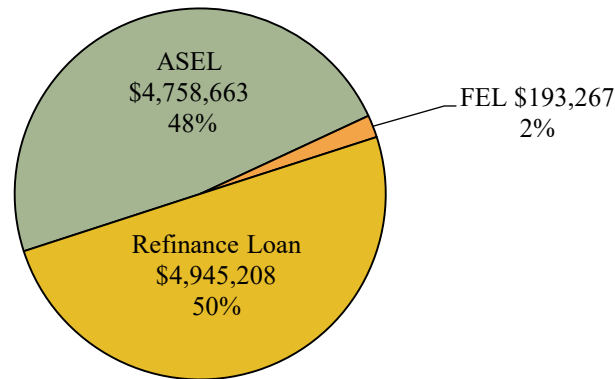
Publications

In January, the 2022 Alaska Performance Scholarship Outcomes Report was transmitted to the legislature and is available on [ACPE's website](#). The Alaska Higher Education Almanac is under development and will be issued before June 2022.

LOAN ORIGINATIONS

Program Year 21/22 through February 2022

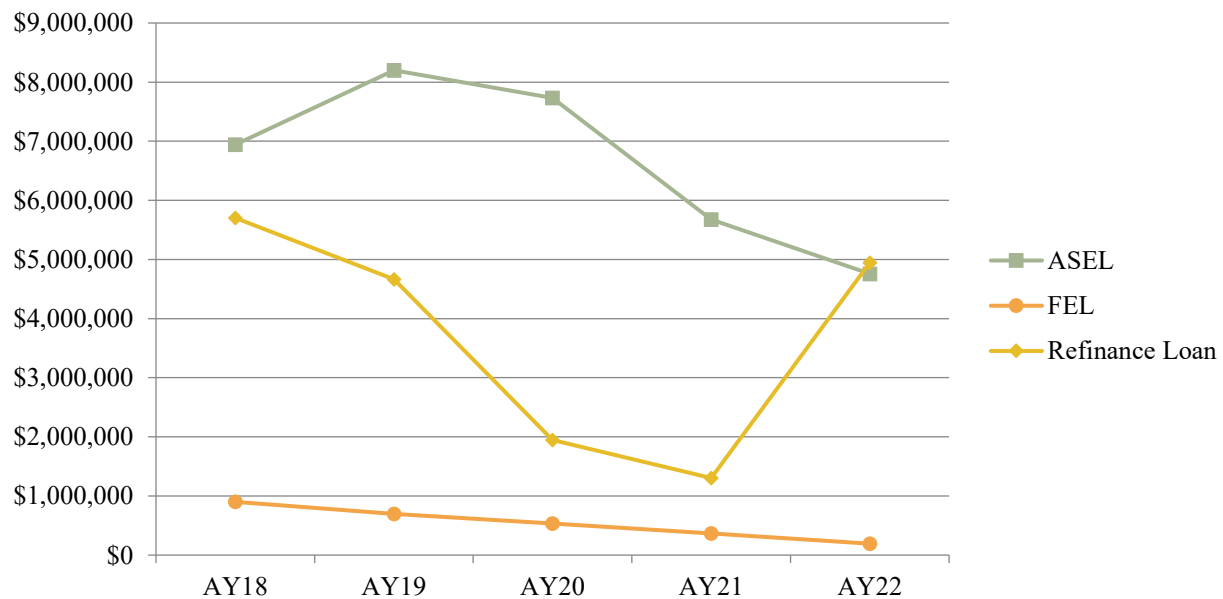
ASLC Loans Awarded

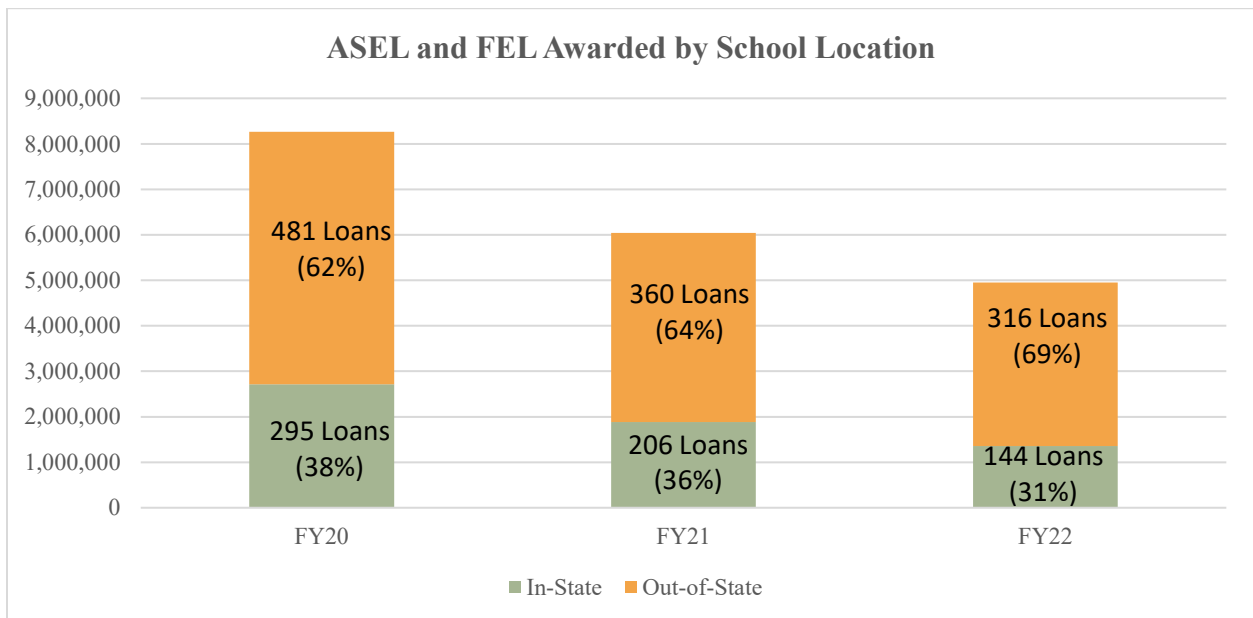
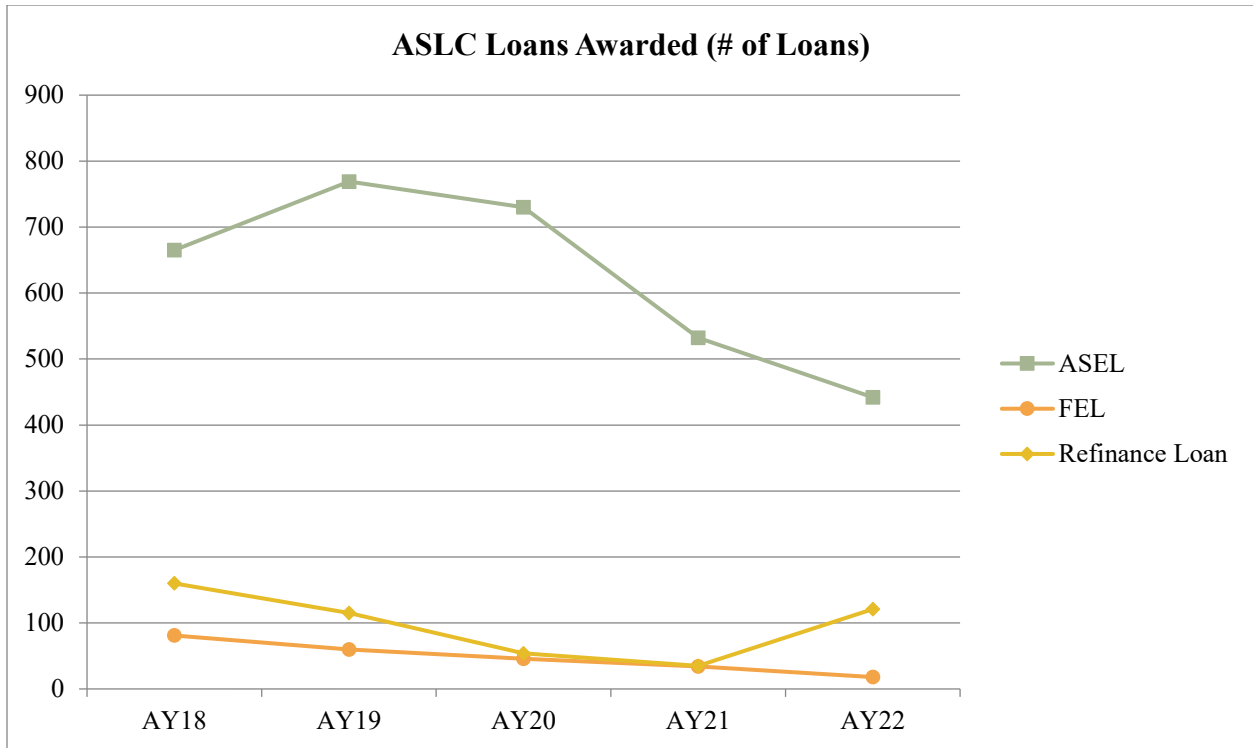


Total = \$9,897,138

Of the Refinance Loans, \$1,485,365 are external loans refinanced by ACPE

ASLC Loans Awarded (\$)





Loans Awarded

Loan Type	2021-2022		2020-2021		% Change	
	# of Loans	Amount Awarded	# of Loans	Amount Awarded	# of Loans	Amount Awarded
Family Education Loans	18	\$193,267	34	\$367,344	-47.06%	-47.39%
AK Supplemental Loans	442	\$4,758,663	532	\$5,674,380	-16.92%	-16.14%
Refinance Loans	121	\$4,945,208	35	\$1,303,416	245.71%	279.40%
Total:	581	\$9,897,138	601	\$7,345,140	-3.33%	34.74%

ASEL Loans Awarded – by FICO Band

FICO Band	In-State		Out-of-State	
	# of Loans	Percent of Total In-State Loans	# of Loans	Percent of Total Out-of-State Loans
720+	63	14.25%	207	46.83%
680-719	46	10.41%	62	14.03%
650-679	32	7.24%	32	7.24%

REFI Loans Awarded – by FICO Band

FICO Band	# of Loans	Percent of Total Refinance Loans
780+	36	29.75%
720-779	53	43.80%
680-719	32	26.45%

Loans Awarded – by Enrollment Intensity¹

Intensity Level	2021-2022		2020-2021		% Change
	# of Loans	Percentage	# of Loans	Percentage	
On-Time	94	20.43%	99	17.60%	-5.05%
Full-Time	330	71.74%	408	74.08%	-19.12%
Half-Time	36	7.83%	59	8.31%	-38.98%
Total	460		566		-18.73%

¹ Enrollment intensity statistics reflect only loan programs in which all three intensity levels are available (ASEL and FEL).

Special Programs

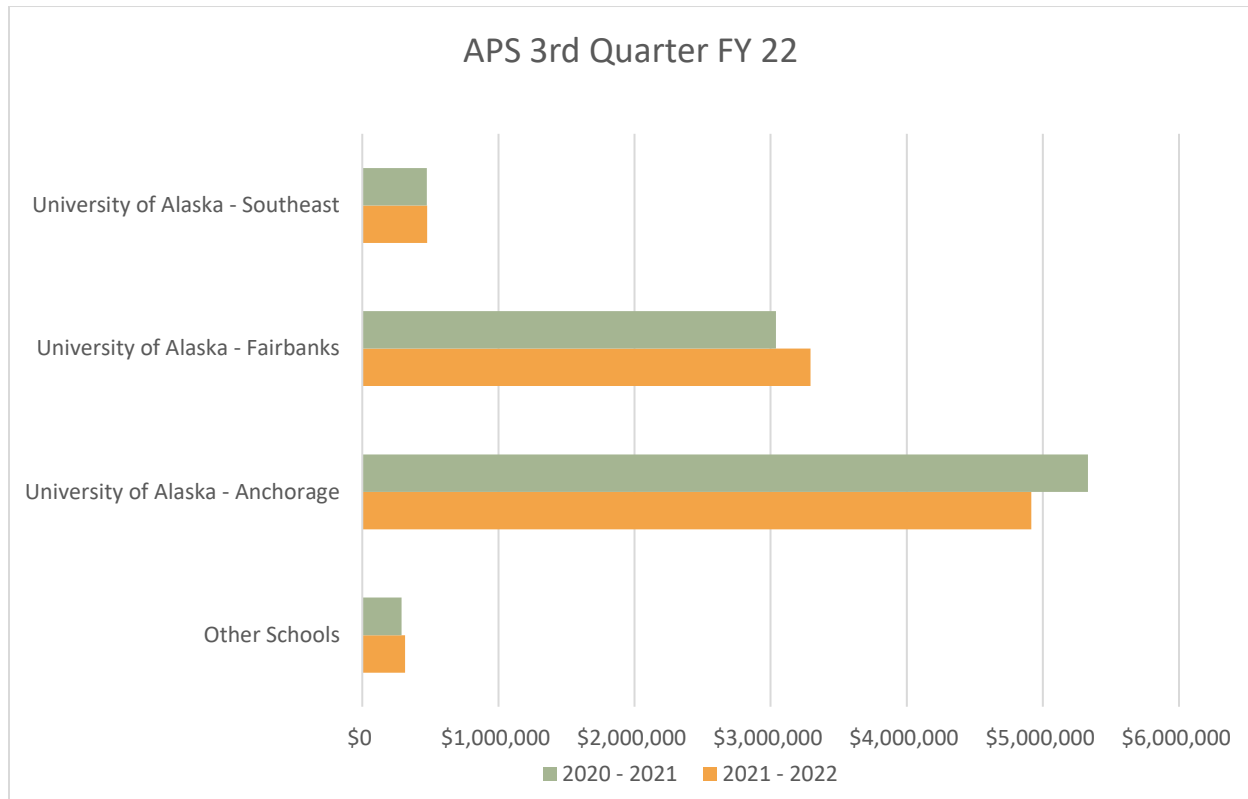
Loan Type	2020-2021		2019-2020		% Change	
	# of Loans	Amount Awarded	# of Loans	Amount Awarded	# of Loans	Amount Awarded
Winn Brindle	1	\$59,900	2	\$59,643	-50.00%	0.43%
WWAMI Medical Education Loan	58	\$1,354,679	58	\$1,318,273	0.00%	2.76%
WICHE PSEP Loan	5	\$119,400	9	\$205,910	-44.44%	-42.01%
Total:	64	\$1,377,916	69	\$1,769,803	-7.25%	-22.14%

ACPE Loans Serviced by AES- Loan Detail by Loan Status

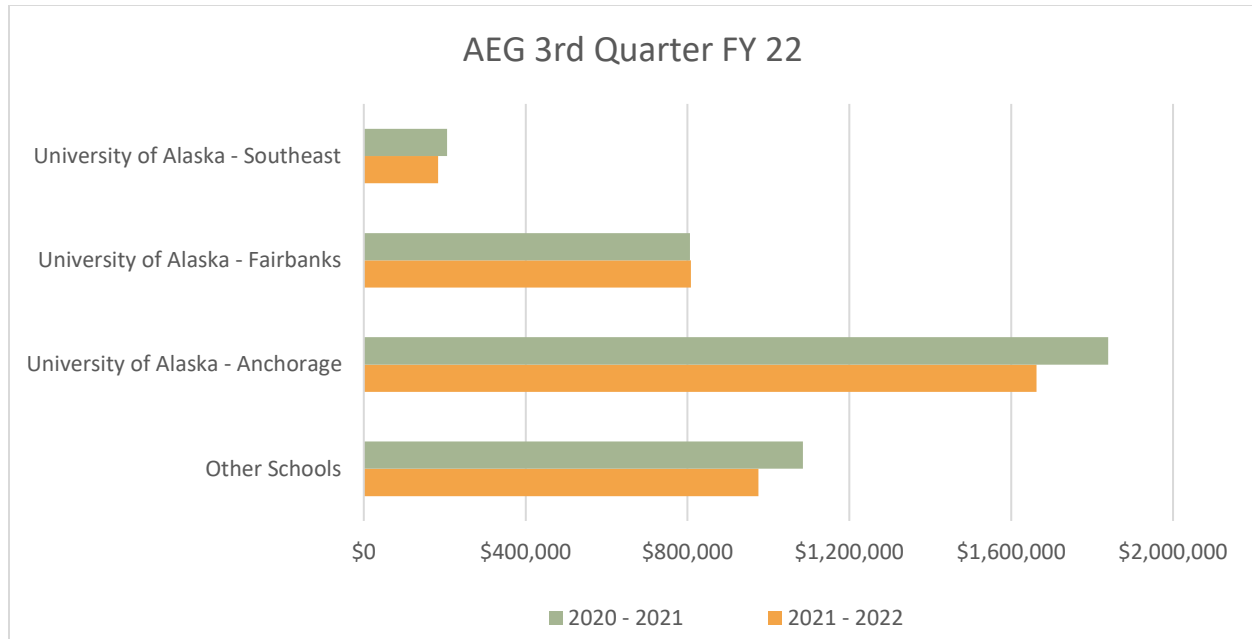
	# of Loans	Principal Amount	Interest Amount	Total Loan Amount
In-School	18	\$86,586	\$33,840	\$120,426
Grace	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Repay- Current	4,814	\$19,549,215	\$847,013	\$20,396,228
Repay- Past Due	728	\$3,352,897	\$100,587	\$3,453,484
Claim	69	\$441,113	\$41,151	\$482,264
Forbearance	591	\$2,932,556	\$124,177	\$3,056,734
Deferment	600	\$2,879,468	\$247,176	\$3,126,644
Total	6,820	\$29,241,836	\$1,393,943	\$30,635,779

FFELP Complaints

# of Complaints	0
Complaint Descriptions	N/A

ALASKA PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIP & ALASKA EDUCATION GRANT**Program Year 21/22 through February 2022**

Other Schools	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
Alaska Bible College	\$36,852	\$35,663
Alaska Career College	\$27,939	\$16,049
Alaska Christian College	\$26,153	\$23,775
Alaska Driving Academy	\$892	\$0
Alaska Pacific University	\$80,838	\$136,710
Amundsen Educational Center	\$2,378	\$0
AVTEC	\$64,789	\$55,873
Charter College	\$23,980	\$27,943
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Alaska Campus	\$0	\$1,500
Ilisagvik College	\$2,378	\$6,241
Land and Sea Aviation Alaska	\$4,755	\$4,754
Metroasis Advanced Training Center	\$8,322	\$0
Northern Industrial Training	\$4,755	\$0
Trend Setters	\$2,378	\$0
Wayland Baptist University - Anchorage/Fairbanks	\$1,189	\$5,053
Total	\$287,598	\$313,561
Grand Total	\$9,131,313	\$8,998,127

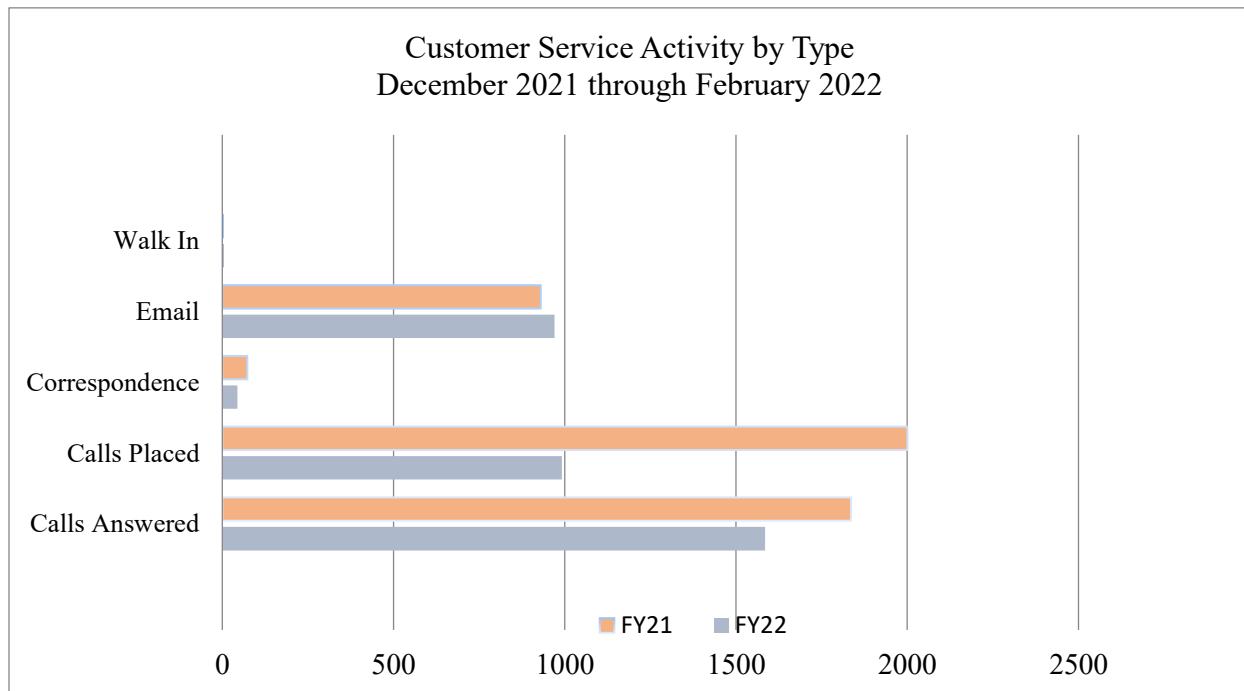


Other Schools		2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022
Alaska Bible College		\$21,000	\$15,000
Alaska Career College		\$334,450	\$295,985
Alaska Christian College		\$241,500	\$133,002
Alaska Pacific University		\$146,250	\$156,000
AVTEC		\$62,000	\$9,500
Charter College		\$260,556	\$327,908
Ilisagvik College		\$5,500	\$17,000
Wayland Baptist University - Anchorage/Fairbanks		\$14,000	\$21,000
Total		\$1,085,256	\$975,395
Grand Total		\$3,937,119	\$3,630,211

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Call Center Activity – December 2021 through February 2022

	2021 – 2022	2020-2021	% Change
Calls Received in IVR	3,305	3,899	-15.23%
Calls Received in CS Queue	1,739	2,119	-17.93%
Calls Answered by CS	1,585	2,033	-22.04%
Average Hold Time in CS Queue	2 min 26 sec	2 min 14 sec	8.21%
Calls Placed	3,041	3,020	0.69%



Payment Information – January 2022 through February 2022

Automatically Processed

Method	# of Borrowers	Amount Received	% of Total Dollars
Web Pay	7,215	\$2,647,190	66.06%
TelPay/IVR	287	\$207,433	5.18%
Premiere Payments	624	\$177,611	4.43%
Bill Pay	323	\$77,695	1.94%
Third Party Payer AWG	82	\$28,463	0.71%
State AWG	44	\$14,492	0.36%
PFD	14	\$12,814	0.32%
Third Party Payer	24	\$3,908	0.10%
Total	8,613	\$3,169,605	79.09%

Scanned

Method	# of Borrowers	Amount Received	% of Total Dollars
AWG Checks	541	\$164,202	4.10%
Local Payments-Scanned	85	\$114,780	2.86%
Coupon Checks	169	\$72,432	1.81%
Total	795	\$351,414	8.77%

Manually Processed

Method	# of Borrowers	Amount Received	% of Total Dollars
External Consolidation	10	\$486,400	12.14%
Local Payments-Not Scanned	-	\$0	0.00%
Total	10	\$486,400	12.14%
Total ACPE Processed	9,418	\$4,007,420	100.00%
AES Processed Payments		\$1,447,879	
Grand Total of Payments		\$5,455,299	

Alternative Loan Programs 2020 Cohort Default Rates

The Commission calculates default rates annually, based on Alaska alternative educational loans entering repayment between January 1 and December 31 of the cohort year. Alaska alternative educational loans greater than six months past due at the end of the first 12 months of repayment are included in the annual default rate calculations.

The Commission publishes two different default rate calculations for the alternative loan programs:

1. Institutional Rate – the rate of default on Alaska Supplemental, Alaska Student, and Teacher Education Loans, at institutions administering education loan programs on behalf of Alaska students.
2. Program Rate – the rate of default by specified loan program.

Institutional Cohort Default Rate

Institution Location	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Alaska	1.69%	3.20%	4.97%	10.99%	7.45%	4.93%
Out-of-State	2.15%	2.53%	0.80%	2.40%	4.70%	3.27%
Combined	1.87%	2.84%	3.11%	6.75%	5.97%	4.12%

Program Cohort Default Rate

Program	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Alaska Supplemental Education Loan	1.88%	2.88%	3.27%	6.40%	6.07%	3.54%
Alaska Student Loan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	95.80% ⁱ	0.00%	0.00%
Alternative Consolidation Loan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.07%
Family Education Loan	0.00%	0.00%	1.44%	2.41%	0.00%	0.00%
Refinance Loanⁱⁱ	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.81%	N/A	N/A
Teacher Education Loan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.40%	5.38%	12.13%
Winn Brindle Education Loan	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6.45%

ⁱ Number consists of five defaulted AL loans. AL default rate impacts the Alaska rate (from 10.45% to 10.99%), Combined rate (from 6.46% to 6.75%), and UAA rate (from 17.84% to 19.49%).

ⁱⁱ 2017 is the first cohort year for Refinance loans. The Refinance loan program was implemented August 1, 2016.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
THROUGH: Sana Efird, Executive Director
FROM: Kate Hillenbrand, Director of Communications & Outreach
DATE: March 18, 2022
SUBJECT: Outreach Report

The ACPE Communications & Outreach division delivers postsecondary awareness and assistance resources in support of ACPE's mission to *promote access to and success in education and career training beyond high school*. Throughout the first quarter of 2022, Outreach connected with students, families, and ACPE stakeholders through over 200 telephonic or virtual service sessions; organized and/or presented in 55 work sessions, trainings or webinars; and reached nearly 5,000 Alaskans through these efforts.

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

ACPE Outreach Activities: January – March 2022		
Service Interactions	Jan – Mar 2022	
Telephonic & Virtual Service Interactions*	220	
Virtual Sessions, Webinars, Trainings**	55	
Virtual Session Attendees***	4,870	
Top Reason for Service Interaction	Topic Distribution	ACPE Outreach Campaigns
APS/AEG/ACPE Loans	26%	ACPE Outreach delivered consistent, targeted marketing campaigns specific to FAFSA, APS/AEG, and ACPE loan programs.
FAFSA	51%	
Other/Not Sure	23%	

*Includes Success Center phone calls, Zoom sessions (1:1 & group), AKCIS Helpdesk, etc.

**Includes group/school presentations, FAFSA Time Alaska, AKCIS trainings & webinars, I Know I Can, Kids2College, etc.

***Total number of attendees in Virtual Sessions section – does not include Telephonic & Virtual Service Interactions totals



During this quarter, Outreach continued its efforts to remain responsive and nimble to the needs of Alaska's schools, districts, and stakeholders. Outreach developed and implemented marketing initiatives specific to supporting and increasing ACPE Loan Program volume. Additionally, planning for a collaborative statewide effort to support and increase Alaska FAFSA completion rates also began. Continued updates will be shared at upcoming Commission meetings regarding strategic loan marketing as well as FAFSA completion initiatives..

ALASKA COLLEGE & CAREER INFORMATION SYSTEM (AKCIS)

AKCIS is a cost-effective online platform for comprehensive career, education, and financial aid information. It is an interactive planning tool with a personal, portable online portfolio. ACPE makes AKCIS available across Alaska at no cost to sites through a single statewide license.

- Activation & Fee Waiver Agreements, submitted annually by AKCIS sites, 359 sites processed
- 98% of the Alaska school districts (53/54) continued their commitment to student Personal Learning & Career Plans (PLCPs) during this school year
- AKCIS Coordinator presented:
 - Two Live sessions during the ASTE Conference
 - Recorded Welcome Message and provided AKCIS Resources and review for the DEED CTE Rural Career Counselors course – course offered through Canvas for free throughout Alaska and for credit under UA system
 - UAF Counselors Graduate course
 - PWSCC Career Resources course
 - Tengesqaq (Fledgling Taking Flight) Planning Committee – participants across four districts – administrators, elders, school counselors, new career counselors, Education Foundation, cultural specialist, scholarship representatives, Bristol Bay Campus, and program coordinators
- AKCIS Coordinator represented ACPE, AKCIS, and Alaska
 - DEED CTE – Perkins V State Meetings
 - Alaska ACT State Orgs Council
 - Supported the Alaska CAN! Annual Conference Committee
 - National Coalition for Career Development Advisory Committee for Technology in Education and Policy Committees
 - Alaska Business Education Compact meetings
 - National State Leaders in Career Development meetings
 - Alaska's People Tribal Workforce Roundtable meetings
 - FNSBSD CTE Planning meetings
 - National ACTE RECESS – career development meetings



- 20 AKCIS in-person and distance training activities for 147 Students/Families and 98 Educators/Service Providers for a total of 245 total individuals
- AKCIS PLCP 360 –
 - Localization updates :
 - Alaska Wages and Employment & Outlook
 - Tuition information updated for AK 2 & 4-year schools
 - AK proprietary school information
 - Customization for Alaska:
 - Alaska Safety Alliance – Career Awareness/Workforce Development/Job Postings page
 - AlaskaNativeHire.org – Job Postings page
 - ACPE FAFSA Completion campaign page
 - ACPE Loans and Financial Aid pages
 - Alaska Works Partnership – Training Programs, Apprenticeships, Outreach pages
 - AEDC – Alaska Job Postings page

On the Horizon:

- AKCIS PLCP 360 Localization - Alaska Scholarships deep review and updating
- AKCIS PLCP 360 Customization – Adult Career Plan and activities
- AKCIS will be the foundation system as incoming 9th graders from ASD and LYSD participate in the second year of ASD: Summer Exploration Camps ~ 800 students

ALASKA POSTSECONDARY ACCESS & COMPLETION NETWORK (AlaskaCAN)

AlaskaCAN Administrative Liaison – responsible for performing a variety of duties to support the AlaskaCAN Board of Directors and the progress of the organization toward its goal of *65% of working-age Alaskans with a postsecondary credential by the year of 2025*. This quarter was very heavy with the planning for the annual AlaskaCAN! Conference and the annual Board of Directors elections, with both having taken place this year at the beginning of March.

First Quarter 2022 Activities Included:

- Extensive outreach to increase conference attendance and expand Board nominations pool beyond the established AlaskaCAN membership
- Communication and promotion of the Conference and Board elections on various platforms
- Development and implementation of marketing materials
- 65by2025.org website maintenance



- Conference sponsorship oversight
- Board Nominees facilitation
- Development of the *AlaskaCAN Board of Directors Orientation Packet*
- Coordination of other administrative tasks

ALASKA COLLEGE & CAREER ADVISING CONSORTIUM (ACAC)

ACAC Statewide Initiatives: FAFSA Time Alaska and FAFSA Wednesdays

ACPE's FAFSA outreach is comprised of two ongoing key components: FAFSA Time Alaska events and weekly assistance via FAFSA Wednesdays. FAFSA Time Alaska was created for group attendance (school, community, etc.). FAFSA Time Alaska events require registration and involvement of a school representative (teacher, counselor, etc.). ACPE provides site coordinators with free resources and information (handouts, materials, etc.) to host a successful FAFSA completion event. Participating students and families receive detailed walk-through the FAFSA process. FAFSA Wednesdays series is geared towards individuals or families. Registration is not required. Individuals can drop in at any time between 3PM and 6PM on Zoom to receive assistance with FAFSA completion.

This quarter also saw a reinvigorated discussion around increasing FAFSA completion in our state. With planning meetings for the *2022 Alaska FAFSA Completion Campaign* with expanded list of participants eager to collaborate with ACPE to increase awareness of FAFSA and funding opportunities for postsecondary education and career training.

EARLY COLLEGE & CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAMS:

Mid-Season Statistics

Kids2CollegeSM (K2CSM) – 5th-8th grade College and Career Exploration Program

Kids2College, sponsored through a partnership between ACPE and Alaska529, is a 6-lesson college & career exploration program that helps 5th-8th grade students build early personal learning and career plans (PLCP's).

- Applications received from **33 schools**; **28 are active** and **5 postponed** to next year.
- Teachers from **26 schools** received Kids2College curriculum and training for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Of the **1,167 students** signed up for Kids2College, **682 students** are currently working through the curriculum and **309** are hoping to start before the year ends.
- **20 classroom** Kids2College College & Career Panels have been scheduled already.

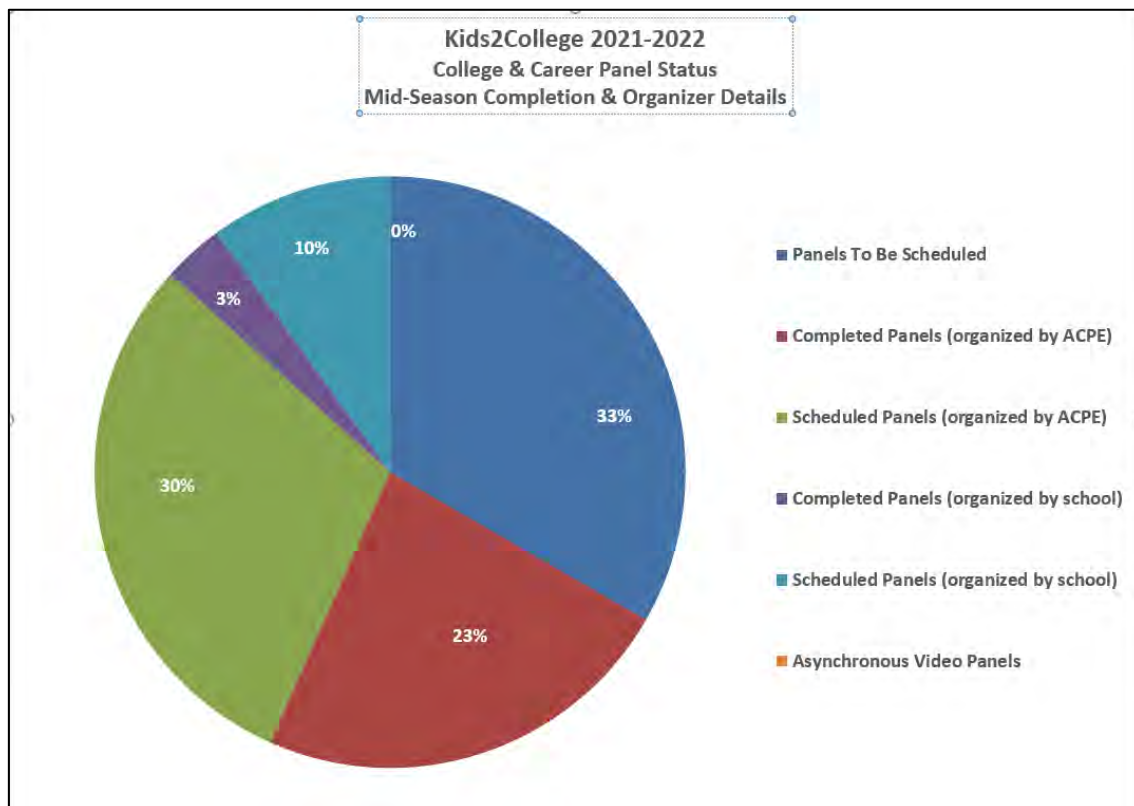


Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

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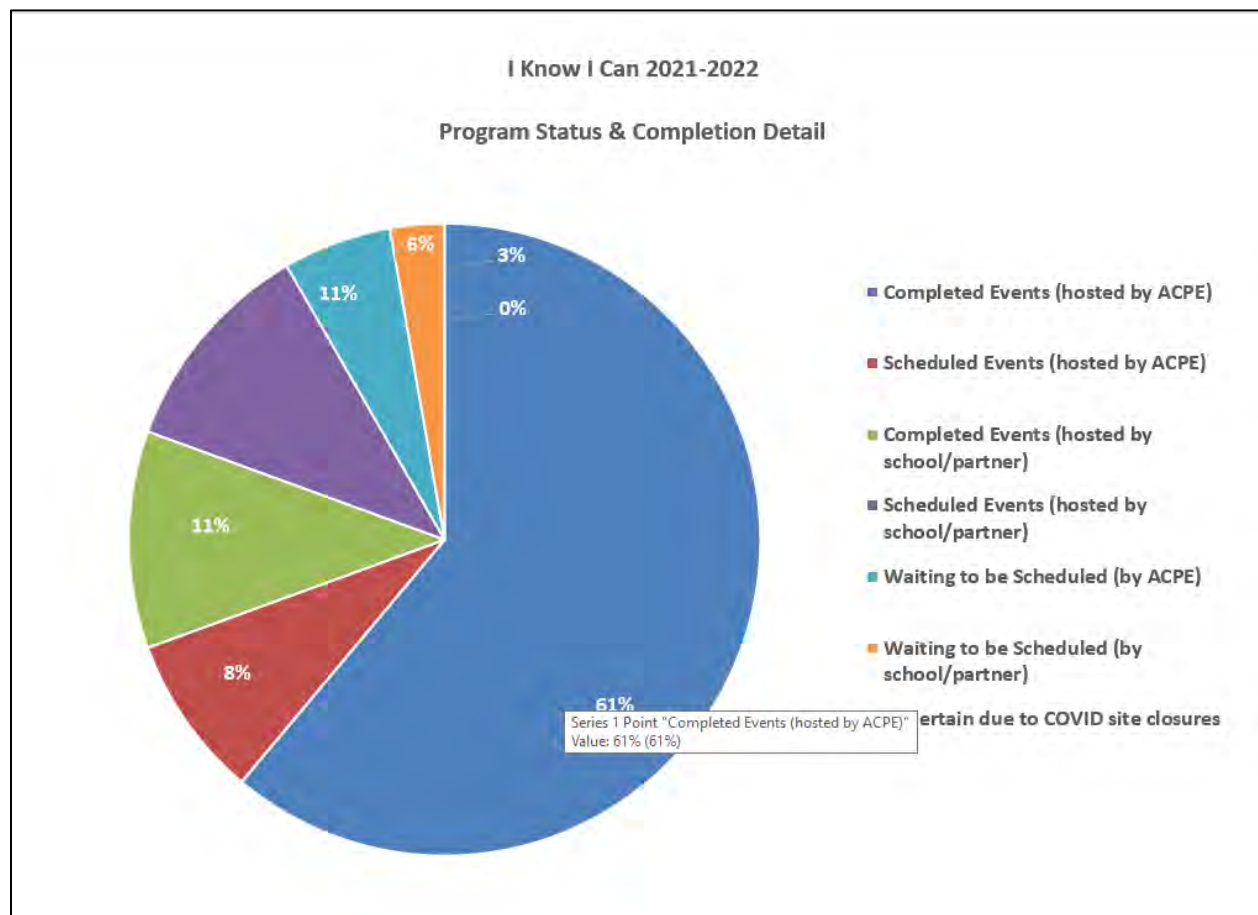
- **23%** of panels have been completed through ACPE; **30%** are scheduled by ACPE; **10%** have been scheduled by schools directly, **3%** completed by schools directly, and **33%** waiting to be scheduled.
- Students from **13 school districts** and **28 communities** signed up this year.
- **8 participating campus partners**
- **4 campus events** – 2 virtual multi-campus plus 2 local events.





I Know I Can (IKIC) – 1st-3rd grade College and Career Exploration Program

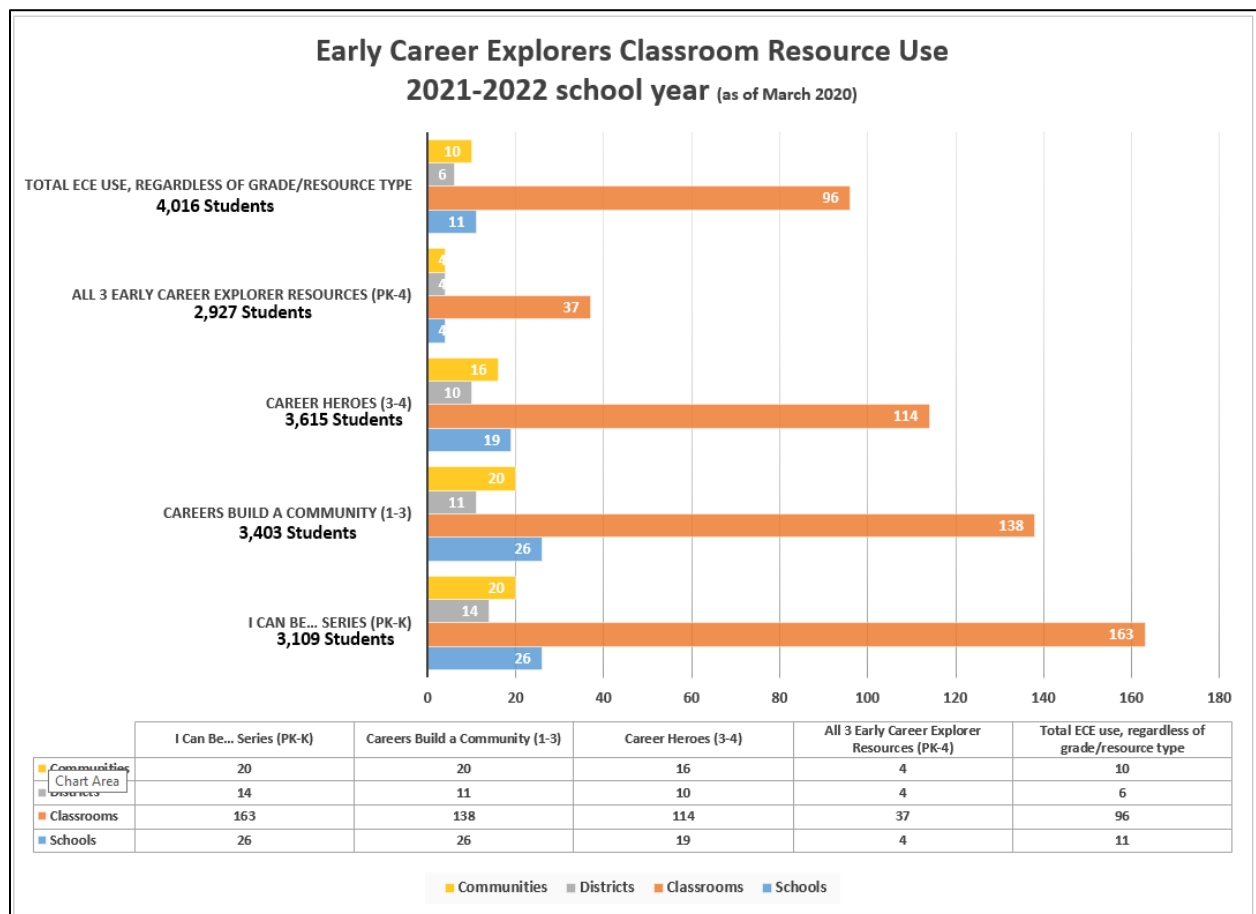
- I Know I Can events for the 2021-2022 school year are scheduled for a total of **36** schools/programs across **18** school districts.
- **Twenty-six** have been completed so far (**72% completion**).
- **Seven events** have already been scheduled (**19%**), with another **8%** anticipated to be scheduled soon.
- Almost all **750 Yugtun/English translations** have been distributed this year and we have had **at least 3 sites** read to the students in Yugtun & English.
- Due to school closures we anticipate approximately **6-8% percent** may be unable to participate as planned this year.





Early Career Explorers (ECE) – PK-4th grade Classroom Resources

- 37 applications
- **Over 3,860 students** are using Early Career Explorer Resources across in **178 classrooms**. (Compared with 1,200 students in 78 classrooms last year)
- Students in over **26 communities** and **15 school districts** are using these resources this year.
- **Two applications** came from schools outside Alaska (Arkansas and California)
- Some applications are for multiple schools, so number of communities and schools is actually greater than reported.
- At least one school is not affiliated with a school district but counted as such.





Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
THROUGH: Sana Efird, Executive Director
FROM: Jamie Oliphant, Director of Information Support Services (ISS)
DATE: 3/16/2022
SUBJECT: ISS activities

Alternative Loan Originations/Servicing Outsourcing Projects and Program Year 2023

The first quarter of the year usually includes the start of the upcoming program year set up. The program year project consists of setting up new interest rates for the upcoming academic school year, reviewing for any loan changes including review of promissory notes, disclosures, online application enhancements and other activities to enrich our loan programs.

This year with the final stages of outsourcing originations, Phase I, the program year activities were combined into the outsourcing project. Staff have been extremely busy finalizing and testing the last pieces of the new loan originations process with Campus Door. We are scheduled with an implementation date of April 18th, 2022.

Other Agency-wide Projects and Activity

ISS continues routine updates and changes to ensure systems are operating accurately, securely and efficiently. Staff are actively monitoring security risks and are reviewing and upgrading hardware and software to both stay ahead of unknown threats and combat risks that are known. Network security is an ongoing evolution and is part of the day to day work load of staff. Network support continues in the activities related to keeping the infrastructure up and running as well as responding to staff requests for assistance.

Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions or need for additional information on this report. It is a pleasure serving the commission.



Pat Pitney, President

Pat Pitney was selected as interim president of the University of Alaska in August 2020, and appointed to the permanent position in April 2022. She previously served as the director of Alaska's Division of Legislative Finance and as the state's Budget Director. Prior to her state service, Pitney spent 23 years with the University of Alaska, serving as UAF vice chancellor for administrative services and in positions at the UA system office. Pitney moved to Fairbanks in 1987 from Montana. She earned her MBA from UAF and an engineering physics degree from Murray State University (Kentucky). She has three adult children (all UA graduates with degrees from UAF, UAA and UAS) and three grandchildren. She was a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic Team and won a gold medal in women's air rifle.



Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network

65by2025.org

65by2025@gmail.com

TO: Members, Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education
FROM: Kate Hillenbrand, President
 Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (AlaskaCAN)
DATE: March 18, 2022
SUBJECT: Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Network Activities Update

Throughout the first quarter, the Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Network (AlaskaCAN), substantial effort was focused on four objectives:

- Launching the newly designed AlaskaCAN website
- Hosting the 2022 AlaskaCAN Annual Conference: Flexibility, Innovation, and Accessibility in Education: Making it Work
- Updating and finalizing the postsecondary completion Dashboard metrics
- Conducting Board of Director Elections

Through extensive efforts with a web design firm, the [AlaskaCAN website](#) redesign was finalized and launched in February 2022. This updated website offers updated information and reports, a more intuitive approach to finding postsecondary access and completion resources, and a stronger alignment to and reflection of AlaskaCAN's mission and operating priorities.

The 8th Annual AlaskaCAN Conference - *Flexibility, Innovation, and Accessibility in Education: Making it Work*, was hosted virtually from March 1 – 3, 2022. The conference included both Alaska-based and national keynote speakers, panelists from a variety of economic and educational sectors across the state, and delivered resources and pathways for Alaskans to collaborate and improve postsecondary access and completion rates in state.

At the time of writing this report, AlaskaCAN and its contractor is in the final stages of completing work on the AlaskaCAN Dashboard metrics to reflect current rates of postsecondary completion in Alaska. The last update to this information was launched in early 2020. The final Dashboard metrics should be available by the end of March 2022.

AlaskaCAN also completed its 2022-23 Board of Director Elections. With six Director Seats up for election, AlaskaCAN successfully seated new Directors for each vacancy. The newly elected Director seats are: Rural Alaska, Secondary Education, Postsecondary Education, State Agency, Student, and At-Large.

As always, AlaskaCAN appreciates ACPE's support and endorsement of the "65% by 2025" statewide attainment goal. Additional Network information is located at www.65by2025.org.

Administrative Action Log
(3rd Quarter 2022)

Appeals and Complaints

DATE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION TAKEN
	None	

Executive Director Decisions

DATE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION TAKEN
2/7/2022	Medical Cancellation	Denied - Administrative Write off for AL00 01, Special Payment Arrangement for AL00 02 accepted
2/8/2022	Medical Cancellation	Denied
2/23/2022	Medical Cancellation – AL00 01,02 & 04 had medical provisions	Denied AL00 03 – Special Payment Arrangement accepted

Commissioner Affiliations

Member	Current	Former
Dr. Barbara Adams	Nenana City Public School – School Board, Advisory North Seat American Educational Research Association – Member American Evaluation Association – Member National Rural Education Association – Member National Council of Teachers of Mathematics – Member Mixed Methods International Research Association – Member Fairbanks Retriever Club – Member, Formerly Treasurer Nenana Community Church – Member	Nenana City Public School – School Board, Advisory North Seat American Educational Research Association – Member American Evaluation Association – Member National Rural Education Association – Member National Council of Teachers of Mathematics – Member Mixed Methods International Research Association – Member Fairbanks Retriever Club – Member, Formerly Treasurer Nenana Community Church – Member
Joshua Bicchinella	Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Wasilla Chamber of Commerce Palmer Chamber of Commerce Big Lake Elementary PTO Wasilla Government Affairs Committee Member Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network Director (Business Seat) Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society Member-Walden Chapter Meadow Lakes Community Council Member	
John Brown	Academic Advisory Council of Mat-Su Central (AAC) Alaska Council of School Administrators (ACSA) Alaska Association of Elementary School Principals (AAESP) Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals (AASSP) Alaskans for Palmer Hayflats (APH) Mat-Su Principal Association (MSPA) Wasilla Chamber of Commerce (WCC)	
Rodolfo Garcia	Georgeson Botanical Garden Friends The American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology The Society of Physics Students- UAF Chapter Psi Chi Honors Society- UAF Chapter Geoscience Club- UAF Chapter	

Revised: March 25, 2022

Commissioner Affiliations

Member	Current	Former
	Associated Students of UAF- Senator and Chair of Rules Committee for 2020-2021 academic year	
Lindsey Hallam	American Library Association- Member Alaska Library Association- Member Christian Librarian Consortium- Member Association of Christian Librarians- Member Alaska Advisory Council on Libraries- Member	
Dr. Keith Hamilton	Alaska Christian College, President Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, Commissioner Board of Education and Early Development, First Vice Chair Certified-Christian Non-Profit Leader, Azusa Pacific University Evangelical Covenant Church Ministerium, Member Kenai Peninsula Alaska Ministerial Association, Member Kenai Peninsula Executive Directors Association, Chair North Park University, Board of Trustees Alaska State Personnel Board, Member Soldotna Chamber of Commerce	Alaska Children's Trust Steering Committee; Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Council; Arctic Barnabas Ministry, Board Member; Covenant Bible College Midwest, Board Vice Chair; Evangelical Covenant Church, National Board of Christian Formation; Faith Based and Community Initiatives Advisory Council, Member; Mission Springs Conference Center, Scotts Valley, CA, Board Member; New Hope Counseling Center, Ex-Officio Board Member; Sexual Abstinence Curriculum Task Force, Rocklin Unified School District, Member; Task Force on Postsecondary Education, Member
Senator Mia Costello	Alaska State House of Representatives Finance Committee: 2011 - 2014 Alaska State Senate Chair, Labor and Commerce Committee 2015-Present Member, Judiciary Committee 2015-Present Member, Regulatory Review Committee 2015-Present Other Political and Government Positions Governor's Office Deputy Director of Communications Legislative aide	

Revised: March 25, 2022

Commissioner Affiliations

Member	Current	Former
	<p>State Public Information Officer Intern coordinator for U.S. Senator Ted Stevens Governor's Outdoor Recreation and Trails Advisory Council Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Statehood Celebration Commission</p> <p>Business and Professional Positions Coach, NineStar Education and Employment Services Teacher, Anchorage and Juneau School Districts Public relations executive Owner, Mia Costello Consulting</p> <p>Service Organizations and Community Involvement Alaska Outdoor Council National Rifle Association Alaska Airmen's Association Anchorage Republican Women's Club, Juneau Big Brothers Big Sisters Masters Swimming</p>	
Donald Handeland	American Society of Civil Engineers	<p>Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development Alaska Advisory Task Force on Higher Education and Career Readiness Alaska Association of Student Governments Executive Board</p>
Karla Head		
Darroll Hargraves		
Lisa Parker	<p>University of Alaska Board of Regents City of Soldotna Council member Resource Development Council Board of Directors Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Alaska Municipal League Board of Directors – November 2017 – present Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Board of Directors – March 2017 – present</p>	

Revised: March 25, 2022

Commissioner Affiliations

Member	Current	Former
	<p>City Council Soldotna, Alaska – 2002-2007; 2016 – Present</p> <p>Governor’s Sustainability Conference – June 2015</p> <p>Governor’s Oil and Gas Policy Transition Team – December 2014</p> <p>Resource Development Council Board of Directors – 2004 – Present</p> <p>Alaska Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors – 2009 – 2018</p> <p>Anchorage, Alaska Downtown Rotary – 2013 – 2016</p> <p>Soldotna, Alaska Rotary – 2016 - 2018</p> <p>Kenai Peninsula Food Bank Board of Directors – 2013 – 2015</p> <p>Kenai Peninsula Planning Commission – December 2010 – January 2012</p> <p>Kenai Peninsula Borough Board of Adjustment – December 2008 – December 2010</p> <p>Conference of Alaskans, 2004</p> <p>Anchorage Charter Commission, 1975 (elected to Commission at age 19)</p> <p>U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline Safety Standard Committee 1994-1999, Committee Chair – 1994-1998, Reappointed 2004 – 2011.</p> <p>University of Alaska, Kenai River Campus, College Council 1997-2003, Vice-Chair 1999-2002</p> <p>Blood Bank of Alaska, Board of Directors 2000-2002</p> <p>Kenai Watershed Forum Board of Directors, 1999-2002</p> <p>Alaska – Alberta Bilateral Council, 2002.</p> <p>Appointed by Governor Tony Knowles</p> <p>Governor’s Water Quality Work Group, 1996-1997</p> <p>American Planning Association, Alaska Chapter, Regional Vice-President South Central Alaska 1997-1999</p> <p>Alaska Trails Plan Review Taskforce, Governor’s Trail & Recreational Access for Alaska Citizens Advisory Board, 1999</p> <p>Governor’s Natural Resources Policy Transition Team, Chair Subcommittee on Oil, Gas, and Mining, 1995</p> <p>International Oil Spill Conference Technical Review Committee, 1994-1995</p> <p>Alaska Common Ground, Board of Directors, 1991-1993</p> <p>Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center, Board of Directors, 1992-January 2007</p>	

Revised: March 25, 2022

Commissioner Affiliations

Member	Current	Former
	<p>National Association of Environmental Professionals, 1988-1998</p> <p>Mining and Petroleum Training Services, Board of Directors, 1984-1992</p> <p>Alaska Reapportionment Board, Vice-Chair, 1990</p> <p>Assist numerous nonprofit organizations in capital campaigns and fundraising efforts</p>	
Representative Andi Story	<p>Alaska State House of Representatives</p> <p>Co-Chair, Education Committee</p> <p>Ways and Means Committee</p> <p>Fisheries Committee</p> <p>State Affairs Committee</p> <p>Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee</p> <p>Other political and Government Positions</p> <p>Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council – House Liaison (nonvoting)</p> <p>Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) Legislative Advisory Committee - member</p> <p>UAS College of Education External Advisory Committee – member</p> <p>National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) International Education Study Group – member</p> <p>Governor's Teacher Retention and Recruitment Working Group - former member</p> <p>Juneau School District Board of Education – member 2003-2018</p> <p>Alaska Association of School Boards Board of Directors, 2009 – 2018, President 2015</p>	

2022

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education Acronyms

Sana Efird
Executive Director

Updated 03-2022

ACRONYMS AND TERMS FOR ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (ACPE)

65 by 2025	Initiative of the Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Network, funded by a Lumina grant, to increase the percentage of working-age Alaskans who will have a postsecondary credential to 65% by the year 2025.
Accreditation	Accreditation is a peer review process that examines competency, authority, or credibility of a higher education institution. Alaska requires that colleges and universities operating in the state be accredited by a body recognized by the Secretary of Education. The goal of accreditation is to ensure that education provided by institutions of higher education meets acceptable levels of quality and that credits are transferrable.
Alaska Education and Workforce Outcomes Database (Outcomes)	Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) developed to manage, analyze and evaluate outcomes of educational programs and services. Outcomes is a partnership between the University of Alaska, Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development and ACPE. Outcomes replaces the ANSWERS system.
American Education Services (AES)	American Education Services. (AES) is a Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP) and private (alternative) student loan national servicer, owned by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA). AES services ACPE's legacy FFELP portfolio.
Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS)	AKCIS is a web-based statewide service offered by ACPE to provide comprehensive, interactive and user-friendly career and postsecondary education/training information to help youth and adult users explore and plan for careers, with emphasis on careers within Alaska. AKCIS is offered in all 54 school districts.
Alaska College and Career Advising Corps (ACAC)	Designed under a federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG), ACAC provides training and information resources to partners and volunteers across the state who are committed to developing a postsecondary education culture and helping Alaska's students access and benefit from postsecondary education and career training. The program includes mentoring through the FAFSA Time Alaska, Apply Now Alaska and Decision Day Alaska programs
AlaskAdvantage	The trademarked name of a now-discontinued suite of ACPE education loan programs and services that offered benefits or outreach to Alaskans and to the organizations that serve Alaska's students. This program ended when the Department of Education

	discontinued the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP).
Alaska Education Grant (AEG)	A state need-based grant ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 per academic year for qualifying Alaska residents attending participating Alaska postsecondary institution. AEG awards are funded by the Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF), and operating costs are absorbed by ACPE.
Alaska Navigator: Statewide Workforce and Education-Related Statistics (ANSWERS)	ANSWERS is the State of Alaska's P-20W Statewide Longitudinal Data System. ANSWERS was developed to link existing Alaska K-12, higher education and employment data to deliver critical information to Alaska's policymakers, educators, and general public about the state's education continuum. In 2012, the state received a \$4 million federal grant over 3 years to develop the system. The system has been rebranded and is now known as the Alaska Education and Workforce Outcomes Database (Outcomes)
Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS)	Alaska's state performance-based scholarship to incent Alaska's students, parents and educators to strive for excellence in education. Awards may be used at participating colleges, universities or approved career and technical education programs in Alaska.
Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network (Alaska CAN or The Network)	The Network, is a non-profit organization originally created by ACPE under a federal College Access Challenge Grant (CACG). The Network focuses on increasing postsecondary access and success in Alaska and promulgated the state's 65 by 2025 attainment goal. Board members represent secondary and postsecondary education, business, rural and urban areas, and community nonprofits. It establishes a network for members to share best practices, tools and resources relating to college access and success.
Alaska Presence Benefit	A legacy annual credit to qualifying borrowers' loan principal balances to reduce their costs. Borrowers qualify while living in Alaska. The ASLC Board approves the offering of benefits annually based on cash flows and costs estimates. This benefit is not offered on new loans.
Alaska Student Aid Portal (ASAP)	ACPE web portal to provide students with secure access to real-time grant and scholarship account information regarding their eligibility, award level, remaining terms available, remaining years in which to use available terms, and ability to change record of school of attendance.
Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC)	The state corporation that funds the student loan programs and ACPE's operating budget. Created in 1987 to provide a means of alternative financing in the form of tax-exempt bonds. ASLC is governed by a board of directors appointed by the governor (two

	from ACPE and the Commissioners of Revenue, Administration and Community & Economic Development).
Alaska Supplemental Education Loan (ASEL)	Alaska's state education loan program to provide supplemental financial assistance if the federal loan program is insufficient to cover the costs of attendance or if the borrower does not qualify for financial aid under the federal student loan program.
Annual Percentage Rate (APR)	The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is the yearly cost of borrowing a loan, shown as a percentage of the amount borrowed. Because APR is calculated the same way on different loans from different lenders, the APR also allows applicants to compare loans with different terms and conditions.
Apply Now Alaska	An initiative coordinated statewide by ACPE and based on the American College Application Campaign model, to assist first-generation and low-income high school students as they navigate the complexities of the admissions process to postsecondary institutions. The event season runs from November to February.
Ascendium Education Group (AEG)	ACPE's federal loan guarantor, located in Madison, Wisconsin. Formerly known as Great Lakes Higher Education Guarantee Corporation.
Award Letter	An official document issued by a school's financial aid office that lists the financial aid offered to the student through the school. It provides details of a borrower's financial need and the breakdown of the financial aid package according to amount, source and type of aid. The award letter (also called a Financial Aid Notification/FAN) includes the terms and conditions for the financial aid and cost of attendance.
Administrative Wage Garnishment (AWG)	State statutes and regulations provide ACPE the authority to garnish wages of a borrower who has defaulted on their state loan, without the need for a court order. Limitations are structured in state and federal law.
Award Year	The academic year for which financial aid is requested (or received).
A.W. "Winn" Brindle Education Loan (WB)	This program, which is no longer funded, was funded by private donations and offered forgivable loans to full-time students in a fisheries-related degree or certificate program.
Borrower Benefits	Interest rate reductions and account credits that reduce the overall cost of borrowing. ASLC benefits are variable and are evaluated and approved annually based on cash flows and costs estimates.

Campus-Based Aid	Financial aid programs administered by the student's school. The federal government provides the school with a fixed annual allocation, which is awarded by the financial aid administrator to qualifying students. Programs include the Perkins Loan, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, and Federal Work-Study. Note that there is no guarantee that every eligible student will receive financial aid through these programs because the awards are made from a fixed pool of money.
Capitalized Interest	Unpaid interest charges added to the principal balance of an educational loan thereby increasing the size of the loan. Interest is then charged on the new balance, including both the unpaid principal and the accrued interest. Capitalizing the interest increases the monthly payment and the amount of money ultimately repaid. Interest is generally capitalized when there is a change in the status of the loan at a time when there is unpaid interest outstanding, such as going from deferment to repayment status. Borrowers can significantly reduce their costs by paying interest each month, even if a payment is not due.
Clearinghouse (or National Student Clearinghouse (NSC))	A non-profit association that maintains a comprehensive electronic registry of postsecondary student records provided by the participating schools. Over 2,700 colleges, 91% of the nation's enrollment, participate. The Clearinghouse process identifies those borrowers who withdraw from school and need to begin repayment; transfer from one school to another; return to school and may be eligible for a deferment; continue in school and are eligible for deferment or in-school extension.
Cohort Default Rate (CDR)	<p>A measurement of loan cohort performance that identifies the percent of the cohort that is in default at a given time. Cohorts may include schools, states, or calendar groups. Alaska loan cohort rates are calculated annually based on loans entering repayment between January 1 and December 31 of the cohort year, which are greater than six months (180 days) past due at the end of the first 12 months of repayment and have not previously defaulted. These calculations differ from the federal cohort default rate calculations.</p> <p>The US Department of Education cohort default rate is calculated as the percentage of borrowers who entered repayment on Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program or William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program loans between Oct. 1st and Sept. 30th of a given year and subsequently defaulted prior</p>

	to Sept. 30 th two years later (for example, the 2016 CDR is calculated on student loans entering repayment between Oct 1, 2015 and Sept 30, 2016 and subsequently default prior to Sept 30, 2018).
College Access Challenge Grant (CACG)	A federal grant program to foster partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and philanthropic organizations through matching challenge grants aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.
Consolidation Loan	A loan that combines several student loans into one bigger loan from a single lender. The consolidation loan pays off the balances on the other loans. ACPE no longer offers a consolidation loan; however, federal consolidation loans are still available.
Cosigner	A cosigner is responsible for loan repayment if the borrower fails to repay it. Borrowers who do not meet ACPE's credit requirements must provide a cosigner who meets those requirements. Also called an endorser.
Cost Of Attendance (COA)	Also known as the cost of education or budget. The total cost for the student to attend school, including tuition and fees, room and board, allowances for books and supplies, transportation, and personal and incidental expenses. Loan fees, if applicable, may also be included in the COA. Childcare and expenses for disabilities may also be included. Schools establish standard budgets for students: living on-campus and off-campus, married and unmarried, and residents and nonresidents.
Credit Rating or Credit Score	Credit ratings or scores are calculated by credit bureaus based on an individual's past debt and repayment history. Credit bureaus and credit reporting agencies provide this information to banks and businesses to determine if an applicant meets the applicable underwriting standard to qualify for a loan. Credit scores generally range from 300 to 850, with the 2019 Alaska average score being 675.
Credit Reporting	ACPE reports the current status of all accounts to national credit bureaus monthly, which impacts the borrower's credit rating. Accounts that are 60 or more days delinquent are reported past due.
Dear Colleague Letter (DCL)	An official communication to schools and lenders that explains and clarifies the federal Department's guidance regarding federal regulations and statutes. Also known as a Dear Partner Letter.
Decision Day Alaska	An initiative, derived from the national College Decision Day, to recognize high school seniors for their postsecondary educational plans and encourage younger students and families to prepare

	early for postsecondary education. The event season runs from May to June.
Default	Failure to make monthly payments on the loan as agreed, or failure to abide by terms and conditions of a loan promissory note (PN). ACPE borrowers who default may be subject to wage and PFD garnishment and transferred to a collection agency, among other consequences.
Default Rate	The general definition of default rate is the measure as a percentage of borrowers who failed to make scheduled payments in a specified date range. See also Cohort Default Rate CDR.
Deferment	A period of time during which a borrower is allowed to postpone repaying the loan. With the exception of federal subsidized loans, interest continues to accrue during deferment periods. A borrower can postpone paying the interest charges by capitalizing the interest, which increases the size of the loan. Most loan programs allow students to defer their loans while they are in school at least half-time. A borrower who defaults on a loan loses eligibility for a deferment on that loan.
Dependent	For purposes of completing the FAFSA, a dependent student is generally one who is unmarried and under 24 years old. Federal need-based aid to dependent students is awarded based on their parents' income.
Direct Loans (DL)	<p>The William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program (AKA the Direct Loan Program) is a federal program through which the federal government makes student loans. Loans may be subsidized for students considered high need under the FAFSA formula, meaning that the loans have very low rates and the federal government pays the interest during the in-school period and during certain other deferments.</p> <p>Generally, ACPE's interest rates are the next lowest option for Alaska students, after subsidized loans.</p>
Direct Payment (ACH)	Automatic electronic debit from borrower's bank account each month for loan repayment. Borrowers making direct payment at ACPE receive a 0.25% interest rate reduction. The benefit is reviewed annually by the ASLC Board.
Disclosure	A written statement of the repayment terms of the loan sent to the borrower at the time the loan is scheduled for repayment. It identifies the principal balance, the estimated interest to be paid over the life of the loan, annual interest rate, annual percentage rate, the number of payments to be made and the monthly payment amount. A new disclosure is sent to the borrower if the repayment schedule changes, for example if the student receives a deferment. A disclosure may also be called a truth-in-lending statement or a statement of loan terms.

Due Diligence	The process of exercising a servicer's responsibility for collecting on a loan.
(ED) U.S. Department of Education	An acronym sometimes used for the Department of Education. Executive Branch of the federal government that establishes policy for, administers, and coordinates most federal assistance to education.
Electronic Signature (E-SIGN)	An electronic symbol or process attached to, or logically associated with, a record and used by a person with the intent to sign the document or record. Established under the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act on 6/8/2000.
Education Finance Council	The Education Finance Council is an association representing the nation's nonprofit and state-based student loan and finance organizations. These public purpose organizations are dedicated to the single purpose of making college more affordable.
Education Loan Management Resources (ELM)	Education Loan Management Resources created a uniform data exchange network for student loan processing. This technology platform allows lenders to exchange critical loan data with schools efficiently.
Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	The amount the family is expected to contribute to paying for a student's education, as determined by the FAFSA Federal Methodology. The EFC includes parent and student contributions, and varies according to the student's dependency status, family size, number of family members in school, taxable and nontaxable income and assets. The difference between the student's costs and the EFC is the student's financial need, and is used in determining the student's eligibility for need-based financial aid.
Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act 2003 (FACTA)	Federal act allowing consumers to obtain each year, free of charge, a personal credit history report, requiring that merchants omit from sales receipts all but the last five digits of a customer's credit card number, and requiring that procedures for government oversight and financial institution notification of ID theft and fraud be implemented. Amended the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA).
Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA)	The Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681, is U.S. federal law enacted to promote the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of consumer information contained in the files of consumer reporting agencies.
Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA)	The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Pub. L. 95-109; 91 Stat. 874, codified as 15 U.S.C. § 1692 –1692p, designed to eliminate abusive practices in the collection of consumer debts, to promote fair debt collection, and to provide consumers with an avenue for

	disputing and obtaining validation of debt information in order to ensure the information's accuracy
Fair Isaac Credit Score (FICO)	A statistical model developed by the Fair Isaac Corporation, which is used by credit bureaus, and banking institutions to calculate and determine an individual's credit score.
Family Education Loan (FEL)	ACPE's FEL program provides low interest loans to families to assist in paying the costs of education for family members. Borrowers may be parents, grandparents, foster parents, or spouses.
Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP)	FFELP was terminated in 2009. Through FFELP, ACPE offered federally-guaranteed low-cost loans to students and parents. FFELP loans included Stafford, PLUS, Consolidated, all of which are now offered directly by the federal government.
Federal Methodology	The need analysis formula used on the FAFSA to determine the EFC. The federal methodology takes family size, the number of family members in college, taxable and nontaxable income and assets into account.
Federal Work-Study (FWS)	Program providing undergraduate and graduate students with part-time employment, usually at the school of attendance, during the school year. The federal government pays a portion of the student's salary, making it cheaper for departments and businesses to hire the student. For this reason, work-study students often find it easier to get a part-time job. Eligibility for FWS is based on need. Money earned from a FWS job is not counted as income for the subsequent year's need analysis process.
Finance Charge	The estimated amount of interest that will be paid over the life of the loan.
Financial Aid	Money provided to the student and the family to help them pay for the student's education. Major forms of financial aid include gift aid (grants and scholarships) and self-help aid (loans and work).
Financial Aid Administrator (FAA)	A staff member at an eligible school who is charged with the administration of financial aid programs.
Financial Aid Counseling	Students with federal loans are required to meet with a financial aid administrator or participate in a distance education-counseling program before they receive their first loan disbursement and again before they graduate or otherwise leave school. During these counseling sessions, called entrance and exit interviews, the FAA reviews the repayment terms of the loan and the repayment schedule with the student.

Financial Aid Office (FAO)	The college or university office that is responsible for the determination of student financial need and the awarding of financial aid.
Financial Aid Package	The complete collection of grants, scholarships, loans, and work-study employment from all sources (federal, state, institutional and private) offered to a student to enable them to attend the college or university.
Financial Literacy	The ability to understand and effectively apply various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. Financial literacy helps individuals become self-sufficient so they can achieve financial stability. ACPE incorporates financial literacy education into the loan application process.
Forbearance	During a forbearance period, the lender allows the borrower to temporarily postpone repaying the principal, but the interest charges continue to accrue, even on subsidized loans. Forbearances are granted at the lender's discretion, usually in cases of extreme financial hardship or other unusual circumstances when the borrower does not qualify for a deferment. Typically, accrued interest is capitalized.
Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)	Form used to apply for a broad category of federal and state student aid programs. No fee is charged.
FAFSA Time Alaska	FAFSA Time Alaska provides FAFSA-specific resources and training to site coordinators volunteering to host FAFSA completion events around the state. The event season runs from October to April. (Previously known as College Goal Alaska)
Federal Student Aid (FSA)	Aid offered to postsecondary education students by the federal government in the form of grants, loans, work-study programs, and other forms of assistance.
Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)	A widely accepted set of rules, conventions, standards, and procedures for reporting financial information, as established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board.
Gift Aid	Financial aid, such as grants and scholarships, which does not need to be repaid.
Grace Period	The time that begins when a borrower leaves school (whether because of graduation or withdrawal) or drops below the required enrollment level, and ends the day before the repayment period starts. The length of the grace period is stipulated in the promissory note that the borrower signed. Payments are not due during the grace period.

Graduate PLUS Loan	A federal loan made to a graduate or professional student, defined as a student enrolled in a program or course above the baccalaureate level or enrolled in a program leading to a professional degree at an eligible school.
Graduated Repayment	A repayment schedule where monthly payments are smaller at the start of the repayment period and gradually become larger.
Grant	A type of financial aid based on financial need that the student does not have to repay.
Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation (Great Lakes)	ACPE's former federal loan guarantor from 2018 through early 2019 when it transitioned to Ascendium Education Group AEG as part of corporate restructuring.
Guaranty Agency or Guarantor	A state or private nonprofit organization that has an agreement with the U.S. Secretary of Education to administer a loan guarantee program under the Higher Education Act, and enforces federal and state law regarding student loans. It is responsible for overseeing the student loan process, and insures them against default for the lender.
Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL)	A low interest loan administered by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). It is available to medical school students pursuing medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatry, clinical psychology, health administration and public health. Undergraduate pharmacology students are also eligible.
Higher Ed Loan Mgt System (HELMS)	Loan servicing software used by ACPE since 1996.
Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF)	Fund established in statute for the purpose of making grants and scholarships. This fund was established to endow the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) and the Alaska Education Grant (AEG).
Income-Based Repayment (IBR)	IBR is a federal loan repayment option with payment caps based on income and family size. After 25 years of qualifying payments and/or economic hardship deferments, the US Department of Education repays the outstanding balance and accrued interest on eligible loans. IBR is available for all federal student loans, except parent PLUS loans.
Income-Sensitive Repayment	A repayment plan for federal loan programs available to borrowers whose standard monthly loan payment (10-year repayment term) exceeds a percentage of their discretionary income. The monthly payment amount is based on a percentage of gross monthly income, and must at least satisfy monthly

	interest accrual. The plan is designed for borrowers who have a low initial income but anticipate it to increase over time.
Independent	A student is considered independent for purposes of not including parent income on the FAFSA if the student is at least 24 years old as of January 1 of the academic year, is married, is a graduate or professional student, has a legal dependent other than a spouse, is a veteran of the US Armed Forces, or is an orphan or ward of the court (or was a ward of the court until age 18), homeless or at risk of being homeless. A parent refusing to provide support for their child's education is not sufficient for the child to be declared independent.
Institutional Authorization	<p>All postsecondary educational providers in Alaska, and the programs they offer, must be authorized in accordance with law as set forth in AS 14.48, or be formally determined by ACPE to be exempt from authorization. ACPE's authorization process is designed to ensure postsecondary education providers and programs meet minimum standards set out in law, relative to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional financial soundness • Ethical business practices • Educational program • Administrative capacity <p>Authorization is a separate process from accreditation.</p>
Institutional Student Information Report (ISIR)	The electronic version of the Student Aid Report (SAR) delivered to schools. It is sent by the US Department of Education to provide information about students who completed a FAFSA and indicated they might attend that school. This report includes the EFC and is used by the school to determine eligibility for financial aid.
Interest	Amount charged to the borrower for the benefit of using the lender's money. Interest is usually calculated as a percentage of the principal balance of the loan. The percentage rate may be fixed for the life of the loan, or it may be variable, depending on the terms of the loan.
Interest Cap	The maximum interest rate that can be charged on a loan. Not to be confused with capitalized interest.
Institutional Standards & Evaluation Committee (ISEC)	Five commissioners appointed by the Chair to meet at the call of the Chair to consider matters of initial authorization, program changes, and institutional compliance, and make recommendations for final action to the full Commission.
Lender's Interest and Special Allowance	An accounting mechanism that a lender uses to report to the Department the loans that it has made and to request from the

Request and Report (LaRS)	Department interest benefits and special allowance that it has earned, or to report payments the lender owes to the Department.
Lumina Foundation	An independent private philanthropic foundation focused on increasing success in higher education.
Master Promissory Note (MPN)	A promissory note that authorizes the lender to disburse multiple loans during multi-year terms upon request and the school's certification of loan eligibility.
Medical Cancellation	In the event the borrower is permanently disabled, and therefore unable to be gainfully employed, a loan may be eligible for medical cancellation. Cancellation eligibility is, in part, determined by the loan contract the borrower signed. Alaska statute does not entitle a borrower to medical cancellation; therefore, contract law and Alaska Education Loan Regulations govern this process.
Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA)	Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority is one of several Direct Loan Servicers in the country. The ASLC is a signatory sub-contractor of MOHELA for federal Direct Loan Servicing. MOHELA services Direct Loans allocated to the ASLC, and the ASLC receives a share of the servicing fees paid by the US Department of Education.
National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS)	A private nonprofit organization whose expertise is assisting higher education policymakers and administrators bridge the gap between research and practice.
National College Access Network (NCAN)	National non-profit organization that assists local communities initiate, develop and sustain college access programs designed to increase the number of students who pursue education beyond high school through advising and financial assistance.
National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER)	An organization which represents a nationwide network of guaranty agencies, secondary markets, lenders, loan servicers, collection agencies, schools, and other organizations involved in the administration of FFEL portfolios.
National Disbursement Network (NDN)	A central disbursing agent affiliated with Education Loan Management Resources (ELM) that ACPE uses to disburse loan funds to schools that request this method of receiving disbursements. NDN electronically debits an ACPE account and disburses the funds to the school either by electronic fund transfer or by check, depending on the school's preference.
National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)	The U.S. Department of Education's central database for information about a student's financial aid.

Need Analysis	The process for determining a student's financial need using financial information provided by the student and his or her parents (and spouse, if any) on the FAFSA.
Need-Based	Financial aid based on student's ability to pay. Most government sources of financial aid are need-based.
Northwest Ed Loan Association (NELA)	ACPE's former federal loan guarantor. NELA became affiliated with USAFunds in 2004.
Non-Subsidized Interest	Interest that accrues and is to be paid by the borrower.
Office of Management & Budget (OMB)	Budget office in the Governor's office.
Origination Fee	Administrative fee paid to the lender and charged as a percentage of the loan amount as it is disbursed.
P-20W Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)	Abbreviation and acronym for the statewide longitudinal data system, which links K-12 education data to postsecondary education and workforce information.
Parent Loans For Undergraduate Students (PLUS)	Federal loans available to parents of dependent undergraduate students to help finance the child's education. Parents may borrow up to the full cost of their children's education, less the amount of any other financial aid received. PLUS Loans may be used to pay the EFC. There is a minimal credit check required for the PLUS loan, so a good credit history is required.
Pell Grant	A federal grant to undergraduates that provides funds based on the student's financial need. The amount of the grant for 2020-21 is \$6,345.
Perkins Loan	Formerly the National Direct Student Loan Program, the Perkins Loan allows students to borrow up to \$5,500/year maximum of \$27,500 for undergraduate school and \$8,500/year maximum of \$60,000 for graduate school. The Perkins Loan has one of the lowest interest rates and is awarded by the financial aid administrator to students with exceptional financial need. The student must have applied for a Pell Grant to be eligible. The interest on the Perkins Loan is subsidized while the student is in school.
Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA)	Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) is a national provider of student financial aid services, including loan guaranty, loan servicing, financial aid processing, outreach, and other student aid programs. It conducts its student loan servicing operations nationally as FedLoan Servicing and American Education Services (AES).

Premiere Credit of North America, LLC (PCNA)	Premiere Credit of North America, LLC (PCNA) is the collection agency contracted to collect on defaulted state education loans.
Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)	A WICHE program that provides access for Alaska students to enroll full-time in eligible health-related degree programs that are not available in this state. Alaska pays a support fee to reserve seats in these programs, and the Alaska program participants are required to repay the support fee paid on their behalf.
Promissory Note (PN)	Legal contract between borrower and ACPE describing terms and conditions of loan.
Program Participation Application (PPA)	An institution must enter into a program participation agreement with ACPE in order to be eligible to offer state financial aid programs. The agreement sets out the requirements for compliance with state statutes and regulations governing these programs.
Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)	The Public Service Loan Forgiveness program forgives the remaining balance on federal student loans after borrowers have made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer. Qualifying employers include a US federal, state, or tribal government or not-for-profit organization.
Refinance Loan	A loan that combines several student loans into one loan from a single lender. The refinance loan is used to pay off the balances on the other loans.
Skip Tracing	Skip Tracing is the process by which a lender attempts to obtain corrected borrower address or telephone information when the current address and/or phone is no longer valid.
Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)	Institutional requirements for satisfactory academic progress to continue receiving federal or state aid.
Student Aid Report (SAR)	Record of information from a student's FAFSA provided to the student by the U.S. Dept. of Education (DOE), which includes the calculation of the student's expected family contribution (EFC). The electronic version sent to schools and ACPE is called an Institutional Student Information Record (ISIR).
Servicer	An organization that collects payments on a loan and performs other administrative tasks associated with maintaining a loan portfolio. Loan servicers disburse loan funds, monitor loans while the borrowers are in school, collect payments, process deferments and forbearances, respond to borrower inquiries and ensure that the loans are administered in compliance with all applicable state and federal requirements.

Special Allowance Payment (SAP)	A percentage of the daily average unpaid principal balance, paid to a lender by the Department on an eligible Federal Stafford, PLUS, Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS), or Consolidation loan. The special allowance rate is set by statutory formula. Currently the rates paid by borrowers on the loans are higher than the relevant market index and lenders are required to rebate the difference back to the federal government.
Stafford Loans	Federal loans that come in two forms, subsidized and unsubsidized. Subsidized loans are based on need; unsubsidized loans are not. The federal government pays the interest on the subsidized Stafford Loan while the student is in school and in certain deferment periods. The Subsidized Stafford Loan was formerly known as the Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL).
State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO)	The national association of higher education leaders of statewide coordinating and governing boards and other state policy agencies for higher education. SHEEO serves its members as an advocate for state policy leadership, as a liaison between states and the federal government, as a vehicle for peer collaboration, and as a source of information and analysis on educational and public policy issues. In Alaska, the SHEEO role is shared between the Executive Director of ACPE and the President of the University of Alaska.
Success Center	Located in ACPE's Anchorage office, Success Center staff assist students and parents through the financial aid process and postsecondary education or career training preparation.
Subsidized Loan	With a subsidized loan, such as the Perkins Loan or the Subsidized Stafford Loan, the government pays the interest on the loan while the student is in school, during the six-month grace period following qualifying enrollment and the beginning of repayment, and during any deferment periods. Subsidized loans are awarded based on financial need and may not be used to finance the family contribution.
Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG)	Federal grant program for undergraduate students with exceptional need. SEOG grants are awarded by the school's financial aid office, and provide up to \$4,000 per year. To qualify, a student must also be a recipient of a Pell Grant.
Teacher Education Loan (TEL)	The TEL was created to provide an incentive for rural high school graduates to pursue teaching careers and return to teach in rural communities; school boards award teacher education loans with preference given to applicants from rural schools, to attend a bachelor's degree program in elementary or secondary education or a teacher certification program. Borrowers who teach in a qualifying school may be eligible for forgiveness benefits.

	Legislation passed in 2014 made the awarding of TELs to new borrowers subject to the availability of funding from the State. Absent such funding, effective fall of 2014, only continuing borrowers will receive additional loans, which are funded by ASLC.
Truth-In-Lending (TIL)	See Disclosure
Truth in Lending Act (TILA)	The Truth in Lending Act (TILA) of 1968 is United States federal law designed to promote the informed use of consumer credit, by requiring disclosures about its terms and cost to standardize the manner in which costs associated with borrowing are calculated and disclosed. It requires publication of the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) on a loan.
Unmet Need	Any negative difference between the amount a student/family has the capacity to pay and the cost of education as certified by the institution's Financial Aid Office is considered to be their "unmet need".
Unsubsidized Loan	A loan for which the borrower is responsible for the interest on an unsubsidized loan from the date the loan is disbursed, even while the student is still in school. Students may avoid paying the interest while they are in school by capitalizing the interest, which increases the loan amount.
Variable Interest Rate (VIR)	In a variable interest loan, the interest rate changes periodically. For example, the interest rate might be pegged to the cost of US Treasury Bills (e.g., T-Bill rate plus 3.1%) and be updated monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. ACPE does not currently offer any variable rate loans.
Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)	WICHE is a regional organization created by the Western Regional Education Compact, adopted by the Western states. WICHE was created to facilitate resource sharing among the higher education systems of the West. It implements a number of activities to accomplish its objectives. Alaska participates in three WICHE student exchange programs administered by ACPE. Alaska has participated in the WICHE compact since 1955.
Western Undergraduate Exchange Program (WUE)	A WICHE program, WUE allows Alaska residents to enroll at two-year and four-year institutions in participating states at reduced tuition level applicable only to WUE students. Over 100 colleges and universities participate in this exchange program.
Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)	A WICHE program that enables Alaska residents to enroll at reduced tuition rates in certain graduate programs in other western states.

The Washington, Wyoming Alaska, Montana, Idaho Program (WWAMI)	Provides access to graduate medical education not otherwise available in Alaska. State residents compete only with other Alaska residents for 20 positions reserved at the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSM) for Alaska students. Alaska pays to UWSM the contractual costs of the program not covered by tuition, but fifty percent of that cost is a loan for the participant if they fail to return to the state and become employed in the medical field for which support was provided. After acceptance by UWSM, the student attends the first year of school at University of Alaska Anchorage.
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