

## GREETINGS!



Mendenhall Valley, Juneau by K.Kussart

In this issue, we spotlight Glenda's Training Center, highlight the requirements for school closure, introduce the 2020 Alaska Higher Education Almanac, and more! As always, I invite you to send me your feedback or suggestions for future topics.



## SPOTLIGHT ON...

### Glenda's Training Center

Glenda's has been in operation for thirteen years as a hair salon in Wasilla and for seven years as an authorized school. The owner, Glenda Ledford, became a licensed instructor in 1988 and is a former chair of the Board of Barbers and Hairdressers. She is licensed to instruct in barbering, hairdressing, esthetics, manicuring and advanced manicuring and holds a license to practice tattooing and permanent cosmetic coloring.

This summer, Glenda's moved to a new location on the Palmer Wasilla Highway. The new building is two-story, approximately 3000 square feet with a designated parking lot.



New location of Glenda's Training Center

At the October 15th meeting, the Commission approved Glenda's Change in location. Congratulations!

## IN THE KNOW: Requirements When Selling or Closing a School or Ending a Program With Enrolled Students

Nothing lasts forever and at some point school owners may be faced with the difficult decision to sell or close the institution. When that point is reached, there are specific regulations about school closure, changes in ownership and program cessation. Owners should contact IA staff early in the process so they are not surprised by their obligations and can conduct an orderly and compliant closure or sale.

Below are some important requirements and facts about a school closure or sale:

Under **20 AAC 17.117** A vocational institution shall provide students at least 60 days' written notice of impending closure of the institution, cessation of a program, or substantial change to a program. A collegiate institution shall provide students at least one complete academic year's notice of impending closure of the institution, cessation of a program, or substantial change to a program.

Owners must notify the the commission before entering into negotiations or contracts related to the sale of the institution.

When a school closes or ends a program with students enrolled, those students are entitled to either receive full refunds or to be provided with a substantially equivalent program, with equivalency determined by commission regulations.

Authorization is not transferable. When a school is sold, the new owner will have to apply for initial authorization and pay the \$2500 fee. Program participation is connected to the school and so is transferable. So, if the school was previously approved to administer the Alaska Education Loan, the new owner, once authorized, can continue to administer the loan program without reapplying.

ACPE is the repository of student records. Within 30 days after closure, the student records must be deposited with ACPE.

## Institutional Authorization Staff Transition

After eight years as IA Program Coordinator and 14+ years as an ACPE employee, Kierke Kussart is resigning effective February 28, 2020. Ms. Kussart gave over three months notice to allow for the hiring and on-boarding of her successor. ACPE leadership is in the midst of interviewing candidates and will make their selection soon. An introduction email will be distributed once the position is filled. The email [EED.ACPE-IA@alaska.gov](mailto:EED.ACPE-IA@alaska.gov) will always reach IA staff regardless of who is occupying the position.

### Recent Commission Actions

#### October 15, 2019 Meeting

##### Renewal of Authorization

- Shear Fire Academy of Hair Design (Palmer)

##### Amendment to Authorization

- Amundsen Educational Center (Soldotna) - new leadership
- Charter College (Anchorage) - new AAS in Business Management Online
- Glenda's Training Center (Wasilla) - change in location
- MetrOasis Advanced Training Center (Anchorage) - new extended esthetician program

### Upcoming Events

#### January 9, 2020

- Quarterly Commission Meeting (Anchorage and via teleconference)

#### **IMPORTANT DATE: January 15, 2020**

**Deadline for receipt of materials for items to be presented at the April 8, 2020 Commission meeting**

## ACPE releases 2020 edition of Alaska Higher Education Almanac

ACPE recently published the third edition of the Alaska Higher Education Almanac to address the need for accessible and concise longitudinal information regarding higher education in Alaska. The Almanac offers a comprehensive picture of Alaska's postsecondary education by combining enrollment, credential attainment, and economic impact information, together with data on financial aid. The Higher Education Almanac also includes data on Alaska's postsecondary institutions, and it compares Alaska's performance to overall national performance.

The Alaska Higher Education Almanac frames this data to inform Alaska's policy makers and education leaders and to assist them in their decision-making in regard to increasing postsecondary attainment, and to highlight the importance of Alaska's financial aid programs in that attainment.

To view the Almanac click [here](#).

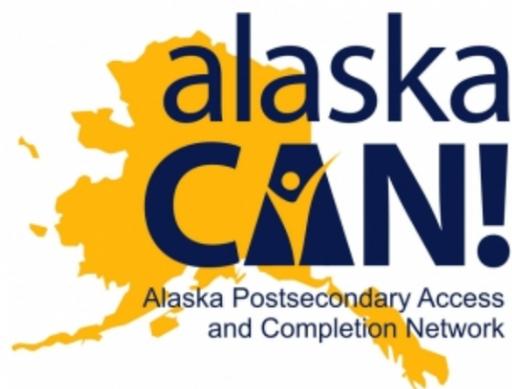
## Sixth Alaska Network Conference to be held in February Educational Equity

The sixth annual Alaska Postsecondary Access & Completion Network Conference will take place February 27-28 at the Downtown Marriott, in Anchorage, AK. The Network was formed to address Alaska's low ranking (49th in the nation) in postsecondary access and completion and brings together organizations and individuals invested in bettering Alaska's performance. The Network's goal is to increase the percentage of working-age adults holding a high-value certificate, college degree, or other industry-recognized credential to 65% by the year 2025. We invite you to join in this effort.

This year's theme is Educational Equity with keynote speaker Joe Garcia, current

president of the Colorado Community College System, past president of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and previous Lt. Governor of Colorado.

Visit the conference event page [here](#) for complete conference information. We hope to see you there!



## **Alaska Pacific University (APU) Awarded a 5-Year, \$2,000,000 Native-Serving Grant by the US Dept. of Education**

**Another Three Grants Totaling \$514,346 Were Awarded By Other Federal Agencies**

In December 2016, APU announced a partnership with Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) with a goal of become a Tribal University. Since then, Alaska Native and American Indian enrollment has grown to over 20% of the student body, allowing APU to apply for US Dept. of Education Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions Title III, Part A Grants.

This fall, APU was awarded a Title III, Part A Grant for \$2 million over 5-years. The Strengthening Institutions Grant will be use to increase enrollment, retention and graduation rates in APU's Indigenous One Health programs which include Nursing, Environmental Public Health, and Community Health. APU's Indigenous One Health programs are interdisciplinary courses of study developed around the belief that humans, the environment, and animals are all One. APU is working to promote academic and research programs that will prepare Alaska students for careers in health science fields that are evolving rapidly.

Other grants received this year by APU include:

- A Study Abroad grant by the U.S. Department of State was awarded to APU for \$34,846 to increase the capacity for APU to grow and diversify its study abroad program for its students.
- An AmeriCorps Indian Tribes grant by the Corporation for National Community Service was awarded for \$409,500 to fund AmeriCorps members who will deliver health-impacting legal assistance to low-income patients at healthcare facilities in Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, Michigan, Montana, Oklahoma and Utah.
- The Natural Resources Conservation Science grant by the U.S Department of Agriculture was awarded to APU for \$55,000 to help fund research related to soil health and cover crop field demonstrations in order to demonstrate cover crop management, weed management, seeding rates and cover crop termination on cropland for use in cropland management systems across Alaska.

Congratulations to APU!

## **The US Dept. of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Delays Implementation of New Minimum Training Standards for Entry-Level Commercial Drivers and a New Training Provider Registry Until February 7, 2022**

In December 2016, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) established new minimum commercial driver training standards called the the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements. FMCSA was to also establish a Training Provider Registry (TPR). These final rules had an implementation date of February 2020.

According to a November update, implementation of the rule will now be delayed until February 2022.

For more information click [here](#).



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