

Sana Efir
Executive Director

P.O. Box 110505
Juneau, AK 99811-0505



Kate Hillenbrand
Outreach Director
907-465-6740
ACPE.Alaska.gov

Press Release

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 26, 2021

ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION JOINED BY U.S. OFFICE OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID AND POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE STATE TO LAUNCH THE ALASKA FAFSA COMPLETION INITIATIVE

ANCHORAGE – The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) is pleased to announce the Alaska FAFSA[®] Completion Initiative in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid (FSA) office and a variety of postsecondary institutions across Alaska. The intent of this initiative is to increase statewide FAFSA[®] completion levels. Historically, Alaska FAFSA[®] completion rates rank among the lowest in the nation and through the work of this initiative, students, families, and schools will have enhanced access to FAFSA[®] completion resources available throughout Alaska. In light of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, at the start of 2021, Alaska had the lowest FAFSA[®] completion rate nationwide.

Each year, the federal government awards \$120 billion in financial aid, grants, work-studies, and student loans. By completing the FAFSA, Alaskan students also open up a sea of funding opportunities in-state for aid, such as the Alaska Performance Scholarship (of up to \$19,800), the Alaska Education Grant, and institutional aid programs.

As communities, school districts, and postsecondary institutions continue to adapt and adjust to the ongoing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the statewide Alaska FAFSA[®] Completion Initiative sheds light on much-needed resources for Alaska's students. The initiative offers a newly developed centralized website for students, families, teachers, counselors, and any other education stakeholders to identify and access statewide FAFSA[®] completion resources in one place. The [Alaska FAFSA Completion website](#) offers continually updated information about:

- Alaska FAFSA[®] Completion Campaign events (virtual)
- Local FAFSA[®] Completion event (virtual or in person)
- Downloadable FAFSA[®] Completion & State of Alaska Financial Aid resources
- And more!

Continue to check back at acpe.alaska.gov/AlaskaFAFSACompletion for more information about the opportunities and resources available to help students and families complete the FAFSA®.

This initiative also hosts Counselor Financial Aid Resource Sessions, with an upcoming 30-minute session on April 29, 2021. Additional information on these sessions can be found on the website. These 30-minute sessions will offer information about state and federal financial aid resources, and the variety of ways students and families can access the support they need to complete the FAFSA®.

ABOUT THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION:

Funded by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation (ASLC), 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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