



March 29, 2023

Alaska Performance Scholarship

JUNEAU- The Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) is a merit-based award for Alaska high school graduates. Students qualify for one of three award levels by meeting specific criteria: Grade Point Average (GPA), completion of a specified rigorous curriculum, and qualifying score on a standardized exam (ACT, SAT, WorkKeys).

ACPE encourages school districts, parents, students, and other education stakeholders to proactively communicate early about APS coursework and eligibility requirements. It is beneficial for students to start APS-qualifying coursework in 9th grade to ensure adequate time for completion by the end of their senior year.

ACPE offers many resources for students, families, and secondary schools to utilize for successful preparation in earning the APS, including:

- [APS website](#)
- [APS Coursework Checklist](#) (curriculum)
- [APS FAQs](#)
- [APS Informational Flyer](#)

ACPE strives to analyze and advocate for responsive change. As such, ACPE, in concert with McKinley Research Group, published the [APS Review & Recommendations Report](#). This report is a 10-year review of APS, offering meaningful recommendations to modernize the scholarship, including:

- Remove standardized test score requirement
- Eliminate distinction between “Collegiate” and “CTE” award tracks
- Provide earlier award eligibility notification during Junior year
- Increase award amounts in response to increased cost of attendance
- Expand term of use from 6 to 8 years

ACPE supports modernizing the APS to expand eligibility and increase use of the award. Increased eligibility and use will ultimately result in increasing the number of Alaskans with postsecondary credentials who are prepared to meet the needs of Alaska’s workforce.

ABOUT THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION:

Funded by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, 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