

April 2023

## **ACPE Commissioners Offer Support of Alaska FAFSA Completion Initiatives**

JUNEAU- The Commissioners of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) deliver statement of support for the Alaska FAFSA Completion Initiatives.

Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) connects educational access, persistence, and attainment across postsecondary pathways. For many students, accessing these pathways through FAFSA completion may mean the difference between pursuing their education and career goals or putting their goals on hold.

With historically low rates of FAFSA completion, Alaska's students lose access to critical funding sources to support postsecondary education and workforce needs. The impact of not completing the FAFSA is broad. Not only does it reduce access to education funding sources, but also reduces the number of Alaskans with postsecondary credentials prepared to support Alaska's workforce needs.

- Since 2021, Alaska high school graduating classes have left approximately **\$12 Million dollars** in Pell Grant funding unused by not completing the FAFSA.
- Alaska students will not receive the Alaska Performance Scholarship, Alaska Education Grant, and many other Alaska institution-based financial aid awards without completing the FAFSA.
- Alaska's low-income students and families, who have the highest financial need, cannot access need-based funding without the FAFSA.

For more information about FAFSA Completion initiatives in Alaska, visit: <a href="acpe.alaska.gov/alaskafafsacompletion">acpe.alaska.gov/alaskafafsacompletion</a>.

To read ACPE Commissioner Statement of Support visit: FAFSA Completion Statement of Support

## 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