University of Alaska

Many Traditions One Alaska
University of Alaska Anchorage

UAA in Anchorage is the system’s largest campus, in the state’s largest city. The 20,000 full- and part-time students who attend in Anchorage, or one of its four community campuses, study a full range of courses and programs in education, arts and sciences; along with meeting Alaska’s professional needs in engineering, health and social welfare, and business and public policy. The university’s Institute of Social and Economic Research is housed on the Anchorage campus.

University of Alaska Fairbanks

UAF is the system’s research hub and was the first university established in Alaska. Disciplines specific to the Arctic’s climate, people and animals are studied at a dozen research centers and institutes including the Geophysical Institute, the International Arctic Research Center and the Institute of Arctic Biology. UAF’s 10,000 full- and part-time students attend in Fairbanks or at a half-dozen community colleges in western and southwestern Alaska.
With over 500 programs to choose from, and e-learning available in over 200 Alaska communities, it is possible to attend UA from just about anywhere in Alaska.

Through UA’s community campuses students can enter the higher education system at the occupational endorsement or at an associate degree level. Many enrollees, especially in rural areas, would not take college courses if not for a local campus. As their skills and confidence grow, they can easily transition to higher degree programs locally, if available, or through other UA campuses.
Over 5,300 contributors donated approximately $16 million to the University of Alaska Foundation in FY10, providing scholarships, professorships, equipment and program support to the University of Alaska.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 80 percent of the fastest-growing jobs in the U.S. require some level of higher education training after high school.

Over the past 10 years, 75 percent of UA graduates were employed in Alaska one year after graduation. Of those employed, 51 percent were in high-demand job areas.

UA graduates gain admission to top graduate programs based on the quality of their undergraduate experience.
Every $1 of state money invested in UA research leverages an additional $5 in return.

UA is a major player in Alaska’s research and development, generating a $92 million annual payroll for private- and public-sector workers.

Research programs are aimed at important Alaska issues, from energy and volcanoes to disease and behavioral health.

UA research revenues total over $152 million. Despite its small size, UA competes well nationally for research grants.

Undergraduate students at UA have field research opportunities generally available only to graduate students at other schools.

Research and academic institutions around the world look to UA as a leader in arctic studies.

UA campuses, community colleges, outreach sites and training centers can be found in hundreds of communities statewide.

UA’s community campuses are in touch with their regions and customize programs to meet local needs for workers and training.

Over the past decade, UA has steadily expanded its capacity to serve students via online learning. The number of online learning courses rose 42 percent in the past six years.
INVESTMENT

UA contributes $1.1 billion annually to Alaska’s private and public sector payroll, student and visitor spending and support sector spending for goods and services— including $121 million related to community campuses alone.

UA owns nearly 400 buildings worth over $2 billion— a total of 6.7 million square feet. Maintaining these facilities in good condition to meet the educational needs of students is priority No. 1.

UA has focused on the state’s high priority needs and has focused program funding on teacher education, health and biomedical training, and support of affordable energy solutions.

UA continually reviews operations for maximum efficiency and cost avoidance. The FY12 budget request is the smallest in five years and UA revenues are paying a larger share of costs today than in the past.

UA is committed to helping more Alaska students attend and graduate from college than ever before.
Responsive

Enrollment and graduation in high-demand job programs has steadily increased; enrollment has grown by over 2,300 students from fall 2006 to fall 2010, and graduation has jumped by nearly 15 percent during that time.

UA Corporate Programs collaborates with businesses and industry to provide customized workforce training.

UA prides itself on offering programs that respond directly to the needs of Alaska employers and communities.

Success

Graduation rates reached all-time highs in recent years; UA conferred 3,754 degrees in FY10.

Since FY02, retention of first-time, full-time undergraduate degree students has increased significantly, from 61 percent to almost 68 percent.

UA enrollment reached record levels in fall 2010, with nearly 34,500 students enrolled. Full-time students account for nearly 40 percent while part-time students make up the rest.

UA students in nursing, engineering, social work, accounting, teacher education and other programs with external exams score above the national average.

UA alumni report overwhelming satisfaction with the quality of education they received, with 84 to 90 percent reporting “satisfied” or “very satisfied” in annual surveys.
The University of Alaska is hereby established as the state University and constituted a body corporate. It shall have title to all real and personal property now or hereafter set aside for or conveyed to it.... and shall be governed by a board of regents... The board shall, in accordance with law, formulate policy and appoint the president of the university.

Alaska Constitution, Article 7, Sections 2-3

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