2nd grade: “1_ K_own I Can”
UA College Savings Plan
This program encourages children and their families to start thinking about college early. College alumni volunteers visit second-grade classrooms and read a story. A group of animal friends explore what they want to be when they grow up, and how college fits into those plans. Each student then draws a postcard of themselves as a college student. After a few years, it’s mailed to them as a reminder of their goals.

6th grade: “Dream Big”
UA College Savings Plan
This poster encourages students to “dream big” and to start thinking about college and career paths. It is distributed to every sixth grade student and classroom in the state.

5th – 6th grade: “I’m Going to College”
ACPE, UA, NELA, UA College Savings Plan
This program is designed to excite students at the end of elementary school about the path to college — and see firsthand what it will be like. Students explore different types of colleges and careers and learn about financial aid in a 12-session curriculum. The program culminates with a day of college life at one of Alaska’s college campuses, including inspirational welcomes and hands-on classes. A special gift at the end of the day is a reminder that it’s not too early to start planning for college. Many UA and NELA staff and middle school students to visualize themselves in “college mode.” It is distributed to every 5th through 8th-grade classroom in the state.

5th – 8th grade: “College is for YOU!”
UA College Savings Plan
This poster features Alaskan talent and encourages all elementary and middle school students to think about higher education, including inspirational stories and experiences from the events sponsored by ACPE, the Northwest Education Loan Association (NELA), and the UA College Savings Plan.

8th grade: “Chart your Course”
ACPE
This annual publication is a fun showcase of Alaskans’ dreams, careers, and experiences. It’s authored in part by Alaska middle school students and released to every eighth-grader in the state at the same time as a parent postcard.

9th grade: Book cover
ACPE
This book cover emphasizes the importance of taking college preparatory courses and assessment tests while in high school. It’s delivered to every 9th grade student as a parent postcard.

9th grade: “Get to College in Alaska”
magazine
ACPE
Promoting the higher education options available right here in Alaska, this magazine gives Alaska students a quick, easy comparison of all our postsecondary options. It’s mailed to every high school junior in the state. It’s accompanied by a postcard to parents.

10th grade: “Cool Career Web Sites”
ACPE
This program helps students see the variety of career pathways. It’s authored in part by Alaska middle school students and released to every 10th-grade student as a parent postcard.

11th grade: “Get to College in Alaska”
magazine
ACPE
Promoting the higher education options available right here in Alaska, this magazine gives Alaska students a quick, easy comparison of all our postsecondary options. It’s mailed to every high school junior in the state. It’s accompanied by a postcard to parents.

12th grade: “It’s My Life!”
ACPE
This publication gives Alaska’s seniors important information they need for preparing for college, including deadlines for admissions and financial aid at Alaska’s Colleges. It also includes information on timelines, and tips on preparing for life after high school.
Education in Alaska is at a critical juncture –
Alaska's youth graduate from high school and go to college at a lower rate than their peers in other states. Working to change this disturbing trend are the University of Alaska, the UA College Savings Plan and the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE).
Our efforts ensure that every young Alaskan hears early and often the benefits of staying in school and earning a high school diploma, and the difference that higher education will make to their future. These programs instill in them the knowledge that higher education is within their reach, even if they are the first in their family or community to take that step. Our outreach programs communicate to the youth of Alaska that “college is possible” for them and financial aid is available. It is our hope that these programs make a positive impact on their future.

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education is dedicated to promoting and supporting higher education for all Alaskans. Each year thousands in Alaska are impacted by their outreach efforts, which span elementary, middle and high school. Their suite of early awareness programs is highlighted in this brochure.

UA College Savings Plan is the university's largest early outreach program. As Alaska's Section 529 College Savings Plan, the program strives to initiate a college-going conversation in homes across the state. Alaskans currently hold over 20,000 accounts with $107 million in assets in this nationally recognized plan.

A529plansforfamilies-including grandparents and other relatives – an affordable, tax-advantaged way to save for a child's education at virtually any college or university in the country.