2008

Training Tomorrow’s Workforce Today

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska
The university is the state’s largest supplier of workforce training. In addition to baccalaureate and master’s degree programs such as nursing, engineering and accounting that involve internships and lead directly to employment, UA campuses provide hundreds of short-term training programs that get people out of the classroom and into a job in 1-2 years or less.
UA—your source for workforce training in Alaska
Over 4,600 students are enrolled in workforce programs at UA campuses right now—programs that respond directly to the state's industry and business needs.

Students who complete the training have the competitive edge for some of the state's most in-demand jobs.

Return on investment is substantial. Earning power increases an average of 17 percent by taking a single class. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 80 percent of the fastest-growing jobs in the United States require some level of higher education training after high school.

That's why UA takes workforce training so seriously. It's what our students want and what our state needs.

Over 200 of our career programs take two years or less to complete. They include:

- Nearly 40 occupational endorsements
- 30 one-year certificates
- 58 two-year certificates
- 75 associate of applied science degree programs
- And more
Community Campuses

Workforce Training Centers
The Chukchi Campus of UAF serves the residents of the Northwest Arctic Borough, covering more than 36,000 square miles and 11 villages. Chukchi’s close ties with community organizations provide the education and training needed for numerous aspects of rural life. One of its workforce success stories is with Maniilaq Association. Certification and retention of village-based substance abuse and mental health counselors in the region’s villages witnessed a dramatic improvement once the training was offered in Kotzebue. This has had a multiplier effect by increasing the payroll in the region and promoting healthier lives.

Chukchi supports students with courses, equipment, tutors, advising or classroom space in the following programs:

- Social work
- General associate and bachelor’s degrees
- Native language (Iñupiaq) education
- Veterinary science
- Construction trades technology
- Health programs, including nursing degrees and certificates
- Rural human services
- Aviation
- Community health
- Rural development
- Teacher certification and elementary education degrees
- Business administration, applied business and accounting

The Bristol Bay Campus of UAF serves a 55,000-square-mile area and 32 communities including Dillingham, where the campus is located, Ivanof Bay, Port Alsworth, Togiak and King Salmon. The campus offers bachelor’s degrees, associate degrees and certificates.

Bristol Bay works collaboratively with surrounding communities to meet local needs in vocational and technical education and to prepare students for the workforce.

Job readiness and basic computer skills in partnership with local village organizations have allowed training in Ekwok, New Stuyahok and Togiak. Training in New Stuyahok in preparation for construction of a new school focuses on plumbing, construction safety, hand and power tools and carpentry skills, all of which can lead to a UAF certificate.

Exploration of various career pathways for youth include camps in aviation, health care, fine arts, culinary arts and early childhood education. Students attending the medical camp spend three days job shadowing nurses. They earn CPR certification and train with the Dillingham Volunteer Fire Department. Students in the culinary arts camp work in commercial kitchens preparing actual meals and earn safe food handling certificates from the state of Alaska.
The UAF Tanana Valley Campus is a leader in academic preparation, lifelong learning and developing a quality local workforce. Located in downtown Fairbanks, TVC has a distinctive community college mission within UAF, meeting the needs of first-generation college attendees, nontraditional students, military students and those seeking quality job training. The campus serves 3,000 students, about 40 percent of UAF’s total enrollment.

TVC offers a two-year associate of arts degree that can be customized for personal or professional development and transfers smoothly toward a four-year degree.

Private and public partnerships provide real-world experience to the classroom. The local newspaper publisher might teach a marketing class; the borough mayor, a management class.

TVC offers more than 40 one-year certificate and two-year associate degree programs in a variety of exciting job fields. Programs include:

- Construction management
- Nursing
- Process technology
- Diesel technology
- Welding
- Applied business
- Culinary arts
- Information technology
- Law enforcement
- Administrative assistant
- Certified nurse’s aide
- Certified public manager
- Welding and materials technology

UAA’s Community & Technical College is the community college arm of UAA, similar to the relationship between Tanana Valley Campus and UAF. Each year, CTC’s 40 programs produce almost 300 graduates.

CTC meets learners where they are, and guides them with their next step along an educational pathway to a bright future. CTC offers occupational endorsements, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees and master’s degrees. CTC serves students by listening to industry and community partners first, and provides developmental courses for students needing additional preparation for college or work readiness.

CTC provides a portal to education for numerous fields of study across UAA and provides important outreach to military educational services at Eielson Air Force Base and Fort Richardson.

CTC graduates:

- Manage medical laboratories and health providers’ offices, and work in local hospitals, dental and medical clinics.
- Work as technicians, pilots, administrators and air traffic controllers.
- Install, maintain and support business computer networks and telecommunications systems.
- Serve as career and technical educators and advisors in the K-12 systems.
- Prepare, serve and assure the safety of food served in commercial dining establishments.
- Work as technicians and managers within the construction and design industries.
 Nome’s Northwest Campus is the service hub for 15 villages in the Bering Strait region. Working in collaboration with community and business partners, Northwest Campus provides access to workforce training and occupational certificates.

Program highlights include:

- Health care: The new certified nursing assistant program provides instruction via distance delivery audio conferences, intensive face-to-face classes in Nome and a clinical setting in Fairbanks.

- Workforce development for rural high school students: Career exploration in construction trades, welding, veterinary technician, early childhood education and aviation, for college credit.

- Professional development: Continuing education for teachers and preparation for teacher aides. As a result of this training program, 100 percent of Bering Strait School District’s full-time paraprofessionals are now considered “highly qualified” under the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

- Computer continuing education: Web page design, desktop publishing, hardware and software troubleshooting.

- High-latitude range management: This occupational endorsement leads to employment in natural resources management with regional agencies, corporations, reindeer herders and the reindeer industry in western Alaska.

The Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel serves the critical needs of southwest Alaska and its 47 surrounding villages in an area roughly the size of Illinois, with the nearest road 500 air miles away. The Yup’ik/Cup’ik and Athabascan cultures of the region are in transition from a traditional subsistence-based lifestyle to a blended subsistence and cash economy. That makes workforce development critical to the area.

Kuskokwim Campus’ Adult Basic Education GED program has more graduates than any other rural high school program in Alaska.

Workforce training includes:

- Flight school training
- Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP)
- Allied health programs, including nursing
- Small business development
- High school dual credit and Tech Prep programs
- Eight UAF certificate programs, AA, AAS, BA and MA degrees
- Community and professional development licenses
- Occupational endorsements
- Employee training—information technology certification and workplace basic skills
Kenai Peninsula College provides the Kenai Peninsula Borough, an area the size of West Virginia, with a host of specialized workforce training and career education.

On-location and on-demand technical training for the petroleum, gas and mining industries known as MAPTS (Mining and Petroleum Training Services), with locations in Soldotna and Anchorage, is the premier non-credit technical education source for Alaska’s natural resource extraction industries.

Training for high-demand health careers is available in paramedic technology, nursing, personal care assistant (PCA), certified nurse aide (CNA) and nursing.

KPC works closely with area high schools to offer dual credit, Tech Prep and JumpStart programs.

Workforce training includes:
- Mechanical technology
- Computer information & office systems
- Industrial process instrumentation
- Welding technology
- Computer systems technology
- Computer electronics
- Process technology
- Kenai River Guide Academy
- Digital arts
- Occupational safety & health

Prince William Sound Community College serves 44,000 square miles throughout Prince William Sound and the Copper Basin region, via the Valdez main campus and extended sites in Cordova and Glennallen. Prince William Sound Community College is under the UAA umbrella.

Workforce training includes:
- Oil spill response training: In partnership with Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. and UA Corporate Programs, training is provided to more than 350 commercial fishing vessels and 1,200 crew members and captains in Prince William Sound, Homer, Seward and Kodiak.
- Safety training: Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, asbestos abatement and first aid/CPR.
- Wheel of Learning millwright program: In partnership with industry and the Valdez City School District, the program for machine shop workers and managers starts in high school, continues with college courses, follows up with industry internships and results in a two-year degree.
- UAA Bachelor of Science in technology program, designed for the working professional, can be customized to suit individual workforce needs.
Mat-Su College offers associate degrees, certificates, occupational endorsements, and the first two years of a bachelor’s degree for 1,600 students in the vast Matanuska-Susitna Borough region north of Anchorage.

Students at Mat-Su advance seamlessly to UAA to complete a bachelor’s degree.

Mat-Su offers the only heating and refrigeration training facility in the state. Other programs include:

- Computer-aided design and drafting (CADD) training.
- Architectural and engineering technology, associate degree and certificate programs in civil, mechanical, electrical, structural and architectural drafting.
- Accounting, computer information and office systems, computer systems technology, human services, small business administration and two-year associate degrees.

Through partnerships with other UA campuses, Mat-Su students earn two-year degrees in early childhood development, nursing, information technology, or a bachelor’s degree in human services (UAA) or natural resources management (UAF).

In partnership with the Mat-Su Borough School District, Mat-Su College serves more than 300 high school students each year through the Tech-Prep program.

Kodiak College serves the training and educational needs of residents in the ethnically diverse Kodiak Archipelago with degree, certificate and industrial certification programs. These programs prepare students for current and future employment and economic opportunities in an ever-changing workforce environment.

Program highlights include:

- Associate of Arts degree (general transfer degree) and Associate of Applied Science degrees in accounting, general business, computer information and office systems and computer systems technology.
- Applied technology, which includes concentrations in welding, construction and occupational safety and health.
- Certificate programs in computer information and office systems, and undergraduate technology career specialty certificates in welding, construction and industrial safety.

Kodiak College in collaboration with private and public partners also provides an assortment of industrial training to support the local workforce. Available courses and certifications include hazardous waste and emergency response, hazardous material operations, Environmental Protection Agency certifications, electrical technology, refrigeration technology, AWS welding certifications, home maintenance, small engine and outboard repair.
UAS Ketchikan contributes to its workforce and economic development by offering a variety of short courses, community education and vocational training in response to local needs. These programs provide specific job-related skills that enable graduates to function effectively in a technology-dependent society. Some courses may only be one- or two-day workshops, others meet more frequently throughout the semester.

Business owners are encouraged to contact UAS Ketchikan directly for training needs. UAS Ketchikan has the ability to coordinate and develop coursework that is industry specific.

UAS Ketchikan’s strengths include:
- A professional faculty focused on student success and learning. Faculty members are effective instructors capable of meeting the needs of a diverse student body face-to-face or via distance delivery.
- A support staff dedicated to helping students complete their educational goals.
- Strong bonds with the community as evidenced by over a dozen business and educational partnerships.

UAS Sitka contributes to workforce development efforts for the Southeast region and Alaska by responding to community and statewide needs. On-site programs and exceptional distance delivery of courses are available for those seeking occupational endorsements, two-year degrees and continuing education.

In addition to training in welding and construction, other workforce programs include:
- Asbestos abatement
- Retail/grocery training
- Accounting for nonprofit organizations
- Harbormaster training and certification
- Health information management
- Environmental technology
- Community wellness advocate
- Elder care training
- Alaska naturalists in tourism
- Rural water and wastewater operations
The Interior-Aleutians Campus serves 500 students in 60 villages in Interior Alaska and the Aleutian chain—an area the size of France.

IAC is dedicated to relevant and place-committed programs identified by rural partners, including Native corporations, tribal and village councils, K-12 schools and rural employers. This training keeps residents in home communities, improves local infrastructure and heightens quality of life through economic opportunities.

Program highlights include:

- **Tribal management:** Finance, tribal government and politics, on-the-job training (certificate); natural resource management, tribal justice, human services and public administration (AAS degree).
- **Construction trades technology:** Construction and trades skills; hands-on learning; entry into an apprenticeship program; industry-standard National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certification.
- **Veterinary sciences:** Emergency animal care, wildlife management, farm animal husbandry, public health and the monitoring of wildlife and zoonotic diseases transmitted from animals to humans. The two-year degree puts students on the path of a licensed veterinary technician.
- **Education paraprofessional:** Prepares students to assist classroom teachers with an emphasis on school protocol, classroom methods, management and assessment; meets No Child Left Behind Act requirement of “highly qualified.”
Investing in Alaska’s WORKFORCE

Students attending the Bristol Bay Campus medical camp, from left to right: Richard Brown of Naknek; Malcolm Wright, instructor; Sarah Swartz of King Salmon, as the simulated “victim”; and Jason Chocknok of Dillingham. (Photo: © Evan Franulovich)
Construction – Newly developed construction management programs are at maximum capacity for enrollment.

Education – The K-12 Teacher Mentor project provides support and resources for 400 beginning teachers in 190 schools across the state.

Engineering – Anchorage and Fairbanks show enrollment growth of 38 percent (250 students) in the last three years.

Health – Health programs enrollment increased 61 percent during the past five years and the number of graduates rose 41 percent.

Resource Development – Process Technology program trains replacement workers on the North Slope in close collaboration with industry.
King Career Center and Hutchison High School – High school vocational technical education programs are aligned with local UA community campuses to prepare students for success in high-growth job industries such as automotive technology and construction.

Organized Labor – UA programs prepare students for union apprenticeships, provide credit and share curriculum and instructors.

School Districts – Our Tech Prep program gives over 1,200 students at more than 50 Alaska schools the opportunity to obtain high school and college credit for successfully completing the same class.

Corporate Programs – University of Alaska Corporate Programs (UACP) is business and industry’s one-stop portal to UA. Educational and training programs are customized to an organization’s business objectives. Clients include Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., Alaska Airlines, Boeing, Alaska Department of Transportation, the Municipality of Anchorage and Weidner Investment Services Inc.

Alaska Vocational Technical Education Center – UA works in partnership with AVTEC in Seward to address health care industry needs for certified nursing assistants and licensed practical nurses.

Southwest Alaska Vocational Education Center – UAF’s Bristol Bay Campus works in partnership with Southwest VOC-ED in Dillingham to address regional workforce needs in natural resource development and technical training.
Alaska Works – This state-run program works in close collaboration with UA’s community campus programs to contribute to the value of our graduates in apprenticeships for the skilled trades.

Delta Partners for Progress – This consortium of educational partners includes UAF’s Cooperative Extension Service and Tanana Valley Campus to provide technical training programs in construction, heavy equipment operation, mining and natural resource development, welding and workplace safety.

Kotzebue Technical Center – In partnership with UAF’s College of Rural and Community Development and the Chukchi Campus, UA works with Kotzebue Tech Center to support and provide college credit for the certified nurse’s assistant program in Kotzebue.

North Slope Training Cooperative – In partnership with the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium, UA is a service provider for the environmental, occupational health and safety training required to work in the oil and gas sector on the North Slope and along the trans-Alaska pipeline.

Elitnaurviat, People’s Learning Center – In partnership with UAF’s College of Rural and Community Development and the Kuskokwim Campus, UA partners with Elitnaurviat to provide training and education opportunities for the people of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region by offering culturally relevant and regionally responsive training programs.
UA provides leadership and resources to create business-education consortia in:

- health
- construction
- oil & gas
- teacher education
- information technology
- transportation & logistics