FAQs for University Hiring Restrictions

On January 6, 2016, University President Johnsen announced that in light of Alaska’s very serious fiscal challenges, and the Governor’s request that all state-related entities restrict travel and hiring for the foreseeable future, all non-essential University hiring is suspended.

Why is the University restricting hiring?

The State of Alaska, our single largest source of revenue, is facing a $3.5 billion budget deficit and has imposed strict restrictions on hiring and travel for state employees. It is prudent for the university to support fiscal responsibility while at the same time ensuring that positions that are essential for our faculty and staff to serve our students and our research and outreach are maintained.

What positions are affected?

All positions funded wholly or partially by unrestricted funds are subject to review and approval, including regular, term and most temporary positions.

The following temporary positions are exempted:

- Student employees, including teaching/research assistants
- Adjuncts

What if a position is partially funded by restricted funds?

Only fully restricted fund positions are exempt. Split funded positions (i.e. restricted and unrestricted) are subject to review and approval.

What is the process for exceptions to the hiring restriction?

All new hires for positions wholly or partially funded by unrestricted funds at the university campuses require approval of the Chancellor. At Statewide, approval of the president is required.

For temporary positions, chancellors may delegate such approval to provosts and vice-chancellors.

Only those positions that are essential for the effective operation of the university should be approved for hiring.