Alaska's Postsecondary Completion Crisis

29.7% of Alaskans have Some College but No Degree

37% of Alaskans have a Degree (any kind)

Median EARNINGS $75,000
Median DEBT $11,000
DEBT ratio* 15%

12.7% of Alaskans have a Certificate (any kind)

Median EARNINGS $52,314
Median DEBT $4,767
DEBT ratio* 9%

Problem:

College Stopouts

1 in 4 Alaska Students completes a degree within 6 years

50% STOP ATTENDING

What's Working:

17% higher retention rate with Student Support Services (comprehensive advising and scheduled tutoring) at UAF

Let's Do More:

Reduce dropouts:

• Promote community-wide awareness of key factors such as full-time enrollment

• Promote timely selection of a major

• Mandate academic advising

By 2020

22,139 shortfall of Educated Workers

Lack of education & training will prevent Alaskans from filling top Alaska jobs

PILOTS
TEACHERS
NURSES
OPERATING ENGINEERS
ELECTRICIANS
HEAVY TRUCK DRIVERS

STOP ATTENDING College Stopouts

Median EARNINGS $40,639
Average DEBT $9,300
DEBT ratio* 23%

*Note: Education debt-to-income ratios are derived from multiple sources and/or methodologies, as available.

Sources:
National Student Clearinghouse, Completing College: A State-Level View of Student Attainment Rates, February 2013.
Academic Preparation

1/2 of UA first-time freshmen require remedial courses

of those…

74% who require any remediation and 84% who require significant remediation

Do Not Graduate

What's Working:

4 in 5 students who complete a rigorous APS-qualifying curriculum do not require remedial courses

10x more

students in other states using new experimental remedial math pathways earn college credit within a year

Let's Do More:

Improve academic preparation:

• Direct high school students to APS-qualifying courses as the first-choice curriculum

• Implement accelerated remediation methods

Problem:

Attending Part-Time

28% are exclusively part-time

92% Do Not Graduate within 6 years

What's Working:

11% are exclusively full-time

Cumulative gains:

Each additional 3-credit class per year raises a student's probability of graduation by 8%

Let's Do More:

Increase full-time enrollment:

• Provide financial aid incentives

• Encourage year-round attendance

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