

The Kuskokwim Campus (KuC) of the University of Alaska Fairbanks prepares professional, community, and cultural leaders in an active and relevant learning environment. Their students are given wisdom to learn so they can also learn through them.

Kuskokwim Campus is the largest rural campus of the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is a branch campus of the College of Indigenous Studies (CIS). The campus is physically located in Bethel, a regional hub community situated in Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, about 400 miles west of Anchorage. The Kuskokwim Campus offers academic, vocational and community interest courses, as well as courses leading to associate, baccalaureate and master's degrees.

ACADEMIC YEAR 24 NUMBERS

- 306 students
- 6 full-time and 6 part-time faculty
- 1 full-time and 20 part-time staff

PROGRAMS

- 2 occupational endorsement certificates
- 1 certificate program
- 2 associate degree programs



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“I remember my mom going to KuC when I was a little girl. Some of my first memories include sitting under a desk while my mom was in class. Later in life, she continued her education and attended the Rural Human Services program (RHS). I chose KuC because RHS was offered here in Bethel, my home, that I’m most familiar with. I know the people who work at the campus, the faculty, and my fellow students. At KuC, I feel like I belong. So much support was given with love and understanding of who I am as a Yup’ik woman, to further my education. It has always been in my bones and my blood and my system to be a helper, and KuC has helped enhance those by giving me an opportunity to form a professional career while retaining my Yup’ik identity.”

-Leanna Isaac, Indigenous Studies PhD, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Cooperation

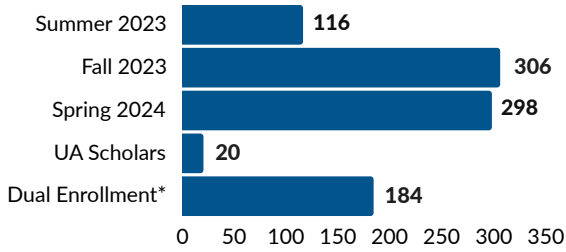
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TRANSFORMING EDUCATION TO CAREER OUTCOMES

A year after graduating, UAF Kuskokwim program graduates (FY17 - FY21) were earning an average of \$49,412 annually, about 10 percent (\$4,672) more than they did one year before earning the degree or certificate, showing an immediate boost to salary for UA graduates.

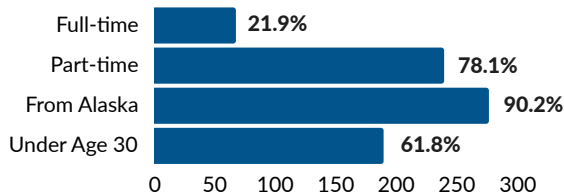
One Year before Graduation	One Year after Graduation	Salary Increase	% Increase
\$44,740	\$49,412	\$4,672	10%

ENROLLMENT PROFILE

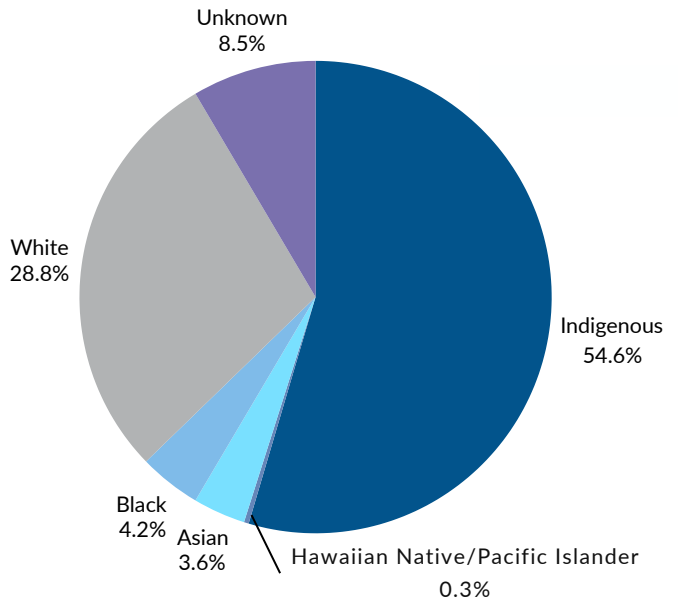


*Dual enrollment refers to enrollment at the university by a student who is simultaneously enrolled in a K-12 (or homeschool) for which the student may receive credit at both the K-12 and postsecondary levels.

STUDENT PROFILE



RACE/ETHNICITY



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Rural Human Services

RHS is a program designed for rural, village-based human service workers, natural helpers, and healers.

Adult learning and Indigenous epistemology form the pedagogy, with Indigenous Elders as part of the instructional team, and cultivation of a community of learning. Knowledge is taught along with the imperative that cultural interpretations and practices provide a foundation for learning. Students receive training in services like crisis intervention, suicide prevention, community development, mental health and substance misuse counseling, interpersonal violence education, grief counseling, and personal and community healing and well-being.

Ethnobotany

KuC is the only university campus offering field work in arctic ethnobotany, including a week-long field course each summer in the tundra of the lower Kuskokwim delta. Indigenous knowledge bearers are an integral part of the instructional method.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

KuC operates the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center (YPCC), Bethel's community hub for events and classes. The YPCC also houses the Kuskokwim Consortium Library, winner of the National Medal for Museum and Library Services in 2023.

RHS program graduates fulfill a critical need for mental health first responders trained to assist with cultural trauma and issues of concern to Alaska Native peoples.

KuC is a partner with the Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD), providing professional development to Associate Teachers to become certified. KuC provides coursework that accommodates school schedules to help LKSD "grow their own".

uaf.edu/bethel