



UA strongly supports long-term generational funding of APS and AEG programs.

AEG Supports Economic Mobility:

- 40% are first-generation students
- 28 is the average age of AEG award recipients
- 100% are low-income families

APS Leads to Student Success:

- 95% require no developmental classes
- 57% graduate on-time
- 71% were motivated by the program to take placement examinations

Academic and Economic Progress

The Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund, and the financial assistance it provides, has been a tremendous success. In a short period of time, the initiative has made high school curriculum more rigorous, provided incentive for middle and high school students to excel academically, and encouraged our best and brightest graduates to stay in Alaska.

Investing in our Future

Alaska faces unique challenges in postsecondary education access and student completion. By 2025, 65 percent of all jobs in Alaska will require some form of postsecondary training, yet just 54 percent of Alaskans possess a postsecondary credential. Addressing this attainment gap is essential to our economic prosperity and to ensuring Alaskans are ready for today's workforce.

Financial assistance increases student access and success in higher education. Recognizing this, in 2012 the Legislature established the **Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund** to endow two assistance programs for Alaskans, the merit-based Alaska Performance Scholarship and the needs-based Alaska Education Grant. The fund was initially capitalized with \$400 million. The purpose of the HEIF is to provide for long-term, stable scholarships, grants, tuition assistance and funding for WWAMI medical education for Alaska students.

The Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) provides Alaska high school graduates an opportunity to earn up to \$4,755 per year towards postsecondary education. Recipients can use the scholarship for up to four years at eligible universities, colleges, and career training centers in Alaska.

The Alaska Education Grant (AEG) provides up to \$4,000 per year of needs-based financial assistance to Alaskans attending qualifying postsecondary institutions in Alaska. Awards are prioritized based on financial need.

In recent years the HEIF has been tapped to fund other projects, putting the future of this vital program at risk. For Alaskan families, these scholarships and grant programs are often the determining factor in a student's ability to pay for college tuition or earn a trade certificate.

